



### Board Meeting

**Date and Time: July 22, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Meeting Place: 5367 I-49 S. Service Road,**  
**Opelousas, LA 70570**

### AGENDA

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Pledge and Opening Prayer
- ❖ Roll Call
- ❖ Approval of June 24, 2022, Meeting Minutes
- ❖ ODDD Business Recognition Program, Business of the Month Award.
  - **Joe's Sandwich Shop – Jason Thibodeaux**
- ❖ **Monthly Financial Report**
  - Monthly Financial Report
- ❖ Executive Director's Report
  - Monthly status report of activities for and effecting the ODDD.
- ❖ **New Business**
  - BIG Grant - Action
- ❖ **Old Business:**
  - BIG Grant - Action
  - TAP Grant – Action
  - Wallior Area Improvements & Chick-fil-A - Action
  - Way Finders Signage - Action
  - CPEX – Update
  - South Park Master Plan - Update
  - Courthouse Phase II Lighting - Update
  - ODDD and SLED CEA - Update
  - Keep Louisiana Beautiful Grant - Update
- ❖ **Board Members Comments**
- ❖ **Adjourn**

Next Meeting Date: Friday, ODDD Regular scheduled meeting on August 19, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. on the campus of SLED. The Public and any interested parties are welcome to attend. If you require reasonable accommodations, submit your request as far in advance as possible.

Chairwoman Lena Charles opened the regular board meeting at 9:06 AM.

It was determined that a quorum was present.

The following members were present in person: Chairwoman Lena Charles, Pat Fontenot, Don D’Avy, and Keith Broussard

The following members were present virtually: None

The following members were absent: Ogden Pitre, Rob Hillard, Sarah Branton

The following SLED members were present: Bill Rodier, Taylor Lormand, Janece Riser

Guests present in person were Melanie Lebouef (Opelousas Tourism),

Guests present virtually: David Wolfe (Adam’s & Reese)

***ODDD Small Business of the Month Recognition 2022:*** On behalf of the board, Chairwoman Lena Charles recognized “**Joe’s Sandwich Shop**” that is located at, **633 W Vine St.** Opelousas, LA 70570, Opelousas, LA as the July’s recipient for ODDD’s Small Business of the month program. She stated owner, Jason Thibodeaux requested that the award be presented at his place with his workers present because they are the reason, he’s successful. Chairwoman Charles commended him on that choice and stated she would go after the meeting.

***Approval of June 24, 2022, Meeting Minutes:*** A motion to approve the June 24, 2022, meeting minutes was made by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Keith Broussard. Motion carried without objection.

***Monthly Financial Report:*** Keith Broussard gave an overview of the June Financials. Mrs. Charles advised the amount from the new parcels will be visible on July’s collections. A motion to accept the June financial report was made by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Don D’Avy. Motion carried without objection.

***Executive Director’s Report:*** Bill Rodier gave an update on the state and projected problems regarding the downtown federal building and downtown area at a whole. Don D’avy had a suggestion with parking. He also reported on projects happening in and around the district.

## **New Business**

***Propose to employ Adam’s & Reese for ODDD Park Initiative:*** Chairwoman Charles stated that if the board is truly interested in the South Park initiative, now may be the time to decide and investigate securing bonds. David Wolfe gave a presentation on bonds and what a bond process could look like. A motion to acquire a resolution to employ Adam’s & Reese to represent EDDD in the South Park initiative was made by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Don D’Avy. Motion carried without objection. A motion for a resolution to employ Adam’s & Reese to assist with

the language for the CEA was made by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Don D’Avy. Motion carried without objection.

**Old Business:**

***BIG Grant:*** Chairwoman Charles gave an update on the 2022 BIG Grant project. The committee which includes Sarah Branton, Lena Charles, Melanie Lebouef, Councilman Milton Batiste, and Ray Scriber met on July 19<sup>th</sup> to evaluate the six applications. The awards are as follows:

Benny’s Super Market (\$2425/\$4850)

Seth Robin  
806 South Union  
(148 points)

Java Square (\$5000/\$22,869)

Ashley Lerma  
103 West Landry St.  
(146 points)

Back in Time (\$3315.50/\$6631.00)

Wanda Juneau  
123 West Landry St  
(145 points)

Lagniappe Vape-Shute’s Drug Store (\$1089.09/\$2178.18)

Grant Fontenot  
104 East Landry St.  
(132 points)

Law Office of Abbey Williams/Former Dan Marino Store/ (\$5000/\$50,000)

Abby Williams  
634 South Union  
(130 points)

Harris & Harris Law Firm (\$5000/\$14,715.33)

Vanessa Harris  
221 North Main St.  
(107 points)

The total grant amount awarded for the 2022-2023 year is \$21,829.59 and the total amount of investment to the district is \$101,243.51. 2021 Grant funding provided for 3 projects- \$6,300 because Franks and Wild Child did not activate the grants. The 2021 Total investment was \$103,150

***TAP Grant:*** Chairwoman Charles explained that the one bid received has been formally rejected for the US 190: MARKET - COURT, SIDEWALKS project. She stated David Jarrell will write a letter to DOTD requesting more funds and rework the project to rebid.



**Wallior Area Improvements:** Bill Rodier gave an update on the Wallior and I-190 intersection area infrastructure. He explains this infrastructure would not only give the Chick-fil-A water and sewer but other projects if need be. Bill Rodier advised he has had conversations with Bruce Gaudin in anticipation of this meeting because Bruce will be going on vacation soon. A motion for ODDD enter into a CEA with the City of Opelousas to assist with infrastructure (water and wastewater) for West Wallior to East Wallior not to exceed \$250,000 and any amount above \$250,000 will have to be brought to the board was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Keith Broussard. Motion carried without objection. A discussion on additional considerations regarding traffic ensued. He has a meeting with Representative Dustin Miller, Senator Gerald Boudreaux and Chick-fil-A’s lead engineer should be happening in the next few weeks Lena Charles suggested including Shawn from the DOTD. William Jarrell is looking into the approximate costs. A motion to engage Bruce Gaudin to write the CEA for the water and wastewater was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Keith Broussard. Motion carried with without objection.

**Way Finders Signage:** Janece Riser reported that she and Melanie LeBoeuf met with a representative from the company that gave the original quote to go over the original request packet. He indicated that with the current prices of materials the cost could go from \$160,000 to 300,000. With that being said, it is their recommendation that the board seek out additional prices through a formal RFP. Chairwoman Charles stated that the board is not quite ready to begin this project but was simply gathering information for budgeting purposes.

**CPEX Update:** Chairwoman Charles informed the board that her and Bill have been in contact with CPEX. They are one month in the three-month process. Bill Rodier stated he spoke with CPEX about street design guidelines as a potential additional phase and scope of services. CPEX stated they would be happy to do it but would like to complete the current project before adding this project.

**South Park Master Plan:** Chairwoman Lena Charles gave an update on the South Park master plan stating the next focus is sponsorships of each section such as the entry way, the splash pad, the amphitheater, etc. Bill Rodier stated he spoke to the Vision Board regarding sponsorships and the conversation of who is going to run this project. A discussion on the direction of the planning project ensued. Bill Rodier reminded the board the capital outlay deadline is November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Courthouse Phase II Lighting:** Chairwoman Charles reported that lighting has been installed but the illumination is not satisfactory. Mrs. Lormand stated that she found out that the parish is installing lighting on other buildings so she requested a meeting so that they can

**ODDD and SLED CEA:** Chairwoman Charles reported that SLED board has approved and signed the CEA. She thanked Ogden Pitre for his time and patience in handling this. She stated will be signing the CEA.

**Keep Louisiana Beautiful Grant:** Janece Riser reported that the ODDD was awarded a Keep Louisiana Beautiful Grant in the amount of \$6,474.79.

**Board Member Comments:** Chairwoman Charles stated for the good of the order she was able to attend Ralph Keith Broussard/Magnolia CDC's ribbon cutting. She commends Mr. Keith for staying the course and bringing economic development to St. Landry Parish.

**Public Comments:** No public comments were presented.

The next scheduled meeting will be on Friday, August 19, 2022, at 9:00 am at the SLED building.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Pat Fontenot and seconded by Don D'Avy. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 11:11 am.

  
Secretary

  
Chairperson

