

**Board Meeting
April 19, 2022**

**St. Landry Parish Economic and Industrial Development District
Business Resource Center
5367 I-49 S. Service Road
Opelousas, LA 70570**

AGENDA

- I. WELCOME.....CHAIRMAN, ANDY DAKIN
- II. PLEDGE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. ADOPTION OF THE MARCH 2022 BOARD MEETING MINUTES
- V. FINANCIAL REPORT..... TREASURER, HALS BEARD
- VI. REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE
 - a. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 - b. REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE
- VII. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. I-49 MIDWAY CORRIDOR PROJECT – GODEAUX
 - b. WALMART PILOT AGREEMENT - RODIER
 - c. FIBER PROJECT UPDATE – RODIER
 - d. CATALYST SALESFORCE – RODIER, LORMAND
 - e. ODDD/IDB AGREEMENTS – RODIER, DAKIN
 - f. I-49 CORRIDOR DEVELOPMENT UPDATE - RODIER
- VIII. PRESENTOR – DR. VINCENT JUNE – CHANCELLOR SLCC
- IX. ADJOURN

Chairman, Andy Dakin opened the regular board meeting at 10:17 A.M.

Voting Members Present: Andy Dakin, Roma Stewart, Lena Charles, Seth Robin, Dr. John Hamlin, Wil Fontenot, Sharon Ortego, Toni Effinger, Daniel Lyons, Don Reber, Ken Simeral, Christopher Clostio, Hals Beard

Voting Members Absent: Donald Dejean, Boisy Pitre, Wil Fontenot

Non-Voting Members Present in Person: Bill Rodier, Taylor Lormand, Teresa Reaves, and Janece Riser

Voting Members present remotely: Candace Papillion

Guests: Ginger Collier (SLEMCO), Cade Jones (Acadiana Planning Commission) Rachel Goddaux (Acadiana Planning Commission), Lana Fontenot (SLCC), Herman Fuselier (Acadiana Tourism)

It was determined a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Erica Milton to accept the March 2022 board meeting minutes and seconded by Dr. John Hamlin. Motion carried without objection.

Financial Report: Hals Beard provided an overview of the March 2022 financials. Bill Rodier explained how their fiscal year runs. A motion to adopt the March 2022 financials was made by Lena Charles and seconded by Roma Stewart. Motion carried without objection.

Executive Committee: No report currently.

Real Estate Committee: Bill Rodier spoke about the empty buildings downtown. He explained that the real estate committee is working on some considerations and planning to follow up with a walk through of the federal building downtown soon.

Old Business:

I-49 Midway Corridor Project: Bill introduced Cade Jones and Rachel Godeaux of the Acadiana Planning Commission. He asked Cade to speak before the board about what is happening with the I-49 Midway Corridor project. Cade gave an overview of the project and invited the board and guests to attend upcoming meetings which are May 5th, May 19th and June 16th for the working group meetings at 10 am. and the meetings on May 26 and July 14 which will be informational meetings.

Walmart Pilot agreement. Bill Rodier updated on Walmart. The legal entities are going back and forth with questions currently.

Fiber Project Update: Bill gave an update on the LUS fiber expansion. Bill Rodier explained about Conterra Fiber and their grant to put fiber in all the local schools. He explained that our office is slated to connect to Conterra Fiber and reported on their growth in the corridor. Rachel Godeaux reported about the Gumbo program. Bill Rodier asked her to explain what Gumbo stands for and she responded with “Granting Unserved Municipalities Broadband Opportunities.

Catalyst Salesforce: Bill Rodier updated the board on the Salesforce CRM implementation. We are launching live on April 20, 2022 and will be fully implemented in the next month. Salesforce will be a significant upgrade to our processes and daily functions of our office.

ODDD/IDB Agreements: Chairman Andy Dakin reported that there wasn’t anything new to report and expects agreements soon. Lena Charles let the board know that the agreement is in the hands of the attorneys.

I-49 Midway Corridor Activity Update: Bill Rodier gave an update on the Midway Corridor as far as new and upcoming businesses are concerned. Bill reported on the growth in the corridor. He spoke about the potential businesses coming in such as a new subdivision behind Giles Nissan and explained where the entrances will be. There is a pediatric Dental Clinic that should be finished in about four months. Ollies has also committed to coming into the Parish in the old Stage building. There are other potential businesses showing interest in that location as well. The Retail Strategies team will be here in person soon. Bill also reported about McAllister’s Deli being well into construction next to Taco Bell on Creswel. Construction is also beginning on a kidney dialysis center behind Walmart. Billy’s Boudin is expected to build a new restaurant in the Lowes area and a sixty-five-unit apartment complex is coming soon. Bill explained that the water treatment plant is nearing time to go online. He explained that there are challenges to growth, and we will meet those challenges.

Presenter:

Dr. Vincent June, Chancellor SLCC. Bill Rodier introduced Dr. June and explained his position at SLCC and welcomed him. Dr. June spoke about what is going on at the college. He talked about where they’ve been, who they are and where they are going.

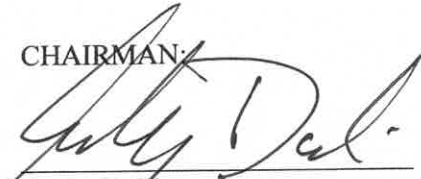
Discussion ensued around the pressure local employers feel regarding the current workforce.

Having no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn at 11.33 am by Lena Charles and seconded by Roma Stewart. Motion carried without objection.

ATTEST:


Secretary

CHAIRMAN:


Andy Dakin