

**Board Meeting
April 18, 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. ADOPTION OF THE MARCH 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
- V. ADOPTION OF THE APRIL SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
- VI. FINANCIALS, March 2023..... Seth Robin
 - a. 2022 Audit Report – Steve Moosa (Darnell, Sikes, & Fredrick)
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Real Estate Committee – Update, Roma Stewart
- VIII. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. I-49 Midway Corridor – Update, Cade Jones
 - b. Equine Parish Capital Designation – Update
 - c. Podcast Studio – Update
 - d. Highway 744 DC Access Road Lighting Agreement – Action
- IX. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Vote to ratify the action taken at the April 3, 2023, Special Board Meeting approving the SLED Board Resolution, the St Landry Solar Lease, the St Landry Parish Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, all related to the NextEra/St Landry Solar Project. – Action
- X. ADJOURN

Upcoming Events:

- The ODDD Board Meeting will be on Friday, March 24, 2023, 9:00 am at the SLED building.
- The CSLEDD Board Meeting will be Thursday April 14, 2023, 8:30 am at the SLED Building
- The St Landry Business Summit will be April 21, 2023, 8:00 am at LSUE in Eunice

Voting Members Present: Donald Dejean, Seth Robin, Erika Milton, Don Reber, Andy Dakin, Daniel Lyons, Kevin Doucet, Valli Soileau, Toni Effingger, Juan Joseph, Sharon Ortego, Roma Stewart, Candace Pappilion, Lena Charles, Mr. John Hamlin, PHD.

Voting Members Absent: Ken Simeral

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

Guests: Steve Moosa, Herman Fusilier of Acadiana Tourism, Tanya Chatman and Debbie Neill of Legacy EMS, Shelly Fontenot of St. Landry Bank

Before the start of the meeting, Chairman Donald Dejean made an announcement that because there was an addition to the April 18, 2023, SLED Board Meeting Agenda (within 24 hours of the meeting), and because that item requires an action, the board needs to make a motion to add it to the agenda. A motion to add the Highway 744 DC Access Road Lighting Agreement to the agenda was made by Andy Dakin and was seconded by Seth Robin. The motion was carried without objection.

Chairman Dejean welcomed everyone to the meeting and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.

Adoption of the March Meeting Minutes: A motion was made to accept the March 2023 minutes as submitted was made by Seth Robin and seconded by Daniel Lyons. Motion carried without objection.

Adoption of the April Special Meeting Minutes: A motion to accept the April Special Board Meeting Minutes was made by Andy Dakin and seconded by Daniel Lyons. Motion carried without objection.

Financial Report: Mr. Seth Robin provided an overview of the March 2023 financials. Mr. Robin discussed the income and expenditure and explained that everything looked good. Mr. Bill Rodier reported on the timing of the budget and that he and Mr. Robin will be sitting down with the accountant at this midyear point and going over the line items in the budget and making any changes that need made in the process. A motion was made by Toni Effingger to accept the financials as presented and seconded by Daniel Lyons. Motion carried without objection.

A presentation on the 2022 Audit report was presented in person by Mr. Steve Moosa of Darnall, Sikes & Frederick. Mr. Moosa reported that the audit information was presented to his office timely and fairly. He went over the SLED assets and liabilities and gave a report on all of the bank accounts and interest received and went over the tenants and lease payments as well as a few changes in the way of reporting this portion of the audit for the year 2023. A few questions and conversation ensued.

Committee Reports:

Real Estate Committee: Ms. Roma Stewart gave a brief introduction of the real estate committee members and introduced the new members.

Old Business:

I-49 Midway Corridor- Update: Mr. Bill Rodier gave a brief report on the Midway Corridor. Mr. Rodier reported that there will need to be a planning commission brought together for enforcement of the new

codes and a board will need to be formed by parish officials. There is no other update currently. Questions and discussion ensued.

Equine Parish Capital Designation – Update: Mr. Bill Rodier gave a report and asked the board to keep this subject on their minds for the next meeting. Mr. Rodier explained that our parish is only one of three horse capitals of the United States. One of the reasons that we are trying to make our parish unique is because of the negative narratives in the media. We need to be thinking of the marketing that needs to be done to present St Landry Parish as Equine Capital of Louisiana positively in peoples minds. Comments, questions, and discussion ensued.

Podcast Studio- Update: Mr. Bill Rodier reported that our podcast studio is close to being finished. The furniture is being installed next week and then the equipment will be installed. Mr. Rodier asked the board members to consider being interviewed in the podcast studio. We would then post those interviews on our website and on our social media pages. Mr. Rodier anticipates this taking place beginning in June or July. A few questions were asked regarding the format.

Highway 744 DC Access Road Lighting Agreement: Bill Rodier gave an update to the agreement that was made at the last meeting and reported that the quote went up because it was older than we knew about. A new invoice was received from Thibodeaux Electric in the amount of \$13,750.00. This is a one-time payment and the amount that will be reimbursed to us. There were a few questions and discussions. A motion was made by Don Reber and seconded by Seth Robin to approve the new invoiced amount of \$1750.00 from Thibodeaux Electric. Motion carried without objection.

New Business:

Vote to ratify the action taken at the April 3, 2023, Special Board Meeting approving the SLED Board Resolution, the St Landry Solar Lease, the St Landry Parish Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, all related to the NextEra/St Landry Solar Project: Chairman Dejean explained that the corrections and typos that were in the original Lease and CEA documents were made by the attorney, Troy Villa. Mr. Villa was present virtually and went over the changes that he made and corrected in the documents. Mr. Villa thought it was worth putting this item back on the agenda to make sure that everyone understands the ratification. Mr. Don Reber made a motion to ratify the board approval and was seconded by Andy Dakin. Motion carried without objection.

Board Comments: Mr. Bill Rodier reported that the St. Landry Chamber of Commerce is holding it's 2023 Small Business Summit and it is being held at LSUE this coming Friday, April 21. He encouraged the board members to attend and network. Mr. Rodier also made an announcement that SLED is hosting a Superintendents candidate forum at the Delta Grand to be held on May 8th at 6PM. The candidates for the position of Superintendent of St Landry Parish School Board will have an opportunity an opportunity to speak and answer questions.

Adjourn: With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Erika Milton and seconded by Seth Robin. Motion carried without objection. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

SECRETARY:


Erika Milton

CHAIRMAN:


Don Dejean