

**Iberia Economic Development Authority
Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday – March 5, 2015**

Board of Commissioners of the Iberia Economic Development Authority
met on Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at
101 Burke Street, in New Iberia, LA 70560

Chad Courtois called the special meeting to order, then called for the roll.

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

Members Absent: Benny Menard

Others Present: Michael Tarantino, Evelyn Ducote, Jeff Simon, Marc Berard

Mr. Courtois asked the commissioners to refer to the seismic survey request in their packets. Seismic Exchange, Inc., is current performing seismic testing in Iberia Parish, and they are requesting permission to conduct testing on the Progress Point property. Mr. Simon reviewed the document and stated it was a limit of liability contract. The \$25 per acre Seismic Exchange, Inc. is proposing to pay the Authority reflects the total amount of “damages” they’re willing to pay. The commissioners unanimously agreed that further information was needed to make an informed decision. On a motion by John Bellefontaine, seconded by Jody Suire, the item was tabled until the next regular meeting.

Mr. Courtois invited Marc Berard to review the proposed engineering contract and allow for questions from the commissioners. Mr. Berard noted his proposed contract is a very standard contract form that is used for projects he handles for other local public bodies, with minor variations for each. Mr. Pontiff requested that a detailed project budget be supplied to the Commissioners for their review. Mr. Tarantino reviewed the project history to date to provide the current Commissioners with information on past project development.

The commissioners asked Mr. Tarantino to inquire with other entities that have developed projects similar to ours how they developed their properties. Mr. Tarantino stated he would report back to the Commissioners at their next meeting any information on other park development he would be able to find. Mr. Berard reviewed several preliminary designs for Progress Point. Estimated lot sizes varied from .5 acres to 2.25 acres, and lot boundary lines can be adjusted according to the prospect.

Mr. Berard suggested entering into a contract similar to the one he has with the Port of Iberia. Mr. Pontiff agreed that a project management contract with an hourly fees schedule attached would be preferable for the project services required at this time. Mr. Berard will draft a proposed new contract for the Commissioner’s review. Jody Suire made a motion to table the current proposed contract. The motion was seconded by John Bellefontaine, with all commissioners voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Courtois referred the commissioners to agenda item number 6: Discuss and consider authorizing the Chairman to enter into an agreement to purchase the remaining 6.836 acres of land to complete land purchase for Progress Point Business Park. On a motion by Roy Pontiff, seconded by Jody Suire, and all commissioners voting in the affirmative, the commissioners authorized Chad Courtois to finalize the purchase for the remaining acreage.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on a motion by John Bellefontaine, seconded by Jody Suire, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2015 at 7:30 AM.