

**Board Meeting
December 15, 2020**

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

Chairman, Andy Dakin opened the regular board meeting at 10:17 A.M.

Voting Members Present In-Person: Andy Dakin, Hals Beard, Lena Charles, Seth Robin, Brett Manual, Daniel Lyons, Erika Milton, and Don Reber.

Voting Members Present Virtually: Lynn Lejeune and Wil Fontenot.

Voting Members Absent: Donald Dejean, Joe Darby, Kevin Simoneaux, Roma Stewart, Dr. Gerald Thompson, Ken Marks, and Ken Simeral

Non-Voting Members Present: Bill Rodier, Glenda Carriere, and Taylor Lormand

The meeting was called to order, but a quorum was not present.

The following guests were in attendance as follows:

Bruce Gaudin (in person)	Legal Counsel
Jim Bradshaw (virtually)	Writer

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of the October 2020 Board Meeting Minutes: Adoption of the October Board Meeting minutes was tabled until next meeting, due to lack of a quorum.

November 2020 Board Meeting Notes: Adoption of the November Board Meeting notes was tabled until next meeting, due to lack of a quorum.

Financial Report: Adoption of the October and November 2020 financials was tabled until next meeting, due to lack of a quorum.

Audit Report: Acceptance of the 2020 Audit Report was tabled until next meeting, due to lack of a quorum.

Executive Committee Report: Adoption of the November 2020 Executive Committee was tabled until next meeting, due to lack of a quorum.

I-49 Midway Corridor Update: Katrena King and Rachel Godeaux from the Acadiana Planning Commission gave a presentation regarding the I-49 Midway Corridor.....

SLED Road/Property: Bruce Gaudin gave a presentation regarding the SLED Road/Property. He stated there was an encroachment with S&B Sawmill. He created a boundary agreement, and SLED offered them the 0.38 acre, and are waiting on signatures from S&B Sawmill. Mr. Gaudin stated we can advertise the property for sale without moving the right-of-way. Action item on agenda to vote to move forward. Some of the surrounding landowners have expressed interest. We can cancel the lease and move forward with the sale.

Logan Development Group: CEO Bill Rodier stated this group provides the funding to provide to other groups. There has been a C. C. draft that Andy Dakin put together. that we are looking at modeling after Lafayette Economic Development and the priority of work we are doing at SLED. Chairman Andy Dakin suggested that the board members study the Logan report and think about what our mission as a board should be. He stated we need to be in the frame of mind of consensus building for long term confidence and planning; and decide what is best for the largest number in this parish.
Draft of priority of work. What is the role of our economic development area. Recommendations by the Logan Group.

Item by item on specific recommendations on page 9:

1. Size of the board –
 - a. Hals- no thoughts, if 13 would get full representation.
 - b. Brett- no thoughts, talk about reducing board. If go to 13 would you have one person in each area. No assigned districts. Little say in how it gets appointed
 - c. Don Reber-predicated on the state statue for 10, we would have to reduce quorum. Statue amendments. Keep it smaller get more done.
 - d. Wil-membership of the board, function before reducing.
2. Executive Committee –
 - a. Seth- not have full board function with executive committee. Enforce the meeting policy. Reduce you don't want to strong of an executive committee.
 - b. Lena-Full board provides checks and balances. Discussions are fueled and added value. Politics to reducing the board. Look at the whole picture, rather than the numbers. What are requirements.
 - c. Don Reber- interacts with point 1 and point 3. Purpose of the board is to make decisions. Not working if you make executive committee. Make up our minds. Closer to Opelousas- developing the I-49 Corridor. Would like to see 190 East and West and get people excited about economic development.
 - d. Andy- Cannot spend money over \$5,000.00, etc evaluate things we can do now, something we can do to control. Have not aggressively enforced attendance rules. Remove if needed, address issues to move the board forward. Increase \$5,000.00 to larger. Amending the bylaws to increase. In January, send out something rules and by-laws. Moved away from in the last several years. Not getting priority of work to measure our progress. Other boards brought great progress and lost what we have done directly. Oversee and set policy. Objective of work, people want to engage, and can be done effectively. Not in favor of setting up committees. Identify what our greater purpose is. I-49 important to parish. What's our mission? Broader plan and how we envision. Real Estate management do we want to be involved in.
 - e. Lena-agrees with Andy. Folks are busy, do have to remove members, now members will become engaged.
 - f. Daniel Lyons- (listen) changing the time.
 - g. Erika Milton-throwing out members. People have been affected by COVID. Reached out to the person directly, usually address.

- h. Wil- (listen) comments.
 - i. Bill- additional committees, cannot have more committees. Provide direction and guidance. Realistic expectations in 2021. Priority of work.
3. Bi Monthly Meetings-
- a. Andy-
 - b. Bill-January and February priority of work. 24 people in Lafayette, we have 3.5. Need to find a way to build capacity. Make this sustainable going forward. Positive challenges, how to align. Continues to grow and meets the needs of the people. Be accommodating to this board.

Having no further business to discuss, and no quorum to adjourn, the meeting was suspended at 12:06 pm.

ATTEST:


Terese Reaxk
Economic Development Support Coordinator

CHAIRMAN:


Andy Dakin