**Iberia Economic Development Authority**
**Regular Meeting Minutes**
**Thursday, September 24, 2020**
Board of Commissioners of the Iberia Economic Development Authority
met on Thursday – September 24, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. at
101 Burke Street, New Iberia, LA 70560

Chairman Jody Suire called the meeting to order and called for the roll.

Members Present: Roy Pontiff, Fran Henderson, Jody Suire, Damon Migues
Members Absent: Cecil Hymel

Others Present: Michael Tarantino, Evelyn Ducote, Jeff Simon, Matt Landry, Damon Hanks, Tommy Ducharme, Parish President Larry Richard.

Public Comments: Mr. Tarantino wanted to acknowledge that Mr. Damon Hanks and Mr. Tommy Ducharme with Beta Land Services were in the audience today.

Mr. Suire asked the Commissioners to review the minutes of the August 31, 2020 meeting. On a motion by Roy Pontiff, seconded by Fran Henderson, the minutes were approved unanimously.
Mr. Suire asked the Commissioners to review the financials for the month of August, 2020. On a motion by Fran Henderson, seconded by Damon Migues, the financials were approved unanimously.

Mr. Suire asked for an update from the Progress Point working group. Mr. Tarantino reminded everyone that at the last Authority meeting representatives from Beta Land Services had presented the Authority with a proposal to obtain an underground servitude through land the Authority owns for a drilling and production project they represent. Mr. Simon reviewed the proposal and contacted Seritage (the lessee of the property) about the proposal. Representatives for Seritage stated that they were not interested in entertaining the proposal. Mr. Simon said he would put Mr. Hanks and Mr. Ducharme in contact with Seritage directly.

Mr. Tarantino stated that the staff was in the process of putting together the final draft copy of the Progress Point business plan, and said it would be distributed to the Commissioners in the near future for their review. Discussion was held regarding projected revenue from leasing of lots, the income potential of build-to-suit tenants locating in the park, and the ROI on park investments on infrastructure development to the park and the surrounding area.

Mr. Tarantino reported he met with representatives of the Acadiana Regional Airport and Iberia Parish Airport Authority to review the water and sewer routes to Progress Point that affect Airport property. Noted the item will be up for review and approval on the October 13th IPAA agenda, as well as on the Iberia Parish Council's agenda on October 14th. Noted that we will be needing to meet with the sewer district soon.

Reported that there will be a groundbreaking for the Parish's new Airport Access Road on Tuesday, September 29th at 10:00. Encouraged everyone to attend. Damon Miguez made a motion to approve temporary use of business park property to Glen Leger Construction to stage construction equipment, contingent on legal review, and further authorizing the Chairman to negotiate and sign any necessary paperwork to grant such use. The motion was seconded by Fran Henderson and passed unanimously.

Mr. Tarantino reported that local unemployment has been inching down over the past few months. Noted oil was currently around $42-$49 a barrel and has been steady at that level for a while now. Noted local retail sales have been up over the past few months.

Ms. Henderson wanted to alert everyone to the special state legislative session that starts on Monday. The impact the session could have a very large effect on employer's unemployment insurance costs. This is due to the state's

unemployment trust fund being severely depleted due to the large number of people filing unemployment claims because of COVID-19 business shut downs.

On a motion by Fran Henderson, seconded by Damon Migues, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 7:30 AM.  The meeting will be held at the IDF Offices.