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OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
TERREBONNE ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2017

President Chris Lapeyre called the meeting to order at 12:03p.m. The prayer and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Mrs. Dawn Henry.

Members recorded as present were: Mr. Bobby Barthel, Mr. C.J. Domangue, Dr. Michael Garcia, Mr. Chad Hebert, Mr. Nick Hebert, Mr. Chris Lapeyre, and Mr. Ivan Williams. Those recorded as absent were Mr. Ronald LaBauve and Mr. Michael LaGarde. Also present were Mr. Matt Rookard, TEDA's CEO; Mrs. Dawn Henry, TEDA's Executive Secretary; and Mr. Darrin Guidry, Terrebonne Parish Council. President Lapeyre made three calls for public wishing with no response.

Mr. Barthel motioned to approve the October 10, 2017 board minutes as submitted, seconded by Mr. Williams. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. N. Hebert presented the October financial reports, noting the P&L is right in line with where it needs to be. Mr. N. Hebert motioned to accept the report as presented, seconded by Mr. Barthel. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rookard presented the business retention report and we are still on track to hit projected goals; we continue to work with the Tourism Commission on the Retirement Community designation; one big business retention issue is the contractor handling the sales tax audit for the parish seems to be indifferent to deadlines and communicating in a timely manner. Mr. N. Hebert said this is happening in other parishes too; there is starting to be some apprehension by companies on the Industrial Tax Exemption Program due to state changes that were made to the program; and Mr. Rookard attended the Louisiana Economic Development CEO roundtable group which is a diverse group that talked about economic development issues in the parish.

Mr. Rookard reported the Unmanned Aviation group met with Congressman Graves and he is very interested in this project. There was also a group call with North Dakota State discussing the similarities in what we are trying to do and what they do. North Dakota State would love to partner with us on the service side of the oil & gas industry and port security. The group, with representatives from TEDA, the Airport, Fletcher Technical Community College, Nicholls State University and two private consulting firms are scheduled to visit with North Dakota State on December 14th & 15th to discuss a partnership. The current strategy is a drone pilot program in combination with Nicholls and Fletcher. It will be a two-year certification, then a two-year online course with North Dakota State to end up with a Bachelor's degree in Unmanned Aviation, this strategy could help bind the partnership.

Mr. Rookard gave an update on the LA Safe Project. There was a 2nd round of discussion with the economic development partners. They have identified seven projects being considered for about six million dollars per parish in funding. The drainage project previously discussed was the most exciting project for the group with the biggest impact. A few comments suggested other projects had already been selected for the funding, but nothing was confirmed. Mr. Rookard also met with BHP Billiton's community representative on a project they are looking to fund. They are working with the American Wetland's Foundation and a private contractor to mitigate some of the destroyed wetlands. Mr. Rookard presented the drainage project to them and they also like the concept. Both are possible streams of funding for the drainage project.

Mr. Rookard gave an update on the budget process with the line item approval being presented to the Council for approval this evening.

President Lapeyre introduced Councilman Darrin Guidry and Mr. Guidry asked to speak to the Board regarding the Bayou Country Sports Complex. After much discussion, Councilman Guidry asked TEDA to spearhead the coalition to get the state funding needed to complete the sports complex. It was agreed to add this item to next month's agenda.

President Lapeyre reminded board members of the ethics training requirements with the next class being held on November 28th or the training can be completed online.

Mr. C. Hebert motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. N. Hebert. The motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Chris Lapeyre, President

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Mrs. Dawn Henry  
Minute Clerk