

**Central St. Landry Economic Development District**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Meeting Date and Time: October 13, 2022 @ 8:30 am**  
**Meeting Place: 5367 I-49 S. Service Road, Opelousas LA**

**AGENDA**

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ New Commission Member Introduction
- ❖ Roll Call
- ❖ Approval of the September 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
  
- ❖ Financial Report
  
- ❖ Committee Reports
  - Marketing and Communications
  - Land Use
  - District Expansion
  
- ❖ Old Business
  - Event Center Project Update
  - Sewer Project Update
  - Vegetation Maintenance / Litter Abatement Update
  - Lighting Projects Update

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

The following members were absent: Yvonne Normand

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

The following non-voting members were absent: Julius Alsandor (Mayor), Jessie Bellard (Parish President), and Vivian Olivier, (Parish Council Chair)

The following guests were present in person: Cade Jones of Acadiana Planning Commission, Jim and Eric Lastrapes of Lastrapes Garden Center, William Jarrell of Morgan Godeau and Associates.

The following guests were present virtually: Alicia Wiltz and Sara Fawcett of Acadiana Planning Commission,

It was determined that a quorum was present

Chairman Helton opened the meeting at 8:45 AM. He welcomed the board and introduced new board member, Rod Sias. Mr. Sias was appointed by the Parish President to fill the remainder of Pride Doran’s existing term.

Approval of September 2022, Meeting Minutes: Following a review of the September 2022, regular board meeting minutes, a motion to accept minutes as submitted, was made by Senic Batiste, and seconded by Ammy Taylor. Motion carried without objection.

Financial Report: Treasurer Vidrine presented the September 2022 Financial Reports. She discussed the reports and stated that everything is on track and under budget. Chairman Helton reported on the September audit trail.

### **Committee Reports:**

Marketing and Communications: Ammy Taylor reported that she, Bill Rodier and Janece Riser had a meeting regarding planning for communications going forward. Ms. Taylor also reported that the Facebook posts are creating more engagements and that she, Janece Riser and Teresa Reaves have set a plan for the rest of the month.

Land use. Mr. Cade Jones reported that the Acadiana Planning Commission has been meeting with each of the communities individually to make sure that all the elected officials know what they will be adopting as far as land use policy. He reported that they have secured Becker and Herbert Law Services to get their expertise working in land use. APC is expecting something from that review next week. At that time, there will be a public engagement outreach meeting scheduled to make sure the communities understand what is happening. Questions and discussion ensued.

District Expansion: Bill Rodier introduced Alicia Wiltz and Sara Fawcett from APC. He explained their work in GIS mapping of the parcels. Ms. Wiltz and Ms. Fawcett showed what the designations look like with all the different overlays of the maps. They went through both residential and commercial assessments and classifications. Questions and discussion ensued. Vice Chairman Senic Batiste made a motion that 100% of the businesses in their district should be designated as taxing parcels within district. This was seconded by Ammy Taylor. Motion passed without objection. Active Discussion regarding how to move forward with the initiative ensued.

### **Old Business:**

Event Center Project Update: Chairman Helton reported on the proposed event center project. He mentioned that there are new quotes in. Bill Rodier explained the statement of probable costs. The cost estimate includes everything in the Crossroads study including Sitework, covered arena, main arena, barn, and Maintenance facility. The probable costs are 45,600,000.00 on the low end and 75,354,000.00 on the high end with an average probable cost estimate of 64,831.832.00 Chairman Helton asked if Mr. Rodier could reach out with these figures to JB Mouton to see if they concurred.

Sewer Project Update: Chairman Helton handed over to William Jarrell. Mr. Jarrell reported that they are only waiting for their final inspection. Chairman Helton reported that the project will finalize well under budget. Mr. Jarrell further reported on the properties that will tie into the sewer facility. Lively discussion ensued.

Vegetation Maintenance / Litter Abatement Update: Janece Riser reported on the litter abatement and vegetation project. Janece explained the protocol that the crew follows to complete all the areas that need to be addressed. She went into the field yesterday to make sure they were hitting

all the target areas. Work is progressing. Chairman Helton also gave a brief update on the Judson Walsh painting project.

Lighting Project Update: Chairman Helton gave a brief update. It is moving forward, and we are seeing progress. There has been a project number assigned to the Creswell and Judson Walsh lighting extension projects.

***New Business:***

Potential Eco-Tourist Site Discussion: Chairman Helton and Bill Rodier gave an update on the potential project and the purchasing of the land near Cypress Lakes. The project would potentially provide trails for horseback riding, bicycling, picnicking and RV parking spots. Mr. Rodier informed the board that he has consulted with Land Architecture to see if they could help with this project. Mr. Rodier also reported that the existing owner is interested in selling the property. He also reported that there have been initial discussions with Our Saviors Church about access to the site through their property. Discussion ensued.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Senic Batiste and seconded by Ammy Taylor. Motion carried without objection. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

  
Secretary

  
Chairman