

**Central St. Landry Economic Development District**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Meeting Date and Time: May 12, 2022 @ 8:30 am**  
**Meeting Place: 5367 I-49 S. Service Road, Opelousas LA**

**AGENDA**

- ❖ Welcome
- ❖ Pledge
- ❖ Roll Call
- ❖ Approval of the April 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
  
- ❖ Financial Report
  
- ❖ Committee Reports
  - Land Use
  - District Expansion Committee
  - Marketing and Communications
  
- ❖ Old Business
  - Sewer Project Update
  - Lighting Update
  - Vegetation Maintenance/Litter Abatement Update
  - Crossroads Market Feasibility Report
  - Retail Strategies Update
  
- ❖ New Business
  - Harry Guilbeau Traffic Impact Study

The following members were present in person: Frank “Buddy” Helton, Senic Batiste, Ammy Taylor, Dr. Derek Metoyer, Yvonne Normand, Tina Vidrine

The following members were present virtually: Scott Von Cannon, Harlan Winn, Clay Craft (Retail Strategies Team)

The following members were absent: Pride Doran

The following non-voting members were present in person: Bill Rodier (CEO of SLED), Janece Riser (SLED), Taylor Lormand (SLED), Teresa Reaves (SLED)

The following non-voting members were present virtually: None

The following non-voting members were absent: Julius Alsandor (Mayor), Jessie Bellard (Parish President), and Dexter Brown (Parish Council Chairman)

The following guests were present in person: William Jerrell, Dr. Chad Rossitter, MD,

The following guests were present virtually: None

It was determined that a quorum was present.

Chairman Helton opened the meeting at 8:37 am.

Approval of April 14, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes: Following a review of April 14, 2022, regular board meeting minutes, a motion was made by Tina Vidrine and seconded by Senic Batiste to accept minutes as submitted. Motion carried without objection

Financial Report: Tina Vidrine presented the April 2022 Financial Report.

### **Committee Reports:**

Land Use Report. Bill Rodier Reported on the I-49 Midway Corridor and encouraged all board members to attend.

District Expansion Report: Bill Rodier gave an update on the spending boundaries in zones 1,2,3, and 4. There was discussion on where to move the new boundaries and Bill will report again next month with a new map showing the where the projected boundaries lie before a final decision is made.

Marketing and Communications Report: Ammy Taylor reported on the success of the Small Business Summit. There was a large crowd in attendance and the attendees remarked that it will be an asset to the community on a yearly basis. Chairman Helton added that the Newsletter will be coming out by e-mail monthly and Bill Rodier invited the board chairs to a meeting to discuss what communications projects would be on the calendar going forward.

### **Old Business:**

Sewer Project Update: William Jarrell reported that the new wastewater treatment facility is waiting on a few parts but should be ready to go online by the end of June.

Lighting Projects Update: Chairman Buddy Helton reported that the damaged pole has been replaced. He also reported that the implementation of the new lighting on Harry Guilbeau Road will begin soon.

Vegetation Maintenance/Litter Abatement Update: Chairman Buddy Helton reported that everything is on schedule. Herbicide treatment will be starting soon. Scheduled cleaning efforts on the apron areas along I-49 are currently underway, and the mural project will be ready to proceed soon. Taylor Lormand reported that the Opelousas School Board gave permission to use the school logos and Bill Rodier reported that he found a company in Lafayette that has the capability to provide stencils to create the artwork. He added that Acadiana Center for the Arts has offered their assistance on the project. Ammy Taylor reported that she has received three quotes for cleaning, trimming, and replanting the area on Creswell Dr. discussed in an earlier meeting. She felt that the quote from the landscaper that did the work initially should be the one to use. A motion was made by Yvonne Norman to accept the bid and seconded by Tina Vidrine. Motion carried with no objections.

Crossroads Market Feasibility: Chairman Helton updated the board on the Crossroads Market Feasibility Proposal. He expects to have a first draft of the documents soon.

Retail Strategies Update: Scott Von Cannon from Retail Strategies gave a recap of the recent activity regarding the Stage Store building. He gave a clear overview of the businesses coming into the building. He discussed the upcoming plans for the area and shared a lot of exciting news with the board regarding possible new businesses coming to Opelousas and St. Landry Parish.

**New Business:**

Harry Guilbeau Traffic Study Chairman Buddy Helton invited William Jarrell to explain what the traffic study is and the cost of the project. Mr. Jarrell explained that DOTD has requested an impact study for the Stillwater Development. They need the study done to capture some safety funding. Bill Rodier discussed the traffic that new business brings to an area and the traffic study will address that. Buddy Helton reported that Stillwater has requested our help with the traffic study and will provide a letter of promise to reimburse. A motion was made by Yvonne Norman to enter into the agreement with Stillwater. A second was made by Tina Vidrine and the motion carried without objection.

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn by Yvonne Norman and seconded by Dr. Metoyer. Motion carried without objection. Meeting adjourned at 10:41 AM.

  
Secretary

  
Chairman