

**Central St. Landry Economic Development District**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Meeting Date and Time: December 9, 2021 @ 8:30 am**  
**Meeting Place: 5367 I-49 S. Service Road, Opelousas LA**

**AGENDA**

- ❖ Public Comment
- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Pledge
- ❖ Roll Call
- ❖ Approval of the November 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
  
- ❖ Financial Report – John S. Dowling
  - Accept and Approve Amended Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021
  - Accept and Approve Proposed Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022
  
- ❖ Committee Reports
  - Land Use
  - Marketing and Communications
  
- ❖ Old Business
  - Joint Commission CEA Amendment Update
  - SLED Administrative Support Implementation Update
  - Boyd Property Update
  - Sewer Project Update
  - Lighting Projects Update
  - Vegetation Maintenance/Litter Abatement Update
  - Retail Strategies Update

The following members were present in person: Frank “Buddy” Helton, Yvonne Normand, Senic Batiste, Ammy Taylor, Dr. Derek Metoyer, Tina Vidrine

The following members were absent: Pride Doran

The following non-voting members were present in person: Bill Rodier (CEO of SLED), Janece Riser (SLED), Taylor Lormand (SLED),

The following non-voting members were present virtually: none

The following non-voting members were absent: Julius Alsandor (Mayor), Jessie Bellard (Parish President), and Dexter Brown (Parish Council Chairman)

The following guests were present in person: Dana Quebedeaux (JS Dowling), William Jarrell

It was determined that a quorum was present.

Chairman Buddy Helton opened the public comments of the meeting at 8:15 am.  
Chairman Buddy Helton closed the public comments of the meeting at 8:33 am

Chairman Helton opened the meeting at 8:34 am.

Approval of November 18, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes: Following a review of November 18, 2021, regular board meeting minutes, a motion was made by Senic Batiste and seconded by Ammy Taylor to accept minutes as submitted. Motion carried without objection.

Financial Report: Dana Quebedeaux with JS Dowling presented the November 2021 Financial Report. Chairman Helton advised that due to change in employees at the Parish government financial department, the Audit trail payments were doubled. He also explained the ups and downs of the tax collection.

Yvonne Normand advised that the hotel taxes noted an increase in collections due to the influx of use due to Hurricane Ida.

Dana Quebedeaux with JS Dowling reviewed the Proposed Amended Budget. With no questions posed, a motion to accept and approve Amended Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2021, and ending December 31, 2021 was made by Yvonne Normand and seconded by Dr. Derek Metoyer. Motion carried without objection.

Dana Quebedeaux with JS Dowling reviewed the Proposed Operating Budget. With no questions posed, a motion to adopt Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2022, and ending December 31, 2022 was made by Senic Batiste and seconded by Yvonne Normand. Motion carried without objection.

### **Committee Reports:**

Land Use Report: Bill Rodier reported that due to Katrina vacating her position, the December Mayor meetings have been postponed and will be rescheduled. Yvonne Normand gave a brief scenario in reference to the need for education and transportation for adult education and employment in St. Landry Parish. Wants to know if there's a way for the TIF districts to collaborate on getting those things. There was a brief discussion on transportation.

Communications Report: Taylor Lormand and Ammy Taylor spoke about their Marketing and Communications meeting. Taylor gave an update on a plan that was approved in January 2020 pre-covid the main being the outreach initiative to the area businesses. Ms. Lormand asked the board to think about what content/stories they would like to tell in 2022. She also talked about the upcoming changes to the website. Ammy Taylor suggested that each board could have a member attend the other board's meeting to help facilitate with communication. Bill agreed that connectivity between the boards is important and reminded the board that the newsletter and realignment will assist with the deficiency. The board agreed that due to the calming of the pandemic, they support the venture with the previously approved \$1,500 budget.

### **Old Business:**

- Joint Commission CEA Amendment Update: Chairman Helton advised that the CEA has been assigned by David Wolfe to an attorney in his firm. Under the instruction of Mr. Wolfe, the CEA should be ready in February. Ammy Taylor requested since the changes are happening to the CEA, now is the time the board should include the change in footprint for CSLEDD. Senic

Batiste suggested that along with the afterhours business meetings, the board should also look into having one with governmental officials. Chairman Helton proposed a committee of 3 look at the existing footprint and expansion areas the board would like to include. Tina Vidrine, Ammy Taylor, and Senic Batiste volunteered to be on the committee with Ammy Taylor as the chair.

Industrial Board Support Agreement Update: Bill Rodier gave an update on the Industrial Board CEA and support agreement and gave an update of the SLED staffing matrix and the roles and responsibilities for each position. The positions were advertised on Indeed and has since closed. The hiring committee has been selected. Senic Batiste has volunteered to sit on the hiring committee. The Administrative Assistant position will be interviewing in the next couple of weeks. The Project Coordinator's position will be interviewing shortly afterwards.

Boyd Gaming Purchase Agreement Offer Update: Chairman Helton gave an update on the Boyd Gaming Purchasing Agreement. Boyd's request is for the Multi-use Equine facility have priority over the RV Park. Because their concern is making sure the multi-use facility is not contingent upon the RV Park profitability, Chairman Helton and Bill Rodier met with Charlie and Susan to have them run some models and produce some feasible/sustainable options. They are planning to meet with JB Mouton to get some rough estimates on the costs and do some marketing and feasibility analysis in a post covid environment.

Sewer Project Update:

- William Jarrell advised everything except the 1 component has been installed. With the rain the road is holding up well. They are working with Entergy to get power to the structure. The sewer is still projected to be online to connected by end of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2022. Jarrell advised there is still a backorder on the generator but that does not prevent the project to be online on time.
- Bill Rodier gave updates with the Smooth Ride Home bond.
- Bill Rodier and William Jarrell discussed needed changes to the traffic with DOTD at the Harry Guilbeau interchanges.

I-49 Lighting Project Update:

- I-49 Project is still waiting for material for Harry Guilbeau at the interchange of Hwy 182. Entergy is still dealing with restoration from Hurricane Ida.
- William Jarrell advised that they are still waiting for an update from DOTD to assign a project number and approval.

Vegetation Maintenance/Litter Abatement Update: Chairman Helton reported that Burns vegetation and litter abatement cycles are on schedule and moving well. There may be one more cut for this year. The remaining action FY 2021 will be liter abatement. William Jarrell will look into if the new contract has been signed with Burns. Buddy will be meeting with Richard LeBeouf in reference to litter.

Retail Strategy Update: Buddy Helton gave an update from Retail Strategies. Movement with Ollie's and McAllister's should commence any day now. The board is awaiting the update from Retail Strategies with the conference.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Yvonne Normand and seconded by Scenic Batiste to adjourn at 10:42 am. Motion carried without objection.

  
Secretary

  
Chairman