

**Board Meeting
June 27, 2023**

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

Agenda

- I. PUBLIC HEARING
- II. WELCOME..... Chairman, Donald Dejean
- III. PLEDGE
- IV. ROLL CALL
- V. ADOPTION OF THE MAY 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
- VI. FINANCIALS, MAY 2023..... Seth Robin
- VII. AMEND OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2023 - Action
- VIII. ADOPT THE OPERATING BUDGET OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024 - Action
- IX. 2022-2023 AUDITTING FIRM CONSIDERATION – Action
- X. CD ACCOUNTS - UPDATE
- XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Executive Committee (Notes) – Update
- XII. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. I-49 Midway Corridor – Update, Kade Jones
- XIII. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. St. Landry Parish Planning Commission Board Appointment Recommendation - Action
 - b. Branding / Marketing Proposal - Action
 - c. Office Space - Action
- XIV. Adjourn

Voting Members Present: Seth Robin, Erika Milton, Don Reber, Toni Effingger, Roma Stewart, Lena Charles, Kevin Doucet, Mr. John Hamlin, PHD; Juan Joseph, Kevin Fusilier, DVM; Candace Pappillon, Daniel Lyons

Voting Members Absent: Ken Simeral, Valli Soileau, Andy Dakin, Don Dejean

Voting Members Present Virtually: Sharon Ortego

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

Guests: Kade Jones (APC), Ms. Dana Quebedeaux (JS Dowling), Shelly Fontenot (St. Landry Bank), Anthony Gradney (OGHS), Herman Fuselier (St Landry Tourism), Ms. Dana Quebedeaux (JS Dowling)

Public Hearing: A motion was made by Mr. Kevin Doucet to enter the public hearing in case anyone from the public has questions regarding the budget. A second was made by Candace Pappillon. Motion Carried. After a wait of five minutes with no questions or comments, a motion was made by John Hamlin and seconded by Seth Robin to return to regular meeting status. Motion carried.

In the Absence of SLED Chairman, Donald Dejean, SLED Vice Chair, Ms. Roma Stewart, welcomed everyone to the meeting and led the board in the pledge of allegiance.

Adoption of the April Board Meeting Minutes: A motion was made to accept the May 2023 minutes as submitted by Seth Robin and seconded by Kevin Doucet. Motion carried with no objections. .

Financial Report: Mr. Seth Robin provided an overview of the May 2023 financials. Mr. Robin discussed the income and expenses and explained that everything looked good. Mr. Bill Rodier clarified some line items and asked if anyone had any questions. A motion was made by Kevin Doucet and seconded by Don Reber to approve the May 2023 financials. Motion carried with no objections.

Amend Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022 and Ending June 30, 2023: Ms. Dana Quebedeaux was present to go over the budget and answer any questions. She went over some small changes in income from the introduction last month. Ms. Quebedeaux then went over the expenses and said that they also included only some very small adjustments. . A motion was made by Don Reber and second by Juan Joseph to accept the amended Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022, and Ending June 30, 2023. Motion carried with no objections.

Adopt the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024: Ms. Dana Quebedeaux went over the proposed budget and the adjusted incomes and expenditures for the year. Ms. Quebedeaux went over some very minor changes to revenues and expenditures from the introduction. A motion was made by Seth Robin and seconded by Don Reber to adopt the Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024 as presented. Motion carried with no objections.

Auditing Firm Update: Mr. Bill Rodier introduced the two firms that provided proposals for consideration to complete the full audit for fiscal year 2022/23 This included a proposal from Darnell & Sikes at an estimated cost of \$13,250.00 and a proposal from the firm of Vige, Tujague & Noel for an estimated cost of \$9500.00. Dana Quebedeaux provided some input on the proposals and her experience with these local firms. A motion was made by Mr. Seth Robin and seconded by Mrs. Erika Milton to engage the firm of

Vige, Tujague & Noel to conduct the audit for the fiscal year of 2022/23. Motion carried with no objections.

CD Accounts - Update: Mr. Bill Rodier gave an overview regarding the move of the CD's and Money Market accounts to St Landry Bank and Sunset Bank. Mr. Rodier indicated that everything should be moved by the end of this week with all signers in place. It was discussed that we can watch the rates and if they fluctuate, we can move something to another local bank when the time is right to do so. Mr. Rodier also noted to the board that Dana Quebedeaux had researched any conflict of interest in board member Andy Dakin being at the bank of Sunset as it relates to the board opening a CD account there. Her opinion was that if he abstains from any vote on the consideration that there is not conflict.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee notes were included in the packet for the information of the board. Mr. Rodier explained that we were trying to keep the entire board better informed before the meeting by doing this and that in the future we would include the same from the other boards so members could have a broader awareness.

Old Business:

I-49 Midway Corridor- Update: Mr. Kade Jones was present to make a presentation on where the project stands, and he reported regarding what is happening with putting together a Parish Planning Commission. Mr. Jones reported that there have been meetings held with the city council of Sunset (short-of-quorum) to give and receive information on the project. Mr. Jones explained that there has been a timeline created beginning with Sunset going before their council in August and being able to implement in November. The other communities within the corridor will follow that timeline. Mr. Jones further reported that the APC has been contracted by St Landry Parish Government to set up the parish planning commission. Mr. Jones also gave a report on a grant program called The Strategic Planning Grant Program which could provide up to \$550,000 to cover start-up expenses of creating an economic development strategic plan focused on the corridor that could lean heavily on future marketing efforts. He indicated that he and others from the APC team would be setting up a call to discuss this further with Mr. Rodier. Questions and discussion ensued. No action was taken by the board.

New Business:

St. Landry Parish Planning Commission Board Appointment Recommendation: Mr. Bill Rodier gave a report that there is a consideration in allowing SLED to make a recommendation of one board member to the St Landry Parish Council for the soon to be created St Landry Parish Planning Commission Board. A motion was made by Lena Charles and seconded by Mr. Daniel Lyons to support the consideration of SLED taking on the responsibility of making a recommendation for one appointment to the St Landry Parish Council for the new St Landry Parish Planning Commission. Motion carried with no objections.

Branding / Marketing Proposal: Mr. Bill Rodier discussed the three proposals received to help us promote the Equine Capital of Louisiana, as well as build us a new website that would replace the existing Opportunitystlandry.com. These firms were Golden Shovel, Page 50, and BBR Creative. Mr. Rodier noted that after a presentation of the results for the evaluation of these proposals to the executive committee that BBR Creative was the best qualified to perform this work. He noted that the recommendation from the committee was that the discussion of selection BBR be taken to the full board for consideration. Mr. Rodier further explained to the board that he had received verbal

clarification on some questions to BBR since the executive committee but has not received an updated proposal including this information. Mr. Rodier asked the board to consider tabling this consideration until the updated documentation was received by BBB. There was no action taken on this item.

Office Space: Mr. Bill Rodier explained to the board that he received a request from the Downtown Development board to provide office space for their chairperson. He noted that after discussion about this with the Real Estate Committee and with the Executive Committee that the recommendation from the Executive Committee is allow chairpersons of all the SLED Boards to use office #8 which normally rents for \$450.00 per month at a yearly income of \$5400. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Seth Robin to allow the use of office #8 by the board chairs of Vision St Landry, SLED, CSLEDD and ODDD. Seconded by Erika Milton. Motion carried with no objection.

Board and Guest Comments: Ms. Lena Charles gave an overview of the USDA Business event being held on 6/28/2023. The event will provide information to business owners regarding grants and loans and other information that new businesses might need. Mr. Rodier passed out a flyer from SLCC with area statistics regarding important educational information. Mr. Rodier gave some updates on area new businesses and answered additional questions from the board.

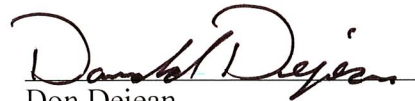
Adjourn: With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Seth Robin and seconded by Kevin Fuselier. Motion carried without objection. The meeting adjourned at 11:49 am.

SECRETARY:



Erika Milton

CHAIRMAN:



Don Dejean