



St. James Parish LOUISIANA

"Promoting Economic Growth"

ST. JAMES PARISH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

MINUTES

April 26, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steven Bourgeois
Louis Kliebert
Charlene Williams
Terrence Jones
Ronald St. Pierre, Jr.
Brad Poche
Mac Bordelon
Camella Landry
Brenda Melancon

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kimberly Martin
Danny Shepard
Jeremy Catoire
Harry Joseph
Rodney Johnson
Zeb Mayhew
Paul Aucoin
Janet Johnson
Nicholas Steib

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE:

Audrey Temple-Manager Economic Development St. James Parish
Hollie Zeringue-Administrative Assistant
Betty Joseph-Chairwoman of River Parishes Tourist Commission
Steve Nosacka-Economic Development Consultant for St. James Parish

The April meeting of the St. James Economic Development Board was called to order by Chairwoman Camella Landry. Chairwoman Landry welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Terrence Jones delivered the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Brenda Melancon. Chairwoman Landry asked for the roll call and Audrey Temple called the roll. Chairwoman Landry recognized a quorum at this time.

Chairwoman Camella Landry asked if there was any comments/correspondence at this time. There were none.

Chairwoman Landry asked if there was any public comment on any agenda items requiring a vote and there was none at this time.

Chairwoman Landry asked for a motion for the March 2023 minutes to be approved. On a motion by Louis Kliebert and a second by Mac Bordelon, the March minutes were approved. All were in favor.

SMALL BUSINESS OF THE MONTH: Trinity Bay Vocational Institute of Louisiana Owner, Alfred Mitchell, graduate of St. James High and Southern University, started a vocational institute for high school students. He answered some of the board members questions and informed the board that the school will be run out of St. Louis Academy on the west bank of the parish. Mr. Mitchell is hoping to get students jobs with contractors and eventually directly into the plants once they have the experience needed. Chairwoman Landry thanked them for coming and presented them with a plaque of appreciation.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

The IEDC Conference is coming up in September 2023 in Dallas, Texas. Two members of the board will attend that have never attended. The board spoke about needing a new appointee to the River Parish Tourism Board. Ronald St. Pierre, Jr. nominated Steven Bourgeois. A second from Brad Poche and all were in favor of the new appointee decision. Audrey Temple asked the board for ideas for the upcoming Small Business Banquet. The board gave ideas and thoughts for the 2023 banquet.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT:

Audrey Temple spoke on behalf of the Economic Development and Tourism Department for St. James Parish. Mrs. Temple informed the board that May 8-12th is National Tourism Week. The Welcome Center will be hosting an event under the pavilion on May 12th for this event. The May Market Day will be on Saturday, May 13th. The Market Days have been a huge success. Mrs. Temple spoke briefly about the Parish Wide Clean Up event held on Saturday, April 22nd. The KSJPB board led the event and 120 volunteers showed up to pick up trash on the east and west banks of the parish.

REPORTS:

No report or representatives present from the Chamber of Commerce.

No reports or representatives present from the River Parish Community College. RJ St. Pierre gave an update on classes and upcoming items as an employee on their behalf.

No reports or representatives from South Central Planning.

No reports or representatives from the Port of South Louisiana.

No report or representative for GNO, Inc.

River Parishes Tourist Commission- Betty Joseph and Denise Burrell attended the meeting. A letter was sent to the Economic Development chairwoman, Camella Landry, to inform the board that their appointee, Paul Aucoin, had missed meetings forcing them to remove Mr. Aucoin from the Tourism Board. The SJP Economic Development Board appointed board member Steven Bourgeois as the parish's new representative.

They also spoke concerning the upcoming National Travel & Tourism Week. They handed out a brochure of events.

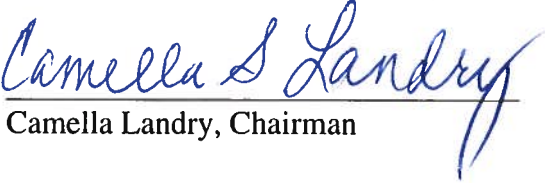
Town of Lutchet-Ronald St. Pierre, Jr. addressed the board for the Town of Lutchet. RJ spoke about the new businesses coming up behind the First American Bank in Lutchet.

Town of Gramercy-Mayor Steven Bourgeois addressed the board for the Town of Gramercy. The mayor said he was helping a business with some permitting issues.

COUNCILMAN OF THE MONTH: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Chairwoman Landry asked for a motion for the meeting to be adjourned. On a motion by Louis Kliebert and a second by Terrence Jones the meeting was adjourned. All in favor.


Camella Landry, Chairman


Brenda Melancon, Secretary