

**Board Meeting**

**Meeting Date and Time: November 10, 2022 @ 8:30 am**  
**Meeting Place: 5367 I-49 S. Service Road, Opelousas LA**

**AGENDA**

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Pledge
- ❖ Roll Call
- ❖ CSLEDD Business Recognition Program – Ollies Bargain Outlet
- ❖ Approval of the October 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
  
- ❖ Financial Report
  - Introduction of Amended Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2022, and Ending December 31, 2022
  - Introduction of Proposed Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023
  - Engagement Letter for Amended and Proposed Budget with John S Dowling
  - Engagement Letter 2023 Monthly Services John S Dowling contract renewal
  
- ❖ Committee Reports
  - Marketing and Communications
  - Land Use
  - District Expansion
  
- ❖ Old Business
  - Gateway Development Expansion
  - Sewer Project Update
  - Lighting Projects Update
  - Vegetation Maintenance / Litter Abatement Update
  - Retail Strategies

The following members were present in person: Frank “Buddy” Helton, Ammy Taylor, Tina Vidrine, Rod Sias, Yvonne Normand, Roderick Sias

The following members were absent: Senic Batiste, Dr. Derek Metoyer

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: Dana Quibedeaux of JS Dowling

The following guests were present virtually: Lyndsey Bailey and Harlan Winn both of Retail Strategies

It was determined that a quorum was present.

Chairman Helton opened the meeting at 8:35 AM. He welcomed the board and thanked them for their time.

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

Financial Report: Treasurer Vidrine presented the October 2022 Financial Reports. She discussed the reports and stated that everything is on track and under budget. Chairman Helton introduced Ms. Dana Quibedeaux of JS Dowling who was here to go over the financials and the new budget for the coming year. Questions and discussion ensued. Ms. Quibedeaux spoke about the proposed budget and the amended budget. She also explained the expenditures. She reported that we are under budget by 27.9%. She reported on Projected expenditures as well. A motion to allow Chairman Helton to sign the engagement letters was made by Yvonne Normand and seconded by Rod Sias. Motion carried without objections. A motion was made to keep the same contract with JS Dowling for contract services by Tina Vidrine and seconded by Rod Sias. Motion carried without objections.

### **Committee Reports:**

Marketing and Communications: Ms. Ammy Taylor reported on the reach of the social media posts. She explained that the posts that get the most engagement seem to be the business of the month. Social Media engagements have been up over 80% in the last month.

Land use: Ms. Yvonne Normand reported that she had not received an update. Mr. Bill Rodier reported on a point of contention with certain municipalities and that the attorney is still working on the legal review. Conversation and questions ensued.

District Expansion: Bill Rodier reported on the meetings he has been in regarding the District Expansion. Mr. Rodier would like to set up a meeting with a couple board members and the ladies from the planning commission. Discussion ensued.

### **Old Business:**

Gateway Development Expansion: Chairman Helton and Bill Rodier reported on their conversation with representatives from Our Saviors Church. They had discussions on the right of way into the proposed project property.

Sewer Project Update: Buddy Helton reported that the Sewer Treatment Plant is requesting a right of way From Mike Richard of Royal Oak Gardens. After that is granted, the bid process For Wastewater infrastructure will go out around the first of the year.

Lighting Projects Update: Chairman Helton reported that the project through Creswell Lane and Harry Guilbeau is moving right along and continues to progress. We are still waiting on reserve inventory after the first of the year. We have started being billed by Entergy for the usage. With the billing seeming high, Ms. Janece Riser has been dealing with the company to verify the accuracy of the bill.

Vegetation Maintenance / Litter Abatement Update: Ms. Janece Riser reported on the cutting and litter companies working on the projects. Ms. Riser informed the companies about areas that have

been missed, and they have both come back and worked on clean up. Buddy Helton reported that vegetation has been sprayed in some areas.

Retail Strategies Update: Lyndsey Bailey gave an update on the possible companies they are working on bringing to our area. Harlan Winn reported on some of the retailers with interest in our area as well and the process to get them here.

Adjourn: With no further business a motion was made by Ammy Taylor to adjourn and seconded by Rod Sias. Meeting adjourned at 10:16 AM.

  
Secretary

  
Chairman