

Iberia Economic Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday – May 23, 2019

Board of Commissioners of the Iberia Economic Development Authority
met on Thursday – May 23, 2019 at 7:30 a.m. at
101 Burke Street, in New Iberia, LA 70560

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

Members Present: Chad Courtois, Cecil Hymel, John Bellefontaine

Members Absent: Roy Pontiff, Jody Suire

Others Present: Mike Tarantino, Jeff Simon, Matt Landry, Evelyn Ducote, Parish President Larry Richard

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

Mr. Courtois referred to agenda item number 6: Discuss and consider forming an informal advisory group for the purpose of developing a business plan for Progress Point. Mr. Tarantino noted that the IEDA was moving forward on water and sewer infrastructure development to the park. He said that the Commissioners will have to work on a development plan for the park itself. He wanted to start a discussion about forming an informal committee to review the development so far and help guide the Commissioners on development of the park itself. Mr. Simon said he thought it would be a good idea to have local community leaders in their specific areas of expertise (banking, project development, financial planning, etc) on the committee to review the development so far and start a plan on developing the park for future use. Mr. Courtois noted that utilizing public funding in a phased development is challenging, and felt that the committee would be of help to the Commissioners. Mr. Hymel felt that the committee needed to be small (5-6 people) and should have an understanding of what we are trying to accomplish with development of the park. On a motion by John Bellefontaine, seconded by Cecil, the Commissioners voted unanimously to form an informal advisory committee to assist with the development of Progress Point, and tasked Mike with compiling a list of prospective members to forward to the Chairman so he can contact them to see if they wished to participate.

Mr. Courtois referred to agenda item number 7: Discuss and consider water providers for water infrastructure to the park. Matt Landry said that he had obtained two initial estimates; one from LAWCO and one from Water Works District #3. He noted that LAWCO required the submission of a line extension application in order for them to come up with an exact cost. He noted that LAWCO was waiving the application fee in this instance. Discussion was held and on a motion by Cecil Hymel, seconded by John Bellefontaine and unanimously approved, the Commissioners voted to proceed with the LAWCO line application to obtain an exact price on which to obtain a contract from LAWCO on water line extension to the park area.

Agenda items 8 and 9 were withdrawn.

Mr. Courtois referred to agenda item number 10: Discuss and consider authorizing the chairman to sign engineering contracts with Matt Landry with Berard Habetz to provide engineering for sewer and water infrastructure development to Progress Point. On a motion by John Bellefontaine, seconded by Cecil Hymel and unanimously approved, the Commissioners authorized the Chairman to sign the contracts.

Mr. Courtois referred to agenda item number 11: Update from Matt Landry on Progress Point infrastructure development. Mr. Landry stated he had nothing further to add at this time.

Mr. Courtois invited Mike Tarantino to give his business park and funding updates, as well as his general economic development update. Mr. Tarantino noted that in an effort to save time, he would defer his updates until next month's IEDA meeting.

On a motion by John Bellefontaine, seconded by Cecil Hymel, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 20th at 7:30 AM.