

Iberia Economic Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday – October 22, 2015

Board of Commissioners of the Iberia Economic Development Authority
met on Thursday – October 22, 2015 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: John Bellefontaine, Roy Pontiff, Jody Suire, Chad Courtois, Benny Menard

Members Absent:

Others Present: Jeff Simon, Mike Tarantino, Taylor Barras, Troy Comeaux, Marc Berard

Mr. Courtois acknowledged Rep. Barras and Mr. Comeaux during the public comment period. They both waived their comments and asked to address the Commissioners during the economic update portion of the agenda.

Mr. Courtois asked the commissioners to review the minutes of the regular September 2015 meeting. On a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Benny Menard, the minutes of the regular September 2015 meeting were unanimously approved. Mr. Courtois asked the commissioners to review the September 2015 financials. On a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Roy Pontiff, the financials for September 2015 were unanimously approved. Mr. Courtois asked the commissioners to review the minutes of the special meeting held on October 6, 2015. On a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Roy Pontiff, the minutes of the special October meeting were unanimously approved.

Mr. Courtois invited Mike Tarantino to give his business park and funding update. The capital outlay request for the development of Progress Point is being finalized with help from Marc Berard. The required letters of project support from Senator Mills and Representative Barras have been received. Mr. Tarantino suggested it might be advantageous to form a committee to review infrastructure development at Progress Point. John Bellefontaine made a motion to expand the agenda in order to further discuss the creation of said committee. The motion was seconded by Jody Suire, and it passed unanimously. After a brief discussion, John Bellefontaine made a motion to appoint Roy Pontiff and Jody Suire to the committee, seconded by Jody Suire, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois invited Mr. Tarantino to proceed with his economic development update. Mr. Tarantino noted that the progress of park development is largely dependent upon the ARA Access Road project. With that in mind, Mr. Tarantino invited Representative Taylor Barras and Iberia Parish Council Member Troy Comeaux to give an update on the airport access road project. Both Rep. Barras and Mr. Comeaux stated that, their opinion, Progress Point is the most significant economic development project in Iberia Parish in many, many years. Rep. Barras stressed the importance of continuing to move forward with airport access road project.

Mr. Tarantino congratulated Rep. Barras on his recent award for his work in economic development.

Jeff Simon reported that the title commitment for the last six acres of property at Progress Point is complete. He expects the parties to close on the purchase shortly.

Mr. Tarantino reminded the commissioners of the updated website design, which is now an Iberia Parish economic development portal, complete with interactive maps, daily updates, economic indicators, and Progress Point information, amongst many other great new tools.

On a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Roy Pontiff, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday – November 19, 2015 at 7:30 AM. The November meeting is a week early, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.