

MINUTES OF THE JULY 6, 2022  
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING

President Ruben Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The meeting was held at the Vermilion Parish Government Office Complex, 407 Charity Street, Abbeville, La.

Mr. Patrick Duhon led the Pledge of Allegiance before Mr. Rivera requested a moment of silence.

The following members were present at the meeting: Mr. Patrick Duhon, Mr. Ruben Rivera, Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande, Ms. Nikki Vidos, Ms. Anne T. Falgout, Ms. Linda Vincent, Ms. Kristy Doucet-Touchet, Ms. Claire Broussard, and Ms. Anita Dupuis

The following members were absent: Mr. Dexter Callahan, Ms. Tammy Gordon, Mr. Jacob Landry, Mr. Aidan Broussard, and Mr. Elliot Broussard

The following guests were present: Ms. Victoria Sagrera Bourque, VEDD, Ms. Shari Cormier, VEDD, Ms. Charlene Beckett and Ms. Lynn Guillory

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

BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Mr. Ruben Rivera announced the board appointments for the new term beginning June 4, 2022 and ending June 4, 2026. The City of Abbeville has appointed Ms. Nikki Vidos to replace Ms. Roslyn White, and the City of Kaplan has appointed Ms. Linda Vincent to replace Mr. Jeremy Lartigue. Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande motioned the board to ratify the appointments. Ms. Patrick Duhon duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

MINUTES: The minutes of the June 1, 2022, meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande. Mr. Patrick Duhon duly seconded the motion, and unanimously carried by the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Ruben Rivera gave the Treasurer's Report. The board was provided with a list of invoices and expenses totaling \$557.45. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux motioned the board to accept the Treasurer's Report and to pay the invoices. Ms. Anne T. Falgout duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Patrick Duhon left the meeting.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: Ms. Victoria S. Bourque provided the board with a review of the accomplishments made by the VEDD office in June. These included: working with 1 business prospect/project to meet their specific requests, working with 2 existing businesses to meet their needs, and meeting with several businesses, organizations, and individuals to introduce herself. She also attended several regional and community meetings to familiarize herself with their organizations.

OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Cormier informed the board that the introduction letters were mailed to the stakeholders after the June meeting and asked the board about a timeline for sending out invoices. Ms. Bourque noted that she would like to meet with all of the stakeholders before any invoices are sent out and the board agreed.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Cormier presented the board with the findings from VEDD's 2021 Financial Reports. She noted that the CPA said that there were no issues that needed to be brought to the board.

Mr. Rivera discussed the success of the Farmer's Appreciation Dinner that was held in March and the need to continue to honor Vermilion's farming community annually. He asked that the board form a

committee to organize the event. Committee members include Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande (Chair), Ms. Anne T. Falgout and Mr. Patrick Duhon.

Mr. Rivera informed the board the Mr. Jacob Landry has offered the use of his building in Erath for a Meet & Greet with Ms. Bourque. The board felt that this would be a good opportunity to hold another Stakeholder Dinner. Ms. Claire Broussard volunteered to handle the arrangements.

Ms. Cormier informed the board of the need to adopt a holiday schedule to prevent any confusion within the VEDD office. After a general discussion the board decided to table the discussion until the August meeting.

Mr. Rivera discussed having Ms. Bourque and possibly other board members attend the Basic Economic Development Course offered by LIDEA. The board decided to table the discussion until the August meeting so dates and pricing could be obtained.

Ms. Nikki Vidos spoke about the 24-hour Citizen Project - Idea Exchange to be held in Abbeville on August 10, 2022. The event welcomes people with ideas ranging from community projects, small business ideas or city concerns and allows them to share those ideas and get feedback from other individuals. Ms. Vidos asked that Ms. Bourque attend the event as a representative of VEDD to provide information for anyone with a small business idea. Mrs. Bourque agreed to attend on behalf of VEDD.

Ms. Bourque informed the board of the upcoming Leadership Vermilion Class registration and asked the board to consider her applying to join the program at the cost of \$650.00. Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande motioned the board to allow Ms. Bourque to apply for the Leadership Vermilion Class at the cost of \$650.00. Ms. Anne T. Falgout duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

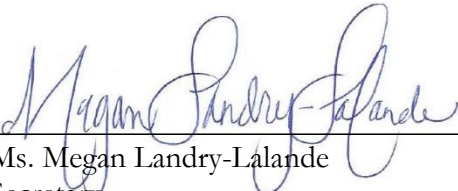
COMMITTEE REPORTS: Ms. Cormier provided the board with an updated funding report.

Mr. Rivera spoke of ideas that he would like the Sustainable Funding Committee to discuss. Ms. Nikki Vidos offered to join the committee and serve as chair. The committee will include Ms. Nikki Vidos, Mr. Ben Rivera, Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, and Ms. Victoria Bourque.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES: The board members 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, August 3, 2022, at the Vermilion Parish Government Office Complex.

ADJOURN: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

  
Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande  
Secretary