

X000457162, Publication 07/18/17
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
TERREBONNE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2017

President Chad Hebert called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. The prayer and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Mrs. Katherine Gilbert-Theriot.

Members recorded as present were: Mr. Bobby Barthel, Mr. Tommy Guarisco, Mr. Chad Hebert, Mr. Nick Hebert, Mr. Ronald LaBauve, Mr. Michael LaGarde and Mr. Chris Lapeyre. Those recorded as absent were Dr. Michael Garcia and Mr. Ivan Williams. Also present were Mr. Matt Rookard, TEDA's CEO; and Mrs.

Katherine Gilbert-Theriot, TEDA's Director of Business Retention & Expansion, acting as minute clerk; Mr. Jim Erny, Houma-Terrebonne Regional Planning Commission member; Mr. Pernell Pellegrin of Martin & Pellegrin CPAs; and Mr. Ronnie Shaw, property developer.

Mr. Shaw addressed the board in opposition to zoning and potential expansion in Terrebonne, saying it is restrictive and increases development costs. Mr. Erny also spoke about zoning, expressing major concerns about any new regulations being adopted, saying the parish has enough regulations to prevent illegal or outlandish construction next to homes. He recommended the parish send certified mail to each impacted landowner, informing them of proposed changes. With no comments or corrections, Mr. Barthel motioned to approve the May 9, 2017, board minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. N. Hebert. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. N. Hebert presented the May financial reports, noting that a few discrepancies are due to the timing of receiving invoices and cutting checks. Otherwise, the expenditures appear to be in order. Mr. Barthel moved to accept the report as presented, seconded by Mr. Guarisco. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. C. Hebert noted that Mr. N. Hebert is still in the process of reviewing TEDA's bylaws and expects to offer recommendations at the next meeting.

Mr. Pellegrin presented a clean 2016 TEDA audit report, noting the firm's opinion of TEDA's financial statements as "unqualified", that is, essentially correct; TEDA complies with all laws; and TEDA's

accounting systems are good. Mr. Barthel moved to table the audit report until July so members could review the document. That motion was seconded by Mr. Lapeyre and approved unanimously.

Mr. Rookard presented a quotation on director's and officers' insurance, noting that two agencies declined to offer quotes. Mr. Barthel moved to accept the coverage proposal from Terrebonne Insurance Agency for \$4,125.26, seconded by Mr. N. Hebert. The motion was approved unanimously. The cost is reduced from the previous year by approximately \$500.

In the business-retention report Mr. Rookard noted TEDA's involvement in recruiting companies for Louisiana Economic Development's CEO Roundtable program for an area council.

He also noted a concern from business retention visits: that the area won't have sufficient workforce to meet labor demands should the oil-and-gas industry rebound quickly. Mrs. Gilbert-Theriot reported the status of the Louisiana Workforce Commission's Region 3 Next Generation Partnership program.

In his marketing report, Mr. Rookard reported on his attendance at the International Council of Shopping Centers and the Area Development conferences, and information learned at those events.

He noted that about 20 people attended the TEDA-hosted meeting on potential zoning changes in the parish. Good discussion took place, but Rookard said he doesn't anticipate TEDA taking a position on the issue. Mr. Erny readdressed the board, noting current slow growth in housing development, blaming the lengthy permitting process. Mr. Barthel said the governor's lawsuit against oil companies is having a chilling effect on industrial investment in the state.

In the president's report, Mr. C. Hebert asked for comment from members. Mr. Guarisco noted the parish should be more welcoming to big plants to bring in new employment opportunities.

At 12:58 p.m., Mr. Barthel moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Lapeyre. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Chad Hebert, President

Mrs. Katherine Gilbert-Theriot
Acting Minute Clerk