



JEDCO Board of Commissioners

February 23, 2023 @ 8:30 A.M.

JEDCO Conference Center

701A Churchill Parkway, Avondale, LA 70094

MINUTES

Call to Order: 8:30 a.m.

Attendance: Chairman Larry Katz, Mickal Adler, Jimmy Baum, Kenny Bertucci, Lloyd Clark, Joe Ewell, Michael Fahrenholt, Josline Frank, Tom Gennaro, Brian Heiden, Jim Hudson, Teresa Lawrence, Jim Martin, Melissa O’Neal, Stephen Robinson, Gene Sausse, Floyd Simeon, Teri Tucker

Staff: Jerry Bologna, Lacey Bordelon, Janet Galati, Cynthia Grows, Annalisa Kelly, Jennifer Lapeyrouse, Scott Rojas, Kelsey Scram, Penny Weeks, Kate Wendel

Absences: Mayra Pineda, Joe Riccobono, Bob Stevens

Attorney: Reed Smith, Parish Attorney’s Office

Guests: Dr. James Gray – Jefferson Parish Schools
Jeff Keever – Avondale Global Gateway
Donavan Duffy – Meyer Engineers, Ltd

I. Call to Order – Chairman Larry Katz

- **Swearing in new Commissioners** – Parish Attorney, Reed Smith, performed the swearing in of Ms. Melissa O’Neal representing the Apartment Association of Greater New Orleans (replacing Michael Kraft), and Ms. Teri Tucker representing the Westbank Business & Industry Association (replacing Anthony DiGerolamo).
- **Approval of Board absences for today, February 23, 2023** – Jim Hudson motioned, seconded by Tom Gennaro to excuse the above-named absences. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of minutes for January 26, 2023** – Lloyd Clark motioned, seconded by Gene Sausse to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Jefferson Parish Schools Update – Dr. James Gray**
Dr. Gray began his presentation with a Quote of the Day by Nelson Henderson– “The true meaning of Life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit.” The presentation highlighted progress for two years in a row, with 2022 showing largest state report card growth in the last 10 years. Dr. Gray discussed in detail the five overarching issues the schools still face: Staff Shortages, Age and Condition of School Facilities/School Capacity, Student Wellbeing, Financial Stability and Population Shifts. The presentation concluded with an overview of possible opportunities due to consolidations of schools.

II. Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no comments.

III. Unfinished and New Business

- Notice was given to the full Board of Commissioners on February 23, 2023, that amendments to the JEDCO Bylaws may be voted on at the quarterly Board of Commissioners' meeting on May 25, 2023.
- **JEDCO Nominating Committee recommendations for: JEDCO Executive Committee, JEDCO Finance Committee, JEDCO Bylaws Committee, Forward Jefferson Corporation and JEDCO Development Corporation – Jerry Bologna**

Lloyd Clark motioned, seconded by Joe Ewell to approve the recommendations made by the Nominating Committee (listed below), and to acknowledge that Mayra Pineda was reappointed by the Parish Council for another term and shall continue serving in her current position as Vice Chair of the Board of Commissioners. The motion passed unanimously.

 - Appointments to the JEDCO Executive Committee – Mayra Pineda representing the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana; Teri Tucker representing the Westbank Business & Industry Association, replacing Anthony DiGerolamo.
 - Appointments to the JEDCO Finance Committee – Joe Riccobono representing the Metairie Business Development District, replacing Barry Breaux; Melissa O'Neal representing the Apartment Association of Greater New Orleans, replacing Michael Kraft; Bob Stevens representing the New Orleans Metropolitan Association of Realtors, replacing Lesha Freeland.
 - Appointment to JEDCO Bylaws Committee – Jim Martin, replacing Anthony DiGerolamo.
 - Appointment to Forward Jefferson Corporation – Teri Tucker, replacing Anthony DiGerolamo.
 - Appointments to JEDCO Development Corporation – Joe Riccobono, replacing Barry Breaux; Melissa O'Neal, replacing Michael Kraft; Bob Stevens, replacing Lesha Freeland.
- **Approval of Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire – Cynthia Grows**

Ms. Grows presented the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for 2022, which is a required part of a financial audit of Louisiana state and local government agencies. Following a brief discussion, Stephen Robinson motioned, seconded by Mickal Adler to approve the document as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Resolution approving the form of and authorizing the execution of Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the State of Louisiana and the Jefferson Parish Port District, Formally Known As Jefferson Parish Economic Development and Port District, relative to FP&C Project No. 36-P41-22-01 Restore Rail Connection and Crossing to Avondale Marine, Planning and Construction, designating and authorizing Lacey Bordelon, JEDCO Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, to act on behalf of JEDCO on all matters pertaining to said project, including certifying**

requests for State disbursements, and providing for other matters with respect to the foregoing (deferred from January 26, 2023) – Lacey Bordelon
Joe Ewell motioned, seconded by Mickal Adler to postpone as debate revealed reasons for holding off a decision until later. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Resolution accepting the low bid, approving the form of and authorizing the contract for the construction of FP&C Project No. 36-P41-20-01 Avondale Marine Facility Improvements, Planning and Construction (the “Gate Complex Project”) with Durr Heavy Construction, LLC – Lacey Bordelon**
Mickal Adler motioned, seconded by Floyd Simeon to approve the resolution contingent on JEDCO’s counsel’s review of the CEA between JEDCO and Avondale Marine and determination of JEDCO’s full indemnity. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Resolution approving contract for consulting services related to the implementation of the Jefferson EDGE 2025 between JEDCO and Tulane School of Professional Advancement, John Lewis Public Administration Program – Lacey Bordelon**

Josline Frank motioned, seconded by Joe Ewell to defer to the March 30, 2023 Executive Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

- **A resolution approving a contract with Julep Consulting for consulting services related to seafood industry workforce development and other programs assisting commercial fishermen in Jefferson Parish totaling \$32,000 under the Louisiana Economic Development Technical Assistance grant, and authorizing its execution by JEDCO’s President & CEO – Annalisa Kelly**

Jim Martin motioned, seconded by Brian Heiden to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Monthly Financial Report

- **January 2023 – Cynthia Grows**

Teresa Lawrence motioned, seconded by Tom Gennaro to approve the report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

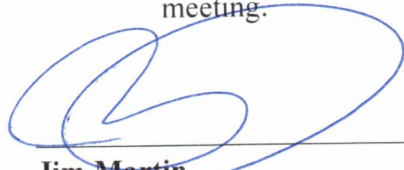
V. President and CEO Report – Jerry Bologna

Mr. Bologna announced that the Board Retreat will begin when this meeting adjourns and will therefore refrain from giving the President and CEO report.

VI. Other Updates or Comments from the JEDCO Board of Commissioners

There were no other updates or comments.

VII. Adjournment – Joe Ewell motioned, seconded by Lloyd Clark to adjourn the meeting.



Jim Martin

JEDCO Secretary

Minutes for February 23, 2023