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LOUISIANA BOARD OF INTERNATIONAL COMMERCE
PROJECT GOVERNANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING, TAKEN AT
THE LOUISIANA STATE LIBRARY, 701 NORTH 4TH
STREET, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802, ON JANUARY
27, 2015 COMMENCING AT 3:11 P.M.

REPORTED BY:

RACHEL Y. TORRES, CCR, RPR
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER



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- 1 APPEARANCES :
- 2 RICK RANSON, CHAIRMAN
- 3 RANDY ROBB
- 4 GARY LEGRANGE
- 5 ROBERT SCAFIDEL
- 6 ANTHONY BODIN
- 7 SHERRI LEBAS
- 8 PHIL JONES

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1 MR. RANSON:
2 I will call the meeting to
3 order. Anthony, do you want to do the
4 roll call.

5 MR. BODIN:
6 Rick Ranson.

7 MR. RANSON:
8 Here.

9 MR. BODIN:
10 Marion Fox. Randy Robb.

11 MR. ROBB:
12 Here.

13 MR. BODIN:
14 Iftikhar Ahmad. Gary
15 LaGrange. Robert Scafidel. Anthony
16 Bodin.

17 MR. BODIN:
18 Here.

19 MR. BODIN:
20 Sherri LeBas.

21 MS. LEBAS:
22 Here.

23 MR. BODIN:
24 Walter Sanchez.

25 MR. RANSON:



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1 So we don't have a quorum
2 yet.

3 MR. BODIN:

4 We don't have a quorum yet.

5 MR. RANSON:

6 We're not going to act on
7 anything, we're just going to talk
8 right now.

9 MR. BODIN:

10 Correct.

11 MR. RANSON:

12 First, thanks for -- I don't
13 know if you volunteered or got
14 appointed to this committee, but
15 obviously this committee is going to be
16 where the rubber meets the road where
17 the projects are going to come and get
18 evaluated, and, I guess, ranked and
19 recommendations, and while that is easy
20 to say, we have to decide how that's
21 going to be done. So I met with Anthony
22 who has done a lot of work on this, so,
23 Anthony, I would like for you to just
24 start as far as your ideas. You brought
25 that handout.



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1 MR. BODIN:
2 Let me just give you these
3 handouts.

4 MR. RANSON:
5 Same one you gave me this
6 morning?

7 MR. BODIN:
8 A little bit.

9 MR. BODIN:
10 If I could just direct you to
11 the first page. One of the questions
12 that we received during the last
13 meeting was how does it compare with
14 the Port Priority Program, and so what
15 I did was just a simple breakdown of
16 the difference between those two
17 programs and how it was envisioned in
18 demonstration for this project
19 evaluation process. I call it PEP. And
20 I will let you read the details, but I
21 think two things need to be pointed
22 out. One is that this subcommittee and
23 this board does not have a dedicated
24 fund either to fund the projects or
25 even to finance the economic impact



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1 analysis. So this is something to keep
2 in mind of one of the major differences
3 between these two. Secondly, and most
4 importantly to me, is that the projects
5 for this subcommittee were defined as
6 infrastructure or non-infrastructure,
7 which leaves it wide open of what type
8 of project can be defined as a project,
9 so a way to decide upon an economic
10 impact model would be incorrect because
11 there is no, and I have done the
12 research on it, there is no economic
13 impact model that can look at projects
14 regardless of whether they have jobs or
15 not attached to them. There are ways
16 that an economic consulting firm can
17 look at proposed projects or policies
18 to see what the economic impact could
19 be, but those are specific engagements
20 with those consulting firms on specific
21 policy. There is no sub template we can
22 use here.

23 A little footnote on that is
24 that for those projects that do have
25 jobs attached to it, there is already a



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1 very solid mechanism in place with LED
2 where we can bring certain funds in
3 order to accommodate the company and
4 hopefully attract them to Louisiana;
5 the steel project in north Louisiana or
6 the project IBM here in Baton Rouge.
7 Those are projects that obviously
8 there's some infrastructure involved,
9 but we were able to look at the
10 potential job results out of that and
11 attach the incentives to those
12 projects.

13 So, in my mind, we don't want
14 to be duplicative here. We want to look
15 at projects only if we don't have any
16 sense of what the job count may be. As
17 defined in legislation, these projects
18 in PEP are only supposed to address
19 projects that have a material impact on
20 raising of competitiveness to attract
21 International Commerce.

22 So those are two of the
23 takeaways in my mind out of this
24 comparison, and so out of that, my
25 suggested approach, which you can find



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1 on page 3 and 4, is to develop an
2 application that requires specific
3 forms, and you can see them on here.
4 And let me point out the economic
5 impact analysis here on the last gray
6 box on the first column.

7 This is something that we, as
8 a subcommittee, need to decide what
9 that includes. My suggestion to the
10 subcommittee is that I, along with some
11 of my colleagues, would interview some
12 of the consulting firms that are
13 already verified by the state to be
14 working with and to see how they would
15 approach such consulting engagements.
16 When the project could be anything and
17 everything under the sun, how would
18 they assess the liability and the ROI
19 of the projects.

20 MR. RANSON:

21 Would these consultants just
22 to -- economic impact studies on
23 projects that don't have jobs and
24 salaries or --

25 MR. BODIN:



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1 Exactly. That don't have jobs
2 and salaries. If they have jobs and
3 salaries, we can do them through the
4 mechanism. If you don't have jobs and
5 salaries, I recommend to this
6 subcommittee that we have the applicant
7 contract with one of these consultants
8 to find an economic impact analysis
9 that is both quantitative and
10 qualitative so that this subcommittee
11 can decide, this is the return on the
12 investment, and this is the quality
13 that the benefits of this project would
14 bring, and we can discuss among the
15 subcommittee of -- is that --

16 MR. RANSON:

17 So if I would bring a project
18 that had jobs and salary information,
19 we would work with you to complete our
20 application?

21 MR. BODIN:

22 If it has jobs -- yeah. I
23 would think we go through the regular
24 mechanism for the project managers.

25 MR. RANSON:



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1 Okay. Got you.

2 MR. BODIN:

3 Just as we did all of the
4 other projects.

5 MR. RANSON:

6 Okay. All right.

7 MR. SCAFIDEL:

8 What is the amount of money
9 we talking about, is it substantial in
10 this -- and what you are saying really
11 doesn't -- the -- the Port priority has
12 two of those components; jobs and
13 return of investment.

14 MR. BODIN:

15 Yep.

16 MR. SCAFIDEL:

17 So you are expanding that, is
18 that what you are --

19 MR. BODIN:

20 I'm saying that given the
21 definition, which is so vague in the
22 legislation of what the project may be,
23 we have to contract with the consultant
24 firm so they can -- we, as in the
25 applicant, has to contract with the



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1 consultant firm and see what the
2 benefits may be of that particular
3 project, what is the estimated impact
4 in terms of the return on investment as
5 well as qualitative components.

6 MR. SCAFIDEL:

7 The return is built in, you
8 know, when the Department of
9 Transportation starts looking at, you
10 know, that's already built in when you
11 apply.

12 MR. BODIN:

13 Yep. Well, for the -- if you
14 are talking about Port Priority, that
15 is one component is to say how many
16 jobs is it to -- through the
17 construction process and so forth.
18 Well, this may be part of this process,
19 but it can't just be -- just be that.

20 MR. RANSON:

21 This is a question. In Port
22 Priority, DOTD determines the ROI or
23 they have somebody that determines the
24 ROI where this program has no funding
25 for anybody to do the ROI.



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1 MR. BODIN:
2 That's the main difference.

3 MS. LEBAS:
4 So are these people competing
5 for LED money, is that where -- I'm
6 trying to understand.

7 MR. BODIN:
8 Exactly. This is the trick of
9 all of this is that at the end of the
10 day if a project makes it all
11 throughout the pipeline all -- what
12 they get is a seal of approval from
13 this board saying this project has been
14 approved and it gets folded into our
15 annual report that we provide to the
16 legislature.

17 MS. LEBAS:
18 So there is no money.

19 MR. BODIN:
20 There is no money.

21 MR. RANSON:
22 In other words, there is no
23 money.

24 MS. LEBAS:
25 So what -- what does that



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1 help a company to get that seal of
2 approval? What does it help them?

3 MR. LAGRANGE:

4 Sorry I'm late.

5 (Whereupon Mr. Gary LaGrange
6 walked into the meeting.)

7 MR. BODIN:

8 That's why I don't think any
9 company will go through this process.

10 MS. LEBAS:

11 Well, I was going to ask
12 that. Have you had anybody submit
13 anything?

14 MR. BODIN:

15 No. The application process
16 hasn't been in place so people don't
17 know about it.

18 MS. LEBAS:

19 Yeah. But still.

20 MR. BODIN:

21 The companies go directly to
22 LED to figure out what incentive offers
23 they can get out of this.

24 MS. LEBAS:

25 Yeah. Right.



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1 MR. BODIN:

2 So this is not a sort of an
3 application that would be applicable to
4 companies. This would be an application
5 for someone to say, I would like to
6 build a cultural center in New Orleans
7 for South Korea. Well, that can go
8 through this process but we would need
9 to know what is the expected return
10 investment and what's the benefit to
11 this.

12 MS. LEBAS:

13 Yeah, but even though it goes
14 through the process --

15 MR. RANSON:

16 There is no money.

17 MS. LEBAS:

18 -- this is good. So what? How
19 does it help the company?

20 MR. SCAFIDEL:

21 Well, it gives our guests a
22 ticket because you can't get any cash
23 for, I think we had four or five years,
24 so you don't have any cash in the --
25 you would have to fund it yourself.



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1 MS. LEBAS:

2 Well, that's what -- they
3 would have to fund it themselves,
4 right? Because there is no money. You
5 are saying they are not applying for
6 money. Are you saying that if it gets
7 the seal of approval by us and goes to
8 the legislature would the legislature
9 try to find capital outlay money to
10 help? I'm trying to figure out what --
11 if I'm a company, tell me why I would
12 want to do this.

13 MR. BODIN:

14 A company would not want to
15 do this.

16 MS. LEBAS:

17 Okay.

18 MR. BODIN:

19 Let me just say this is not a
20 concept that came out of LED, right.
21 This is not something that we --

22 MR. SCAFIDEL:

23 You can blame it on the
24 department.

25 MR. RANSON:



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1 We happen to make chicken
2 salad out of it.

3 MR. BODIN:

4 Try to make margaritas out of
5 lemons, right.

6 MS. LEBAS:

7 So who would want to do this?

8 MR. SCAFIDEL:

9 Rich ports like Gary.

10 MS. LEBAS:

11 Why would you want to do
12 this?

13 MR. LAGRANGE:

14 As I understand it, I'm late,
15 I apologize, but I'm not sure what
16 you've already discussed, but the last
17 meeting we had, I recommended that we
18 follow the DOTD Port Priority
19 Construction Trust Fund procedures. I
20 don't know if we agreed to do that or
21 not.

22 MR. BODIN:

23 Yeah.

24 MS. LEBAS:

25 We are doing a comparison



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1 right now of DOTD's Port Priority
2 process and this process, but we're --
3 I was asking a question what is the
4 endgame? What are they trying to get?

5 MR. RANSON:

6 I have the same question
7 because the way I understand this since
8 the applicant is responsible for
9 contracting with someone to do the ROI.

10 MS. LEBAS:

11 And they have to pay for it.

12 MR. RANSON:

13 So they are already out of
14 money for something there is no money
15 for.

16 MS. LEBAS:

17 There is no money for.

18 MR. ROBB:

19 Well, then, you also have to
20 get a consultant to help you just put
21 all of the pieces together, so, I mean,
22 you end up spending money on two
23 fronts.

24 MR. RANSON:

25 I'm with you, Sherri.



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1 MS. LEBAS:

2 Okay.

3 MR. LAGRANGE:

4 The whole process I think
5 from our standpoint, I'm only speaking
6 for me, is to eliminate projects that
7 are not worthy, that don't qualify from
8 an economic feasibility standpoint.

9 MS. LEBAS:

10 I know but there is no --
11 there is no money. They don't get
12 anything.

13 MR. RANSON:

14 Then what? Then what?

15 MR. JONES:

16 The original meetings that we
17 first had, I think what the intent was
18 to, as you just said perfectly, it was
19 to get the blessing of LABIC. This is a
20 legitimate project, and then whether or
21 not it goes to the legislature for some
22 general fund money for an
23 infrastructure project.

24 MS. LEBAS:

25 Well, that's what I just



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1 asked is to help for the capital
2 outlay.

3 MR. JONES:

4 Right.

5 MR. LAGRANGE:

6 It does. Absolutely.

7 MR. JONES:

8 It can go to the legislature
9 for an infrastructure project --

10 MS. LEBAS:

11 So that's the endgame?

12 MR. JONES:

13 -- with credibility that
14 would support that industry or that
15 company moving here. By the same token,
16 this blessing from LABIC could be used
17 by LED as to whether or not they would
18 be granted any kind of credits or
19 whether LED would move forward with a
20 project from that company.

21 MS. LEBAS:

22 Okay. So there is some --

23 MR. BODIN:

24 LED would not look at this
25 process to manage any projects, any



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1 company projects.

2 MR. RANSON:

3 No. This is strictly in my
4 understanding, in my shallow
5 understanding, is just to go to the
6 legislature with.

7 MS. LEBAS:

8 So it's really the
9 legislature and then they decide --

10 MR. LAGRANGE:

11 Beyond the legislature. It
12 could be in Washington. It could be
13 anywhere if you have the blessing of
14 LABIC.

15 MS. LEBAS:

16 Okay. So if there is
17 infrastructure, let's say they come in
18 and they need a road improvement done
19 or something like that, I mean, because
20 to spend public money, like capital
21 outlay money, it would have to be a
22 political subdivision of the state or
23 it would have to be on public right
24 away or whatever, so it's if they
25 wanted to improve a road to their



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1 facility or whatever they are building,
2 if they got this stamp of approval,
3 then it might give them more leverage
4 with legislatures to say, hey, this is
5 a good project, can you try to support,
6 getting the division and the Governor
7 to do a road -- I mean, I'm just --

8 MR. RANSON:

9 But the road would have to
10 have international implications or
11 wouldn't even come here. If it's not
12 international --

13 MS. LEBAS:

14 Yeah. I got it. I got it.

15 MR. LAGRANGE:

16 The blessing, as you put it,
17 the stamp of approval would not only
18 stop there. It could be in Washington.
19 We have been pursuing a public private
20 partnership for \$520 million for three
21 years now. Would help us with that
22 funding from that private equity
23 standpoint if you had a stamp of
24 approval on it. It would be very
25 important.



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1 MR. RANSON:

2 Okay. I understand.

3 MS. LEBAS:

4 Okay. I'm catching on now.

5 Thank you for -- I know I have eaten up
6 the time but I needed to understand
7 this.

8 MR. JONES:

9 I heard the comment a minute
10 ago about the company or whomever would
11 have to pay, well, we do that with the
12 Port Priority program. When they come
13 to us now they have already usually
14 hired a company that does the ROI for
15 them. What our guy does is validate
16 that it was done.

17 MS. LEBAS:

18 Well, we just got a
19 submittal. There is PPP legislation and
20 we just got an unsolicited proposal,
21 y'all probably read about it, and the
22 consultant had to put up \$50,000 that
23 we're going to be using to hire another
24 consultant to look at their feasibility
25 study and do an economic feasibility



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1 study. Now, the \$50,000 is not going to
2 cover it but it is going to help fund
3 it, and then there is some capital
4 outlay money to help with that effort
5 as well. So what you are saying --

6 MR. LAGRANGE:

7 The same thing because RK
8 Jones is looking at KPMG.

9 MS. LEBAS:

10 Yeah. They have to fund their
11 own economic analysis. Okay.

12 MR. BODIN:

13 And my point is because these
14 projects are so undetermined; there is
15 such a vast amount of progress, we need
16 to figure out which firms they can
17 contract with, which firms are we
18 allowing to do this economic impact
19 analysis on, so that is where we can
20 say this is the list and the
21 administration only has a list like
22 that, this is the list of contractors
23 that you can go to and figure out what
24 the economic impact analysis is so that
25 you can submit that as part of a large



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1 application to the subcommittee.

2 MS. LEBAS:

3 So you probably have that
4 list of people that do that, firms that
5 do that.

6 MR. BODIN:

7 Yes. The Department of
8 Administration carries that list.

9 MR. RANSON:

10 Anthony, since we don't have
11 a whole of lot of time, I think our
12 goal is first figure out what are we
13 doing here; and, secondly, go through
14 the process and understand and comment
15 on the process, and if we can do all of
16 this in five minutes, we -- out of this
17 we need to come up with an application.
18 So there is no application right now
19 because we need to go through all of
20 the vetting first.

21 MR. BODIN:

22 Look at page 5. One second.
23 So it's a project seeking additional
24 funding, so sort of baseline. Are you
25 looking for extra funding or are you



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1 looking for projects already completed.
2 That is why we call it zero. Obviously
3 looking for extra funding.

4 Page 1, does it comply with
5 the threshold that is in the
6 legislation, so if it's an
7 infrastructure project it has to be
8 above \$5 million. If it's an operating
9 project or non-infrastructure project
10 it has to be above \$1 million. And it
11 goes to the next phase. The project
12 should directly support FDI or
13 Re-shoring attraction and it should
14 align with the target sectors, so this
15 is the target sectors and supporting
16 FDI is something that comes out of the
17 Master Plan. In the Master Plan, if you
18 recall, we have the target industries
19 but we also have a list of gaps where
20 Louisiana is not competitive in certain
21 areas and we would want to look for
22 projects that address those gaps and
23 are in line with the target sectors.

24 Obviously this is a very
25 qualitative component of the filtering



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1 process, which is why I would ask to --
2 I would input a couple of questions
3 that directly respond to that. How does
4 this project, for example, compete with
5 the existing assets. How does this
6 project fill that gap that you have
7 identified.

8 No. 3, does the project fill
9 a gap required for job creation.

10 Because this is always tied to the
11 mission of creating jobs, we want to
12 know specifically how this addresses
13 job creation.

14 And then, last, does it have
15 a positive ROI, which is the
16 quantitative component of this
17 filtering process.

18 MR. RANSON:

19 Does anybody have any
20 questions?

21 MR. BODIN:

22 This process is very similar
23 to Port Priority.

24 MR. LAGRANGE:

25 The only one I had is No. 4,



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1 the last one. Using existing economic
2 impact models such as RIMSII does the
3 project demonstrate a positive return
4 to the state. I don't think it's
5 limited to a positive return to the
6 state. It could be a private investor
7 who has forked up a public private
8 partnership and has developed an equity
9 position in the project, so it's not
10 only the state.

11 MR. BODIN:

12 In legislation it says
13 positive return to the state.

14 MR. LAGRANGE:

15 Okay. But it would go beyond
16 that, just telling you. A positive
17 return would go beyond that.

18 MR. BODIN:

19 You mean the definition here
20 would be --

21 MR. LAGRANGE:

22 No. I am just saying it falls
23 short because the positive return would
24 not be one dimensionally the state. It
25 could be the federal government. It



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1 could be a private investor such as a
2 Carnival corporation or anybody that
3 puts the money up who would be the
4 benefactor. That's all that I'm saying.

5 MR. BODIN:

6 Yeah.

7 MR. LAGRANGE:

8 If you got what you want
9 here, that's good, but the benefits go
10 beyond the state.

11 MR. RANSON:

12 Yeah. Positive return to the
13 funder. Yeah. Whoever that may be.

14 MR. LAGRANGE:

15 Whoever it may be.

16 MR. SCAFIDEL:

17 Haven't we tried that before?

18 MR. ROBB:

19 But it also means it could be
20 indirect like payroll taxes and things
21 like that.

22 MR. LAGRANGE:

23 Sure.

24 MR. RANSON:

25 If he is going to federal



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1 government he has got to supply to the
2 fed.

3 MR. BODIN:

4 So one thing that our sister
5 subcommittee, the financing budget
6 subcommittee would be tasked with and
7 something they are discussing right now
8 is to look for funding sources and
9 options for these particular types of
10 projects.

11 MR. ROBB:

12 Once it's vetted through us.

13 MR. BODIN:

14 Once it's vetted through us,
15 once it makes the list of priorities,
16 once it goes before the subcommittee
17 and the board, what are some of the
18 ways that the applicant can fund these
19 projects and how could this board be of
20 assistance.

21 MR. RANSON:

22 I know they are going to look
23 for us, so let's go to the last page as
24 far as next steps.

25 MR. BODIN:



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1 Next step, No. 1, is to look
2 more in depth into this ROI model.
3 Unfortunately I did my research and I
4 couldn't find an ROI model or any type
5 of economic impact model that is so
6 encompassing that it would include
7 infrastructure and non-infrastructure
8 projects. What I found and I have had
9 discussions with several members who
10 are in this field, one member actually
11 does these types of analysis for the
12 union. What he told me is that the
13 firms like his do these projects
14 constantly where some kind of policy is
15 being debated at the European Union.
16 I'm sure this happens in DC as well,
17 and they contract with an economic
18 impact consultancy to see what would be
19 the impact, and you have to take so
20 many different things into
21 consideration and these engagements can
22 be relative small. It's not a two year
23 period, but it has to be done in a
24 professional manner and has to be done
25 with all factors being considered, so



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1 my suggestion is that I would -- that
2 LED would look for those types of firms
3 on the existing list of approved
4 contractors to see who can do these
5 type of engagements and they have a
6 clear idea of what we are looking for
7 in this application. Ultimately since
8 we don't have any funds attached to
9 this project, evaluation process, this
10 would be the one by the applicant.

11 MR. LAGRANGE:

12 In the evaluation process
13 would you have a minimum cost benefit
14 ratio? For example, the Army Corps of
15 Engineers uses that in dredging
16 projects.

17 MR. BODIN:

18 Yeah.

19 MR. LAGRANGE:

20 If you fall below, let's say,
21 a one to two benefit then you are not
22 eligible, so would be interesting to
23 find out if your guys, those
24 consultants, come up with a minimum.

25 MR. BODIN:



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1 That's why we want to see
2 what the best practices are. Is it that
3 we can always do sort of a RIMSII
4 analysis, so if it's just, you know,
5 one dollar positive does it get funded
6 or are there different types of
7 economic impact models that can measure
8 that.

9 MR. JONES:

10 The legislature just says
11 positive, doesn't it?

12 MR. BODIN:

13 Just says positive, yes.

14 MR. RANSON:

15 I think that's where we come
16 in.

17 MR. BODIN:

18 Well, that's where the
19 quality component of this application
20 comes in.

21 MR. RANSON:

22 Okay. LED is going to handle
23 -- you are going to handle that, right?

24 MR. BODIN:

25 If that's --



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1 MR. RANSON:
2 What I want to do is set
3 something, a motion so our next meeting
4 we will have some of this information
5 that we can move forward with.

6 MR. BODIN:
7 So that's my suggestion.

8 MR. JONES:
9 So to be clear, Anthony, you
10 will have a list of firms, maybe across
11 a spectrum of types of projects that if
12 a company came to you or came to LABIC,
13 we would say, okay, you need to do an
14 economic impact statement --

15 MR. BODIN:
16 Yep.

17 MR. JONES:
18 -- and you have to use one of
19 these firms.

20 MR. BODIN:
21 Correct.

22 MR. JONES:
23 Can we legally do that?

24 MR. BODIN:
25 That's what we do with RFP's.



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1 MR. ROBB:

2 If they didn't do this they
3 can gain the system. If we didn't have
4 our own list of approved consultants.

5 MR. BODIN:

6 Yeah. They can.

7 MR. ROBB:

8 They can do their own. Yeah.
9 Right.

10 MR. LAGRANGE:

11 John happens to be Joe's
12 brother.

13 MR. BODIN:

14 Exactly. And so I would like
15 to bring my findings during this
16 canvassing to the subcommittee during
17 our next meeting and discuss my
18 findings. I don't want to decide on
19 anything, I just want to give you the
20 results of my research.

21 MR. RANSON:

22 And I'm throwing this open to
23 the committee, but I'm just wondering
24 if it would be helpful to have a draft
25 application that we can begin to craft



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1 and also you may look at it and say,
2 what is that there for, what is that
3 there for, maybe we need this, and we
4 have to have somewhere to start, and
5 based on this process, come up with
6 something, and I'm dumping stuff on
7 you. I don't know when our next meeting
8 is, but if we could get it to the
9 committee members in advance so they
10 don't just look at it when we're
11 sitting here, and I will help you.

12 MR. BODIN:

13 I will be happy to do it.

14 MR. RANSON:

15 With my vast experience, I
16 will be happy to help you.

17 MR. BODIN:

18 What I would particularly
19 have --

20 MR. LAGRANGE:

21 That's why you are the
22 choice.

23 MR. RANSON:

24 I told them when we got here,
25 I said, now I know why you made me the



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1 chairman, the innocent lamb being lead
2 to the slaughter. Maybe we can do that
3 and --

4 MR. JONES:

5 I think you have got a copy
6 of our application as a baseline from
7 Randall.

8 MR. BODIN:

9 Yes. I have all of that.

10 MR. LAGRANGE:

11 Is that the Port Priority
12 construction? Good. Good. That's great.

13 MR. BODIN:

14 And what I would love your
15 input in as well, I will give you a
16 list of the specific gaps that we have
17 and attract international commerce.
18 What I want to do is formulate
19 questions around those gaps for the
20 applicant to respond to; how do you
21 think your project is going to fill
22 those gaps while at the same time not
23 competing with other assets that we
24 already have. That's always an issue,
25 and sort of very specific questions



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1 ought to be asked for projects because
2 we know what we are trying to get out
3 of it.

4 MR. RANSON:

5 Let me ask the committee
6 members, I mean, I can see this is --
7 we can't have 30 minute meetings, at
8 least in the beginning, to get all of
9 this stuff done. Would anybody be in
10 favor if we can make it work to have
11 meetings outside of the board meeting.
12 In other words, we get this done and
13 say, look, we will check everybody's
14 schedule, we won't omit anybody, but I
15 don't see this getting done like this.

16 MS. LEBAS:

17 I think that's a good idea.

18 MR. ROBB:

19 We can host it on Gary, you
20 know, between the two of us we can, you
21 know, alternate and -- huh, Gary?

22 MR. LAGRANGE:

23 Sure. I will be happy to.

24 MR. RANSON:

25 All right.



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1 MR. LAGRANGE:
2 We have tons of meeting
3 space.

4 MR. BODIN:
5 Would you mind organizing the
6 next meeting?

7 MR. RANSON:
8 Well, I want to first see --
9 I want to give you time to get -- I
10 want to have something presented, so
11 once we get something present then
12 we'll poll the committee members and
13 say maybe we will give them five or six
14 dates and see if we can make one of
15 them work, but I would rather wait
16 until we have something.

17 MR. BODIN:
18 Absolutely.

19 MR. RANSON:
20 Instead of setting the date
21 now.

22 MS. LEBAS:
23 And DOTD, I just want to say,
24 our conference room is always
25 available, too, if y'all want to have



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1 it in Baton Rouge.

2 MR. ROBB:

3 And it's a great room.

4 MS. LEBAS:

5 I know usually --

6 MR. RANSON:

7 So nobody wants to --

8 MS. LEBAS:

9 New Orleans area. Closer to
10 New Orleans.

11 MR. RANSON:

12 Nobody wants to have it in
13 Alexandria. What's the problem?

14 MR. SCAFIDEL:

15 Algiers wouldn't be bad.

16 MR. RANSON:

17 At least it's down hill from
18 there. Let's do that. Let's try to get
19 something that we know is not going to
20 be the final product but we got to
21 start somewhere, start evaluating and
22 go from there. Now --

23 MR. LAGRANGE:

24 You are the chairman, you
25 call it.



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1 MR. RANSON:
2 One of the questions that I
3 have, this thing says we have to give
4 an annual report to the legislature. We
5 are not going to have an annual report
6 this year. Is that a problem or what?

7 MR. BODIN:
8 I will formulate some
9 language.

10 MR. RANSON:
11 I like the way you said that.

12 MR. BODIN:
13 And put it in the annual
14 report. I don't think the application
15 was --

16 MR. LAGRANGE:
17 It will be more of a progress
18 report, I suppose.

19 MS. LEBAS:
20 I would think so.

21 MR. RANSON:
22 Working real hard.

23 MR. BODIN:
24 I apologize it's taken me so
25 long to bring results but --



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MR. RANSON:

Anybody have anything else?

If not, we're adjourned.

(Whereupon the meeting has adjourned at 3:39
p.m.)



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I, RACHEL Y. TORRES, Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, as the officer before whom this meeting was taken, do hereby certify that meeting was reported by me in the stenotype reporting method, was prepared and transcribed by me or under my personal direction and supervision, and is a true and correct transcript to the best of my ability and understanding; That the transcript has been prepared in compliance with transcript format guidelines required by statute or by rules of the board, that I have acted in compliance with the prohibition on contractual relationships, as defined by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules and advisory opinions of the board; that I am not related to the parties herein, nor am I otherwise interested in the outcome of this matter.

Dated this 20th day of February, 2015.

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