

**Board Meeting
September 19, 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 AUGUST 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES - Action
- VI. FINANCIALS, AUGUST 2023.....Treasurer Seth Robin - Action
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. SLED Board Executive Committee September (Notes)
 - b. Opelousas Downtown Development Board August Mtg (Notes)
 - c. Central St Landry Economic Development Board September (Notes)
- VIII. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. I-49 Midway Corridor/Parish Planning Commission - Update
- IX. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. CSLED CEA (Action)
 - b. LBIA Grant
- X. CEO Training – Louisiana Capital Outlay Process
- XI. Adjourn

Voting Members Present: Don Dejean, Andy Dakin, Seth Robin, Erika Milton, Kevin Fusilier, Sharon Ortego, Toni Effenogger, Daniel Lyons, Don Reber, Kevin Doucet, Dr. John Hamlin

Voting Members Present Virtually: None

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

Guests: Kade Jones (APC), Brenden Dungan (One Acadiana), Bruce Gaudin (Attorney for SLED)

Adoption of the August 2023 Board Meeting Minutes: A motion was made to accept the August 2023 minutes as submitted by Mr. Andy Dakin and seconded by Mr. Daniel Lyons. Motion carried with no objections.

August 2023 Financial Report: Mr. Seth Robin provided an overview of the August 2023 financials. Mr. Robin discussed the income and expenses. A motion was made by Dr. John Hamlin and seconded by Mr. Don Reber to approve the August 2023 financials as submitted. Motion carried with no objections.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee 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.

Opelousas Downtown Development Board: Mr. Bill Rodier shared with the SLED board an update on the downtown sidewalks on Landry Street and gave an update on what is going on with South Park as well as The Donald Gardner Stadium renovations. Mr. Rodier said that 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.

Central St Landry Economic Development Board: Mr. Bill Rodier gave a report to the SLED board letting them know that CSLEDD has agreed to a contractual offer on the purchase the Equine Sales Facility and explained that they are currently in the due process portion of the possible purchase. Mr. Rodier also gave a brief overview of the CSLED Reserve Naturelle de la Paroisse de Saint Landry Nature Preserve Park Project. Mr. Rodier explained that 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 reported that he and his team at APC have been having conversations with each of the communities involved in the Midway Corridor project which includes Grand Coteau, Sunset, Washington, and Opelousas. Mr. Jones reported that they are having trouble getting conversations with the right people in Opelousas, and he reported that there have been hurdles in other areas as well. They may have a public meeting in the future that will be in front of all the communities at once. Mr. Jones also reported that there is going to be a committee advertisement coming out to accept applications to the Parish Planning Commission. Mr. Bill Rodier reported that there is a SLED appointment recommendation included in the ordinance and advised the board members to be thinking about that. Mr. Rodier explained that the responsibility of the Parish Planning Commission will be to deal

board. Mr. Andy Dakin asked what the meeting time restraints will be of the committee, and Mr. Jones answered that they will meet monthly. Mr. Bill Rodier announced that SLED Staff will advise the board when those interested can send in applications.

New Business:

CSLED CEA: Mr. Bill Rodier reminded the board that the original application misnamed SLED rather than CSLED as overseeing the Wastewater Treatment Plant when CSLED was applying for Capital Outlay funds (1.7 million dollars with a 25% match from CSLED). The new CEA allows for SLED to be a pass through of the 1.7 million dollars to CSLED. The money will have to be accounted for from both sides. There is no fiscal accountability required by SLED other than staff time. Attorney Bruce Gaudin was present to answer any questions. Dr. John Hamlin asked what the time frame is, and Bill Rodier said probably by the end of 2024. Mr. Andy Dakin said that as the recipient of the grant money we are responsible to see that the money is used in the way it is intended. Attorney Bruce Gaudin agreed with that statement. Mrs. Toni Effingger asked if there will be someone making sure that things are being done correctly and Mr. Bill Rodier said yes, the engineering firm of Morgan Goudeau will be doing that. Board Chair Don Dejean asked if William Jarrell would be involved with that work and Mr. Rodier said yes. Mr. Dajejan suggested that the SLED board receive more information before moving the CEA, but Mr. Andy Dakin said the CEA says everything it should say and suggested that the CEA be approved, as it is just about the financial portion of the agreement. With that said, a motion was made by Dr. John Hamlin and seconded by Seth Robin to allow Chairman Donald Dejean to sign the CEA. Motion carried without objection.

LBIA Grant – Mr. Bill Rodier reported that the focus of the LBIA grant for 2023-24 is designed for security of the SLED building and keeping people and the building secure. Mr. Rodier reported that the new cameras will have the capability to pick up the license plate numbers of the vehicles going through our parking lot. We are also looking at improved lighting and electronic keypads at all doors. A motion was made by Mr. Andy Dakin and seconded by Mr. Don Reber to move forward with the LBIA grant. Motion passed without objection.

CEO Training – Louisiana Capital Outlay Process: Mr. Bill Rodier explained the process for how applying for Capital Outlay funds work. He explained that the application can be filled out online and that the deadline is in November. Mr. Rodier explained House Bill 2. He went on to say that the legislature accepts the applications and begins to cut them down to fit the amount of funds available. The bill then goes to the governor’s office. Once it is signed by the governor it is sent to the bonding commission. After that it would most likely get signed by the bonding commission. The applications are then marked by priority 1-5. Priority 1 being the most likely to be funded and 5 being parked and possibly funded in small bites. Capital Outlay projects can be multiyear projects. It was an informative session with questions and answers afterwards.

Board and Guest Comments: Ms. Toni Effingger reminded the board about the Balloons and Tunes event coming up on Sunday, September 24th from 4 to 8 pm. Mr. Bill Rodier reported that Mr. Don Dejean put on a beautiful event for Casa over the weekend. Mr. Dejean then also reported that there will be a “Golfing for a Cause” event for Casa in November and explained that they are trying to get golfing and fishing going in the St. James Parish School System. Mr. Don Reber made an announcement that he is


Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Seth Robin and seconded by Mrs. Erika Milton. Motion carried without objection. Meeting adjourned at 11:39 am.

SECRETARY:



Erika Milton

CHAIRMAN:



Don Dejean