



Board Meeting

Date and Time: August 19, 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 July 22, 2022, Meeting Minutes
- ❖ ODDD Business Recognition Program-2022 Big Grant Recipients
- ❖ **Monthly Financial Report**
 - Monthly Financial Report
- ❖ **Executive Director's Report**
 - Monthly status report of activities for and effecting the ODDD.
- ❖ **New Business**
 - Design Build For District
 - Way Finders Signage Update
- ❖ **Old Business:**
 - BIG Grant- Update
 - TAP Grant-Update
 - Wallior Area Infrastructure Improvements –
 - A.) Water / Wastewater Additions
 - B.) Additional Turning Lanes
 - CPEX-Update on City of Opelousas Ordinance
 - Adam's & Reese -Update
 - South Park Master Plan- Update
 - Courthouse Phase II Lighting – Update
 - Keep Louisiana Beautiful Grant- Update: Riser /Lebouef
- ❖ **Board Members Comments**
- ❖ **Adjourn**

Next Meeting Date: Friday, ODDD Regular scheduled meeting on September 23, 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 9:03 AM.

It was determined that a quorum was present.

The following members were present in person: Chairwoman Lena Charles, Pat Fontenot, Don D’Avy, Ogden Pitre, Sarah Branton, Rob Hilliard, and Keith Broussard

The following members were present virtually: None

The following members were absent: None

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

Guests present in person were Melanie Lebouef (Opelousas Tourism), Herman Fuselier (Acadiana Tourism) Ashley Lerma (Java Square), Wanda Juneau (Back in time), Grant Fontenot (Lagniappe Vape Shop), Tara Lapeyrouse, Purvis Morrison (City of Opelousas)

Guests present virtually: None

ODDD Small Business of the Month Recognition 2022: Chairman Charles welcomed the BIG GRANT Recipients. Sarah Branton explained the grant process, recognized the recipients, and introduced those present. Mrs. Melanie Lebouef gave some highlights of each recipient and what their plans for their grant money is for. A group picture was taken for the newsletter.

Approval of July 22, 2022, Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the July 22, 2022, meeting minutes was made by Keith Broussard and seconded by Don D’Avy. Motion carried without objection.

Monthly Financial Report: Keith Broussard gave an overview of the July Financials. Mrs. Charles advised the increase in revenue was from the addition of the new parcels. A motion to accept the July financial report was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Ogden Pitre. Motion carried without objection.

Executive Director’s Report: Bill Rodier gave a report about the Retail Strategies visit. He explained what Retail Strategies does for our area. He also announced that through Acadiana Planning Commission we have received a grant for Retail Strategies to do a comprehensive analysis of downtown Opelousas. Bill also shared that the Federal Building is currently under contract. Bill reported on his conversations with a Representative from Monroe that shared opportunities that mirror things regarding rehabilitating downtown that have successfully worked for Monroe . Some questions and conversation ensued. Bill reported that the New Life Center RFP committee meets on August 22nd to make a decision on the proposals. The topic is scheduled to be on City Council’s September Agenda.

New Business

Design Build for District: Chairwoman Charles discussed the need for design build through CPEX prior to finalizing Wayfinder signs. No action needs be taken until CPEX is complete. Bill Rodier discussed that Retail Strategies will be conducting a Marketing Analysis on downtown Opelousas.

Old Business:

BIG Grant: Chairwoman Lena Charles asked Sarah Branton to give an update on the 2022 BIG Grant project. All recipients have signed their award letters and the press release will be going out this week.

TAP Grant: Chairwoman Charles reminded the board that the one bid received has been formally rejected for the US 190: MARKET - COURT, SIDEWALKS project. David Jarrell has written a letter to DOTD requesting more funds and reworked the project to be re-bid in November with a probable a 20% match.

Wallior Area Infrastructure Improvements: Chairwoman Charles and Bill Rodier gave an update on the Wallior and I-190 intersection area infrastructure which includes the water/wastewater additions and the additional turning lane. The CEA for the water and wastewater has been signed. She stated that although this is a heavy lift this was needed for growth of the area.

CPEX Update on City of Opelousas Ordinance: Chairwoman Charles gave an update on the CPEX agreement. She and Bill have been in contact with CPEX. She explained that everything is going as planned and she will report further at the September meeting

Adam's and Reese Update: Chairwoman Charles advised the contract has been signed and will report to the board any developments.

South Park Master Plan: Bill Rodier gave an update on the South Park master plan stating the opinion of probable cost has been received on the Stadium and the Track. There was a scheduled meeting with the mayor but was cancelled due to water emergencies. He further explained that Phase I will include football field, stadium, track, parking lot and grand entrance.

Courthouse Phase II Lighting: Chairwoman Charles reported that the Parish has contracted an electrician to put lighting on the Courthouse building. The Walking sisters coordinated with that electrician and received a new quote to replace the unsatisfactory lighting that was installed. The project is projected to be completed in time for the Christmas season.

Keep Louisiana Beautiful Grant: Janece Riser and Melanie Lebouef reported on the status of the project. They both attended a webinar on the grant last week. They will have more to report on the are projects that will be built at both North and South parks at the water fountains. Janece also reported on the garbage issue behind the strip mall on Creswell near Walmart. She reported on the meeting that CSLEDD had with the City over the Litter Abatement issues. Conversation ensued.

Board Member Comments: Mr. Don D’Avy recommended The Top Shop as a business to be considered for the Business of the Month.

Public Comments: Bill Rodier advised of the CSLEDD Stake Holder’s meeting on Tuesday at 5:30-7:30. And advised the board that Taylor Lormand has given her resignation effective September 2nd. Chairwoman Charles announced the 40th Annual Zydeco Music Festival on September 3rd.

The next scheduled meeting will be on Friday, September 23, 2022, at 9:00 am at the SLED building.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Don D’Avy and seconded by Pat Fontenot. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am.



Secretary



Chairperson

