

Central St. Landry Economic Development District
Board Meeting
Meeting Date and Time: February 11, 2021 @ 8:30 am
Meeting Place: 5367 I-49 S. Service Road, Opelousas LA

AGENDA

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Pledge
- ❖ Roll Call
- ❖ Approval of the January Board Meeting Minutes
- ❖ Financial Report – Tina Vidrine
- ❖ Insurance Premium
 - D&O Policy Renewal Premium Quote
- ❖ Committee Reports
 - Land Use
 - Communications
- ❖ New Business
 - Broadband Civic Center-Mayor Julius Alsandor
- ❖ Old Business
 - Sewer Project Update
 - Lighting Projects Update
 - Vegetation Maintenance/Litter Abatement Update
 - EDD District Update
 - Retail Strategies

The following members were present in person: Chairman Buddy Helton, Tina Vidrine, Ammy Taylor, and Dr. Derek Metoyer

The following members were present virtually: Yvonne Normand

The following members were absent: Senic Batiste and Pride Doran

The following non-voting members were present in person: Bill Rodier (CEO/Director of SLED), Glenda Carriere (SLED-Recording Secretary) Taylor Lormand (SLED), and Mayor Julius Alsandor.

The following non-voting members were absent: Jessie Bellard (Interim Parish President), and Jerry Red (Parish Council Chairman)

The following guests were present in person: William Jarrell (Morgan Goudeau)

The following guests were present virtually: Jim Bradshaw (Writer) and Katrena King (APC)

It was determined that a quorum was present.

For the purpose of the organization, Chairman Buddy Helton opened the meeting at 8:38 am.

Approval of January 14, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes: Following a review of January 14, 2021, regular board meeting minutes, a motion was made by Ammy Taylor and seconded by Tina Vidrine to accept minutes as submitted. Motion carried without objection.

Financial Report: Tina Vidrine reviewed the January 2021 Financial Report. A motion was made by Ammy Taylor and seconded by Dr. Derek Metoyer to accept the financial report as submitted. Motion carried without objection.

Insurance Premium Renewal:

Director & Officer Policy: Chairman Buddy Helton stated that the director's and officer's policy is up for renewal, and we have received a quote from Dupre Carrier Godchaux Insurance Company. A motion to accept the quote of \$1,272.00 yearly or \$3,626.00 for 3 years prepaid and move forward with purchasing the insurance from Dupre Carrier Godchaux Insurance Company was made by Dr. Derek Metoyer and seconded by Yvonne Normand. Motion carried without objection.

A motion to amend the agenda to change the order to allow Mayor Alsandor to give his presentation was made by Tina Vidrine and seconded by Ammy Taylor. Motion carried with no objection.

New Business:

Broadband Civic Center-Mayor Julius Alsandor: Mayor Alsandor stated he wants to give attendees at conferences at the Civic Center more accessibility to broadband. He stated that with CSLEDD's financial assistance they will be able to accomplish this goal of providing more technology to the Civic Center. Yvonne Normand stated that this will help the City of Opelousas at the Civic Center with the challenges of connecting. The equipment now cannot handle an abundance of people connecting in. She received a quote from Cohesive Connections to put six drops, a Sysco firewall, and additional hardware, the bid is \$7,646.94. Mayor Alsandor reached out to a company called Microchip, LLC and they gave him a bid of \$5,400.00 for the same type of equipment. Bill Rodier stated we needed to get with our legal team before moving forward. A motion was made by Ammy Taylor and seconded by Dr. Derek Metoyer to agree to finance the bid as submitted contingent upon the legal opinion from our legal counsel. Motion carried without objection.

Committee Reports:

Land-use Planning Committee:

Acadiana Planning Commission I-49 Corridor Second Phase Presentation: Katrena King with the Acadiana Planning Commission presented an overview of phase two of the I-49 Midway Corridor project. She stated that in phase one they were funded by both SLED and the USDA through a \$30,000 grant through the Rural Business Development. Katrena said they created a Community Profile document and obtained Intergovernmental agreements. This information is available Live on the SLED website. She stated that they decided to create a land-use model based on the one that Carencro has in place. Creating this model is what brought them to the second phase of the I-49 Midway Corridor project which would take them approximately two years to complete. The grant application for USDA is due on February 26, 2021, and they are asking for another \$30,000.00. The cost of the Land Use Performance model is estimated at \$46,000 and the regional planning commission is about \$86,000 for a total of about \$133,000. Additional subdivision regulations would cost about \$160,000 for a total cost of \$290,000 for the entire project.

Communications Report: Acadiana Planning Commission is doing a broadband survey in all seven of our parishes. Katrena stated to visit the website at broadbandsurvey.org and take the survey to get your speeds in your area. There are options for feedback. APC is tracking data and creating a report. Chairman Buddy Helton stated that Taylor Lormand sent out this link in an email.

Old Business:

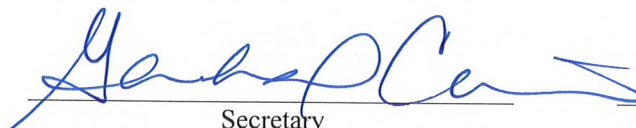
Sewer Project Updates: William Jarrell stated the contractor is planning to begin at the end of February or the beginning of March. Entergy is scheduled to come in with power to the Access Road.


Lighting Project Update: William Jarrell stated that Hwy 190/Creswell Lane fixtures have been installed, 3 fixtures (luminaires) left to install. He stated that counts were taken from the As-Built drawings. A few poles are not lit, there are additional problems with wiring connections, and repair work needs to be done. About two years ago they did exploratory work and found problems but were able to get most of the lights working. The repair work came in about 40% under budget, but more maintenance is expected over time. The existing system is about 35 to 40 years old. EP Breaux gave an estimate of \$40,000. We are hoping to replace regular lighting with high-resolution lighting in the future. A motion to approve expenditures of up to \$40,000 as described in the quote given by EP Breaux was made by Dr. Derek Metoyer and seconded by Ammy Taylor. Motion carried without objection.

Vegetation Maintenance/Litter Abatement Update: Chairman Buddy Helton reported the contract is on schedule and continues to move along. Litter abatement is being done this month and grass cutting will take place next month. The parish has been billed by us for the state reimbursement for the first half of the state contract and the second half of Burns' contract in the amount of \$15,122.50. We received a proposal from Manco Vegetation Management to do spot spraying throughout the corridor. The cost will be \$4,500 per treatment, which is the same as last year. A motion to approve and accept to move forward with up to four (4) treatments and use on an as-needed basis was made by Dr. Derek Metoyer and seconded by Tina Vidrine. Motion carried without objection.

EDD District Update: Chairman Buddy Helton stated he received an email from William Turnley with Retail Strategies, and their team was unable to join us but looks forward to meeting with us next month. Buddy Helton stated Retail Strategies is aggressively seeking any type of business for our area. Chairman Buddy Helton and CEO Bill Rodier have a phone conference planned tomorrow, February 12, 2021, with Retail Strategies to have a conversation about the backfill of the Stage building.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Yvonne Normand and seconded by Ammy Taylor to adjourn at 9:43 am. Motion carried without objection.


Secretary


Chairman