

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2018
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

President Ruben Rivera called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. The meeting was held in the Judge's Library, on the second floor of the Courthouse in Abbeville, La.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Ruben Rivera.

Mr. Ruben Rivera requested a moment of silence.

A roll call was done by Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande, with the following members present:

Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Ms. Christine Trahan, Mr. Dane Hebert, Mr. Patrick Duhon,
Ms. Roslyn White, Ms. Tammy Gordon, Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande, Mr. Jason Picard,
and Mr. Ruben Rivera

The following members were absent:

Mr. Aidan Broussard, Mr. Elliot Broussard, Ms. Gale Smith, Mr. Jacob Landry,
Mr. Carlton Campbell, and Mr. Gerrod Brasseux

The following guests were present:

Ms. Anne T. Falgout, VEDD, and Ms. Shari Cormier, VEDD

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments regarding any of the items on the agenda.

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 5, 2018 meeting were approved on a motion made by Mr. Jason Picard, duly seconded by Mr. Dane Hebert, and unanimously carried by the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Ruben Rivera gave the Treasurer's Report. He provided a list of the invoices and expenses, totaling \$1,510.43. Ms. Falgout noted an item on her expense report that was incorrect. The expense report total was then reduced from \$742.60 to \$603.00. Upon motion by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, duly seconded by Mr. Dane Hebert and unanimously carried, these invoices were approved for payment.

Mr. Richard Guilbeaux motioned the board to transfer all funds (currently \$60,425.86) in the account set up to receive the USDA Grant funds to the operating account and to have the Grant account closed. He noted that this should be done before the end of 2018 to start the new year cleanly and to avoid confusion with any future grant possibilities. Mr. Patrick Duhon duly seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Guilbeaux motioned the board to amend the 2018 budget. He proposed moving \$200.00 from Travel, Meals & Lodging into Dues, Publications, Subscriptions, Education and moving \$2,500.00 from Legal and Accounting and \$2,500.00 from Business Retention and Expansion into Promotions and Entertainment. He noted that the total budget would not be affected by changing the totals of these categories. Mr. Dane Hebert duly seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Anne T. Falgout provided the board with a written report detailing the accomplishments made by the VEDA office in the month of November. She discussed several items of interest with the board.

Ms. Falgout also discussed the Small Area Plans that will be developed after meeting with Vermilion Parish's mayors to get their visions for their communities. She discussed the plan that was developed for Kaplan and noted that she has met with Mayor Theriot of Maurice and will be able to launch that plan shortly.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

As directed at the November meeting, Ms. Falgout presented the board with three proposals from agencies or firms that do third-party fundraising. Mr. Ben Rivera requested that the board create a committee to vet the proposals and consider whether this avenue is right for the organization's needs. Mr. Patrick Duhon, Ms. Roslyn White and Mr. Richard Guilbeaux volunteered for the committee. Ms. Falgout was asked to e-mail the board members who were not present to ask for their participation.

Ms. Falgout presented her 2019 action plan to the board. She noted the four key efforts in economic development and how that is broken down into what we can accomplish for the organization. She asked the board to review it and give her any feedback.

Ms. Falgout asked for bios and pictures of board members. She noted that this will be used to talk to the community about who is involved in the organization and bridge the gap within the community.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that she may have the opportunity to attend the 2019 Leadership Exchange trip to Greenville, SC with a sponsorship from AEDC. She asked the board about the possibility of her being able to attend if the trip if it is at no cost to VEDA. Mr. Dane Hebert motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to attend if AEDC pays for the trip. Mr. Patrick Duhon duly seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Falgout provided the board with an updated funding report for 2018.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that as discussed at the November meeting, she and Mr. Ben Rivera returned to the Cattleman's Association board meeting with a one-page survey for their membership to complete. She noted that Mr. Andrew Granger with LSU Ag Center will send the survey to their entire membership.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Ms. Shari Cormier informed the board that Ms. Gale Smith will be resigning her position on the board and the entity will submit a replacement in January.

Mr. Dane Hebert challenged Ms. Falgout to bring one new business to the parish in 2019 and if she brings three that would be great.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the District is scheduled for Monday, January 7, 2019 at 5:00 PM. in the Judge's Library/Conference Room.

ADJOURN

Upon motion by Mr. Jason Picard, duly seconded by Mr. Dane Hebert and unanimously carried, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande
Secretary