

**Board Meeting
October 18, 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 September 2022 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
- V. FINANCIAL REPORT..... Treasurer, Hals Beard
- VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Real Estate Committee
 - b. Executive Committee
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. 2022 – 2023 LBIA GRANT
 - b. 2022 – 2023 BUSINESS CENTER BUILDING PROPERTY INSURANCE
 - c. SLED REGIONAL UPDATE INPUT MEETING
 - d. 2022 SLED HOLIDAY GATHERING
- VIII. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Organizational Guide Priority Area Progress Update – Rodier
 - b. Bylaws Changes – Dakin
 - c. I-49 Midway Corridor – Jones
 - d. Parish Equine Designation – Rodier
 - e. Board Reappointments
- IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- X. ADJOURN

Voting Members Present: Andy Dakin, Seth Robin, Wil Fontenot, Don Reber, Lena Charles, Erika Milton, Daniel Lyons, Toni Effingger, Sharon Ortego, Dr. John Hamlin, Roma Stewart, Ken Simeral

Voting Members Absent: Hals Beard, Donald Dejean, Boisy Pitre, Christopher Clostio, Candace Papillion

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

Guests: Kade Jones of Acadiana Planning Commission, Herman Fuselier of Acadiana Tourism, Zach Hager of One Acadiana

It was determined a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Don Reber and seconded by Lena Charles to accept the September 2022 regular board meeting minutes as written. Motion carried without objection.

Financial Report:

Bill Rodier provided an overview of the September 2022 financials. Mr. Rodier recapped a few expenditures. A motion to accept the financials was made by Lena Charles and seconded by Erika Milton. Motion carried with no objections.

Committee Reports:

Real Estate Committee: Mr. Bill Rodier reported on the new tenant coming to the SLED building and bringing two businesses. Maven Consulting and Sign Gypsies, both owned by a husband-and-wife team. Mr. Rodier also reported that the Marquee Sign is being decommissioned, and that it will be removed in the next thirty days by a company called YESCO. There was also discussion on the new Podcast Studio, and he explained about the LBIA grant that was written by Janece Riser and submitted earlier in the month. A motion to accept the Real Estate Committee report as it was given was made by Wil Fontenot and seconded by Lena Charles. Motion accepted without objection.

Executive Committee: Mr. Bill Rodier reported that NextEra Energy came and gave a presentation to the Executive Committee. He also reported that Solar Energy is coming to St Landry Parish and reported on what that could look like. There was an active discussion about solar energy. A motion to accept the Executive Committee Report was made by Erika Milton and seconded by Sharon Ortego. Motion carried without objection.

New Business:

2022 – 2023 LIBA Grant: Bill Rodier reported on the status of the Podcast Studio, and he explained more about the grant that was applied for to furnish and set it up. Mr. Rodier reported that we were notified that we have received the grant, and that we will have a 25% match.

2022 – 2023 Business Center Building Property Insurance: Bill Rodier reported that our insurance carrier, Dupre Carrier Godchaux was able to shop our insurance amongst different providers and they were able to get us a lower rate. A motion was made by Don Reber and second by Dr. John Hamlin to accept the new insurance company, Atlantic Casualty and the premium of \$7418.14. Motion carried without objection.

SLED Regional Update and Input Meeting: Bill Rodier reported on the upcoming Public Input meeting to be held on November 15, at 6 PM at the Palmetto Town Hall. The goal is to inform the public on Economic Development and answer questions. Discussion ensued.

2022-SLED Group Gathering Holiday Party: Bill Rodier reported on the upcoming holiday event. Mr. Rodier discussed the time and date of the event and the importance of recognizing those that have served on our boards. Discussion took place. More to come later.

Old Business:

Organizational Guide Priority Area Progress Update: Bill Rodier reported on the updates made to the organizational guide. The organizational guide has seventeen areas of organization. Mr. Rodier made a report on Asset Based Economics including the lighting of the corridors; Expansion and Retention from our major employers to the smaller employers; Board Management; HR Management; Property and Real Estate Management; Technology; Project Management; Communications and PR: Questions and conversation ensued.

Bylaws Changes: Chairman Dakin explained the additional proposed bylaw change, article X. He indicated that the purpose is to have the CEO engaged with the tax commission since the position interacts with all areas of economic development associated with sales tax. A motion to recommend adding the new article X to the bylaws was made by Don Reber and seconded by Roma Stewart. Motion carried without objection.

I-49 Midway Corridor: Mr. Cade Jones reported that the Acadiana Planning Commission has been meeting with each of the communities individually to make sure that all the elected officials know what they will be adopting as far as land use policy. He reported that they have secured Becker and Herbert Law Services to get their expertise working in land use. APC is expecting something from that review next week. At that time, there will be a public engagement outreach meeting scheduled to make sure the communities understand what is happening. Questions and discussion ensued. Mr. Jones also reported on federal funding grants being awarded to Opelousas and Port Barre by Delta SEDAP awards. Each will receive \$500,000.

Parish Equine Designation: Bill Rodier reported on the value of the Agricultural Industry and the Equine Industry. Mr. Rodier also discussed the branding of the Equine designation.

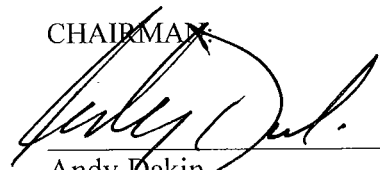
Board Reappointments: Bill Rodier discussed and reported on the upcoming board appointments and informed the board members that they will need to complete the SLED board application and include it with the Parish or Municipal applications. He reported that the application process is now open.

Executive Session: A motion to move into Executive Session was made by Seth Robin and seconded by Wil Fontenot. Executive Session began at 11:27 am. A motion was made to exit executive session and re-enter regular session was made by Lena Charles and seconded by Ken Simeral. Motions passed without objection. A motion was made by Daniel Lyons to accept the Contract for CEO Bill Rodier as proposed. Seconded by Ken Simeral Motion passed without objection.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Daniel Lyons and seconded by Sharon Ortego. Meeting adjourned at 11:53 PM.

ATTEST:


Secretary

CHAIRMAN

Andy Dakin