

**Iberia Economic Development Authority**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday – January 28, 2016**

Board of Commissioners of the Iberia Economic Development Authority  
met on Thursday – January 28, 2016 at 7:30 a.m. at  
101 Burke Street, in New Iberia, LA 70560

Chad Courtois called the meeting to order and called for roll.

Members Present: Chad Courtois, John Bellefontaine, Benny Menard, Roy Pontiff, Jody Suire

Members Absent:

Others Present: Mike Tarantino, Jeff Simon, Evelyn Ducote

Mr. Courtois asked the commissioners to refer to agenda item number 4: Election of officers for the calendar year 2016. Mr. Courtois opened the floor for nominations. Roy Pontiff nominated John Bellefontaine for Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Chad Courtois and passed unanimously. Benny Menard nominated Roy Pontiff for Vice-Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Chad Courtois and passed unanimously. Roy Pontiff nominated Benny Menard for Secretary. The nomination was seconded by Chad Courtois and passed unanimously. Benny Menard nominated Jody Suire for Treasurer. The nomination was seconded by Roy Pontiff and passed unanimously.

The officers of the Iberia Economic Development Authority for the calendar year 2016 are:

Chairman: John Bellefontaine; Vice-Chairman: Roy Pontiff; Secretary: Benny Menard; Treasurer: Jody Suire

Member-At-Large: Chad Courtois

Mr. Bellefontaine took over the meeting as new chairman. Mr. Bellefontaine asked the commissioners to review the minutes of the regular December 2015 meeting. On a motion by Benny Menard, seconded by Roy Pontiff, the minutes of the regular December 2015 meeting were unanimously approved. Mr. Bellefontaine asked the commissioners to review the December 2015 financials. On a motion by Chad Courtois, seconded by Roy Pontiff, the financials for December 2015 were unanimously approved.

Mr. Bellefontaine invited Mike Tarantino to give his business park update. Mr. Tarantino reported on meetings with Marc Berard and the upcoming meeting with EnLink tomorrow morning at the Progress Point site. The meeting with SD#1 has been confirmed for tomorrow at noon at IDF. As it stands now, we don't know what we'll be getting from the state until after the fiscal session with our new Governor and our new Speaker of the House. We submitted the most expensive option for sewer to the state, but we don't know which option we'll go with or which option SD#1 will approve. Marc Berard and Mike Tarantino are continuing to try to make contact with the homeowner behind Progress Point to talk to him about widening our easement. Recently met with Larry Richard on the 3212 road project and he is all on board and backs us completely. He confirmed it is a priority on his parish project list. Mrs. Ducote will be re-visiting the dollar amount for the pipeline relocation; new estimates are coming in over the amount approved by the board. Roy Pontiff noted that Jeff Simon may want to look into the original permits and/or contract EnLink obtained to run the pipeline. There may be language in those that pertain to relocation.

Mr. Bellefontaine invited Mr. Tarantino to proceed with his economic development update. Mr. Tarantino noted that oil prices continue to drop. The Port of Iberia continues to make us proud in the face of adversity as its infrastructure projects move forward. We are also working closely with the ARA on three prospects. We are now working on a formal presentation to one in particular, by their request. The two others are an aerospace manufacturing facility and one is an air cargo project. The Aviation School of Excellence press conference was recently held at the South Louisiana Community College. They are making progress and have announced their purchase of Bristow, along with hiring all of their instructors and assets. They are now going thru the accreditation process and should be completed in approximately six months. As a reminder, the IDF will host its second "Coffee and Conversation" on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Our first one held last week with Larry Richard as guest was very well attended and went great. Also, please join us later this morning at 10:00 am for the Groundbreaking and Dedication Ceremony for the Brigadier General Wiltz P. Segura Memorial Passenger Terminal at the Acadiana Regional Airport.

With no further business to come before the commissioners, the meeting was adjourned with a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Benny Menard. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 at 7:30 AM.