

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 3, 2021  
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING

President Ruben Rivera called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM. The meeting was held via teleconference with access to the general public per guidelines issued by the Governor's office.

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

Mr. Ruben Rivera requested a moment of silence.

The following members were present at the meeting.

Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Mr. Ruben Rivera, Ms. Roslyn White, Ms. Tammy Gordon, Mr. Jeremy Lartigue, Mr. Patrick Duhon, Mr. Aidan Broussard, Mr. Jacob Landry, and Ms. Anita Dupuis

The following members were absent:

Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande, Mr. Jason Picard, Mr. Elliot Broussard, Mr. Carlton Campbell, Mr. Dexter Callahan, and Mr. Gerrod Brasseur

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 February 3, 2021 meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux. The motion was duly seconded by Mr. Aidan Broussard, and unanimously carried by the board.

Mr. Patrick Duhon entered the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Ruben Rivera gave the Treasurer's Report. The board was provided with a list of the invoices and expenses totaling \$1,040.33. Upon motion by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, duly seconded by Mr. Jacob Landry and unanimously carried, the invoices were approved for payment.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Anne T. Falgout provided the board with a review of the accomplishments made by the VEDD office in February. These included: working with 2 business prospects/projects to meet their specific requests, creating a Free Marketing Resources Self-Help guide, providing UWA Bank On program information to area banks, and providing assistance to 3 individuals with their grant application process. She also completed a series of seven site selector meetings in an effort to bring new business opportunities to Vermilion.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Falgout informed the board that she spoke to Mr. Paul Fitzpatrick at Impact Development and he has assured her that the cattle/beef study will be completed by March 15, 2021. She noted that after it is reviewed by the VEDD office and the USDA, it will be brought to the board, possibly at the April

meeting, with a recommendation to approve or reject the study based on its ability to meet our negotiated metrics. The USDA representative anticipates that the study will be a useful tool for cattlemen in and out of our parish and that it will be a positive step forward for the industry.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that Prospect Graze has received a letter of intent from LED. She noted that the offer is subject to Prospect Graze's commitment to meeting the agreed upon benchmarks over the next 10 years. Ms. Falgout is awaiting next steps from LED.

Ms. Falgout informed the board she was advised that in order to have Site Location Partnership book site selector meetings in the fall, a contract would have to be signed as soon as possible, as they are currently booking meetings in July. She presented the board with two contracts. The first contract offers seven site selector meetings for \$4,900.00 and the second contract offers four meetings for \$2,995.00. Ms. Anita Dupuis motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to sign a contract for seven meetings at the cost of \$4,900.00. Mr. Patrick Duhon dully seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Aidan Broussard left the meeting.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that she had hoped to schedule meetings with the stakeholders, but she is not sure how to handle such meetings without violating any public meeting laws. Mr. Rivera suggested that the meetings should be with a committee or limited to three people from each organization. Mr. Guilbeaux asked that they address the stakeholder's expectations and whether they have been met.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Falgout informed the board that that VEDD is working with LED to present The Louisiana Development Ready Community Program to Vermilion Parish. She noted that she has set up a meeting on March 8, 2021 and has invited representatives from all of Vermilion's municipalities. She noted that the cities/towns that are interested will work with VEDD and LED to complete the program.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that VEDD has scheduled their first business tune-up of the year, on March 16, 2021. The online event will feature free marketing resources for small businesses. She noted that One Acadiana has offered the use of their Zoom meeting license at no cost.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Falgout noted that she will schedule a committee meeting after the first few stakeholder meetings have been completed.

#### BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

The board members each spoke about the areas they represent and shared things happening in their communities.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the District will be at 6:00pm on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at the Vermilion Parish Government Office Complex.

#### ADJOURN

Upon motion by Ms. Tammy Gordon, duly seconded by Ms. Roslyn White and unanimously carried, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande  
Secretary