

**Board Meeting
August 15, 2023**

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

Agenda

- I. WELCOME..... Chairman, Donald Dejean
- II. PLEDGE
- III. ROLL CALL
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- V. ADOPTION OF THE JUNE 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES - Action
- VI. FINANCIALS, JUNE 2023.....Treasurer Seth Robin - Action
- VII. FINANCIALS, JULY 2023.....Treasurer Seth Robin - Action
- VIII. GUEST PRESENTER – Milton Batiste, Superintendent of SLP Schools
- IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. SLED Board Executive Committee August (Notes)
 - b. Opelousas Downtown Development Board July Mtg (Notes)
 - c. Central St Landry Economic Development Board (Notes)
- X. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. I-49 Midway Corridor/Parish Planning Commission - Update
- XI. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Capital Outlay Sewer Project Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (Action)
 - b. Introduction of New Staff – Brittany Cretchain
- XII. CEO Training – Parish Core Assets, Certified, and Potential Development Sites
- XIII. Adjourn

Voting Members Present: Don Dejean, Roma Stewart, Andy Dakin, Seth Robin, Erika Milton, Kevin Fusilier, Juan Joseph, Sharon Ortego, Candace Pappillion, Toni Effingger, Daniel Lyons

Voting Members Absent: Ken Simeral, Valli Soileau, Kevin Doucet, Dr. John Hamlin, Don Reber

Voting Members Present Virtually:

Non-Voting Members Present in Person: Bill Rodier, Janece Riser, Teresa Reaves, Brittany Cretchain

Guests: Kade Jones (APC), Shelley Fontenot (St Landry Bank), Zach Hager (CLECO), William Jarrell (Morgan Godeau), David Jarrell (Morgan Godeau)

Adoption of the June Board Meeting Minutes: A motion was made to accept the June 2023 Board Meeting Minutes as submitted by Seth Robin and seconded by Roma Stewart. Motion carried with no objections.

June 2023 Financial Report: Mr. Seth Robin provided an overview of the June 2023 financial report. Mr. Robin discussed the income and expenses and explained that everything looked good with some one-time expenditures that were a little higher than normal. Mr. Bill Rodier clarified that the extra expenses were landscaping and asked if anyone had any questions. A motion was made by Mr. Andy Dakin and seconded by Ms. Candace Pappillion to approve the June 2023 financials. Motion carried with no objections.

July 2023 Financial Report: Mr. Seth Robin gave the report and advised that all of the income came into the bank account on time, and it was a normal month for expenditures. A motion was made by Ms. Candace Pappillion to accept the financials as submitted. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Juan Joseph. Motion carried without objection.

Guest Presenter – Milton Batiste Superintendent SLP Schools: Superintendent of St Landry Parish Public Schools, Mr. Milton Batiste, made a presentation to the board. He addressed his qualifications and went on to present his plans for the school year to the students, the teachers, and his vision. The focus of the year is to be Inspired, to be Determined, and to be Unstoppable. Mr. Batiste also discussed the upcoming tax renewal. There were questions and discussion.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee notes were included in the packet for the information of the board. Mr. Rodier explained that SLED Staff is trying to keep the entire board better informed before the meeting by doing this and that in the future we would include the same from the other boards so members could have a broader awareness.

Opelousas Downtown Development Board: The ODDD Meeting notes were included in the packet for the information of the board. Mr. Rodier explained that we were trying to keep the entire board better informed before the meeting by doing this and that in the future we would include the same from the other boards so members could have a broader awareness. Ms. Lena Charles, Chairwoman of the ODDD, gave a brief update of all the major ODDD projects.

Central St Landry Economic Development Board: The CSLEDD notes were included in the packet for the information of the board. Mr. Rodier explained that we were trying to keep the entire board better informed before the meeting by doing this and that in the future we would include the same from the other boards so members could have a broader awareness.

Old Business:

I-49 Midway Corridor- Update: Mr. Kade Jones was present to give an update on the I-49 Midway Corridor project. He mentioned that the project is at a standstill. He reported that they are hoping to have everything in place by November. He also reported that there will be a public meeting at some time in the future to inform the communities at the community level by each specific community along the corridor. Mr. Bill Rodier added the specific requirements to be added to the Planning Commission Board. SLED has been asked to provide at least one recommendation to that board. The terms are three years of staggered terms.

New Business:

Capital Outlay Sewer Project Cooperative Endeavor Agreement - Action: Mr. Bill Rodier gave a brief overview of the Sewer Project and the Capital Outlay project. Mr. Rodier advised the board that the application came back with the wrong information on the paperwork even though the CSLEDD board was the applicant the paperwork said SLED. It was reported that getting the paperwork changed could be risky and could likely mean losing the funds. Mr. Rodier reported that CSLEDD is requesting that SLED just be a pass through for the funds which would be sent through to CSLEDD. Questions and discussion ensued. A motion was made by Mr. Andy Dakin to move forward, subject to receipt, review and approval after Attorney Bruce Gaudin drafts two CEA's, one between The State of Louisiana and SLED and the second between SLED and CSLEDD. The second to the motion was made by Kevin Fuselier. The motion was carried without objection.

Introduction of New Staff – Brittany Cretchain: Mr. Bill Rodier introduced Brittany Cretchain as our new Economic Development Specialist. Ms. Cretchain introduced herself and received applause from the board.

CEO Training – Parish Core Assets, Certified, and Potential Development Sites: Mr. Bill Rodier introduced certified sites, being that they must be at least twenty acres, it must be a site with best use is light to heavy industrial. If it is a certified site, it doesn't take the place of a realtor, what it does is get the first phases of the evaluation done looking at utilities, water and wastewater, and cost estimates. The idea is that once those things are done, they are put on an A or B list for ease of qualification for the sale of the property. Certified sites provide access to rail, air, water /wastewater, fiber optics.

Board and Guest Comments: Ms. Roma Stewart gave thanks for the different board notes added to the meeting packet. Ms. Lena Charles reminded everyone about the Southwest Zydeco festival on Sept.1, 2023. Ms. Toni Effinger reminded everyone about the Balloons and Tunes festival coming Sunday September 24th from 4 pm to 8 pm at South Park. Mr. Bill Rodier reminded everyone that the ODDD has a special meeting this Thursday at 10:30 am, and that he will have an update on the Equine facility by the end of the week and gave an update on some economic development coming into the area. Mr. Rodier gave a brief update on the Police Cameras and surveillance equipment requested by the Police Department.

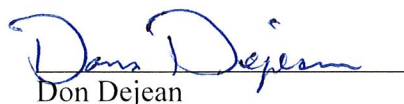
Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Seth Robin and seconded by Erika Milton. Motion carried without objection.

SECRETARY:



Erika Milton

CHAIRMAN:



Don Dejean