

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2021
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

Vice-President Patrick Duhon called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM. The meeting was held at the Vermilion Parish Government Office Complex, 407 Charity Street, Abbeville, La. and via teleconference per guidelines issued by the Governor's office.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Elliot Broussard before a request for a moment of silence by Mr. Patrick Duhon.

The following members were present at the meeting: Mr. Jacob Landry, Ms. Roslyn White, Mr. Patrick Duhon, Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande, Mr. Jeremy Lartigue, Mr. Carlton Campbell, Mr. Elliot Broussard, Mr. Aidan Broussard, and Ms. Anita Dupuis

The following members were absent: Mr. Gerrod Brasseur, Ms. Tammy Gordon, Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Mr. Ruben Rivera, Mr. Jason Picard, and Mr. Dexter Callahan

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.

ANNUAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS: Mr. Patrick Duhon opened nominations for the executive committee. He then nominated the current executive committee to continue in their roles for another term. There were no objections from the Executive Committee members or other nominations for any of the positions. Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande motioned the board to close nominations. Mr. Elliot Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried. Mr. Ruben Rivera will serve as President, Mr. Patrick Duhon will serve as Vice-President, Mr. Aidan Broussard will serve as Treasurer and Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande will serve as Secretary. Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande motioned the board to accept the slate of officers as presented. Mr. Elliot Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

MINUTES: The minutes of the September 1, 2021, meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. Aidan Broussard. The motion was duly seconded by Ms. Roslyn White, and unanimously carried by the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Aidan Broussard gave the Treasurer's Report. The board was provided with a list of invoices and expenses totaling \$815.28. Ms. Roslyn White motioned the board to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the invoices. Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Ms. Anne T. Falgout provided the board with a review of the accomplishments made by the VEDD office in September. These included: conducting 4 business visitations, answering 13 inquiries from existing businesses, consulting with 3 pre-venture requests, and working with 2 business prospects/projects to meet their specific requests. She met with representatives of Nehemiah Projects of Acadiana, APC & Bethel Church to discuss development operations in Abbeville and launched the No-Cost Energy Assessment Program in partnership with the U.L. Office of Sustainable Energy. She also worked with the Town of Gueydan to design graphics and promote the Gueydan Fall Festival.

OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Falgout presented the board with a quote of \$5,000.00 from Fulcrum Sales and Marketing to assess the survey data collected from 147 local cattlemen. She explained that Fulcrum will contract with Ms. Denise Benton to complete the project and payment will not be due until the report

is delivered. Ms. Roslyn White motioned the board to accept the proposal from Fulcrum Sales and Marketing to complete an in-depth analysis of the data collected using the VEDA beef producers survey. Mr. Jacob Landry duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Falgout informed the board that the Police Jury is placing the Government Complex building on the market for sale. Should the building sell, staff would have 30 days from notification to vacate the building. She also presented the board with a calendar showing public meeting dates across the parish and suggested changing the date of our meeting to avoid conflict with the Police Jury's current meeting schedule.

Ms. Falgout presented the board with a quote from Kody Chamberlain, in the amount of \$2,250.00, for 3 original art designs. This artwork would be used for branded merchandise sales. She noted that Manual Printing offers printing and sales through their website. Ms. Falgout also asked for a small budget to be used to buy the merchandise to use as promotions. Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande motioned the board to approve the submitted quote and budget \$500.00 to be spent on a supply of promotional merchandise. Mr. Aidan Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried. Ms. Roslyn White and Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande volunteered to be on an ad hoc committee to develop a marketing strategy.

Mr. Carlton Campbell entered the meeting.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that VEDD will launch the Vermilion at Work Community Job Board on October 7, 2021. She noted that it is an online job board where any company in Vermilion Parish can post their available positions. Ms. Falgout also shared an event that VEDD is hosting, along with the Chamber of Commerce and SLCC. The event, Vermilion at Work: Connecting Education & Economic Development, will address the efforts that education partners and economic development partners are doing to improve workforce development.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Ms. Falgout provided the board with a funding update and informed the board about plans to have discussions with local officials about last year's parcel fee proposal ballot.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES: Board members shared events and initiatives happening in their respective communities and developed by their appointing authorities.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the District will be at 6:00pm on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at the Vermilion Parish Government Office Complex, as well as via teleconference.

ADJOURN: Upon motion by Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande, duly seconded by Ms. Anita Dupuis and unanimously carried, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande
Secretary