

Iberia Economic Development Authority

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday – December 19, 2019

Board of Commissioners of the Iberia Economic Development Authority
met on Thursday – December 19, 2019 at 7:30 a.m. at
101 Burke Street, New Iberia, LA 70560

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

Members Present: Chad Courtois, Roy Pontiff, Jody Suire, Cecil Hymel

Members Absent: John Bellefontaine

Others Present: Mike Tarantino, Matt Landry, Evelyn Ducote, Jeff Simon

With there being no public comments, Mr. Courtois asked the commissioners to review the minutes of the regular November 2019 meeting. On a motion by Roy Pontiff, seconded by Cecil Hymel, the minutes of the regular November 2019 meeting were unanimously approved. Mr. Courtois asked the commissioners to review the November 2019 financials. On a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Roy Pontiff, the financials for November 2019 were unanimously approved.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number six, to discuss and consider approving the IEDA meeting dates for 2020. On a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Roy Pontiff the 2020 meeting dates were unanimously approved.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number seven, to discuss and consider acceptance of the FY 2018-2019 Compilation Report from Postlewaite and Netterville, the Authority's auditing firm. Mr. Tarantino and Mrs. Ducote reviewed the compilation, noting that there were no deficiencies in the report or findings and it was a good report. On a motion by Cecil Hymel, seconded by Jody Suire and unanimously approved, the Commissioners approved and accepted the Compilation Report.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number eight, to discuss and consider amending the current cooperative agreement with the Iberia Industrial Development Foundation (IDF). Noting the IEDA recently signed a CEA with EDD#1 and Iberia Parish Government to provide marketing and media support as well as assisting with infrastructure and project development in Economic Development District #1. Mr. Simon noted that the IEDA wishes to have IDF perform those services for the Authority, and the current agreement needs to be amended to compensate for the additional services IDF will be rendering. On a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Cecil Hymel, the Commissioners authorized the Chairman to sign the amendment to the current IEDA/IDF agreement, contingent on legal review. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number nine, to discuss and consider a resolution attesting commitment of all funds necessary to complete design and construction of water and sewer lines to Progress Point Business Park, FP&C Project number 50-NPD-12-01. Mr. Tarantino stated that the Authority needed to pass this resolution as part of the documentation required by Facility Planning and Control in order to participate in the project. On a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Roy Pontiff the resolution passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois asked Mr. Tarantino to proceed with his business park, funding and economic development updates. Mr. Tarantino reported the following:

Reported that Fran Henderson was appointed last night by the Parish Council to serve on the IEDA board, replacing Chad Courtois. Her term starts January 1, 2020. Noted we still needed to replace

commissioner John Bellefontaine whose term ends on December 31, 2019. Reported a potential candidate was going through the vetting process.

Mr. Tarantino provided an update on the Parish's Airport Access Road project, as well as the HWY 675 roundabout project.

Mr. Tarantino noted that the current unemployment rate for Iberia Parish was low at 4.8%. He also reported that our current available labor force is remaining steady, and local retail sales were slightly up, as was the price of oil. He noted that local businesses were still in great need of trained workers. He reported on his drone operation training class, and discussion of developing a policy on drone services was held.

On a motion by Jody Suire, seconded by Cecil Hymel, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 23m 2020 at 7:30 AM. The meeting will be held at the IDF Offices.