

**Iberia Economic Development Authority**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday – November 21, 2019**

Board of Commissioners of the Iberia Economic Development Authority  
met on Thursday – November 21, 2019 at 7:30 a.m. at  
Acadiana Regional Airport, 1404 Hangar Drive, New Iberia, LA 70560

Chad Courtois called the meeting to order and called for the roll.

Members Present: Chad Courtois, Roy Pontiff, John Bellefontaine, Cecil Hymel

Members Absent: Jody Suire

Others Present: Mike Tarantino, Matt Landry, Evelyn Ducote, Jeff Simon

With there being no public comments, Mr. Courtois asked the commissioners to review the minutes of the regular September 2019 meeting. On a motion by Cecil Hymel, seconded by Roy Pontiff, the minutes of the regular September 2019 meeting were unanimously approved. Mr. Courtois asked the commissioners to review the August and September 2019 financials. On a motion by Roy Pontiff, seconded by John Bellefontaine, the financials for August and September 2019 were unanimously approved.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number six, to discuss and consider entering into a contract with Matt Landry with Berard, Habetz & Associates for engineering services related to waterline development to Progress Point, and further authorize the Chairman to sign the contract. On a motion by Cecil Hymel, seconded by Roy Pontiff the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number seven, to discuss and consider entering into a contract with Matt Landry with Berard, Habetz & Associates for engineering services related to sewer line development to Progress Point, and further authorize the Chairman to sign the contract. On a motion by Roy Pontiff, seconded by Cecil Hymel the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number eight, to discuss and consider entering into a Line of Extension Contribution Agreement (LEC) with Louisiana Water company to provide water to Progress Point, and further authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement. Mr. Simon asked the Commissioners to consider requesting that LAWCO insert a contract termination clause that should the quoted project cost exceed the estimate due to project design changes, the IEDA could cancel the contract going forward. After discussion, the commissioners agreed to the addition of the contract cancellation language. Further, the Commissioners agreed to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement after the adding of the cancellation language, and contingent on the concurrence of Facility Planning and control. On a motion by Cecil Hymel, seconded by John Bellefontaine the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number nine, to discuss and consider entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with Iberia Parish Government for economic development services and further authorize the Chairman to sign the CEA. On a motion by John Bellefontaine, seconded by Cecil Hymel the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number ten, to discuss and consider approving the purchase of a Professional Liability and Business Operations insurance policy to provide coverage as required by the CEA with Iberia Parish Government. On a motion by Roy Pontiff, seconded by John Bellefontaine, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number eleven, to discuss and consider the purchase of a drone and required training, licensing, permitting and operational fees, to provide economic development data and marketing materials. To be paid from the Equipment and Economic Development

Support Services line item in the 2019-2020 budget. On a motion by John Bellefontaine, seconded by Cecil Hymel the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois asked the Commissioners to review agenda item number twelve, to discuss and consider moving \$3,000 from the Advertising and Marketing line item to the Equipment line item (\$1,000), and the Economic Development Support Services line item (\$2,000) in the 2019-2020 budget, all to record the purchase of a drone and payment of associated training, fees, permitting and operating costs. On a motion by John Bellefontaine, seconded by Cecil Hymel the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Courtois asked Mr. Tarantino to proceed with his business park, funding and economic development update. Mr. Tarantino reported the following:

- Noted the current unemployment rate for Iberia Parish was 5.3%.
- Reported that our current available labor force is remaining steady
- Noted that local retail sales were slightly up.

On a motion by John Bellefontaine, seconded by Roy Pontiff, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 19, 2020 at 7:30 AM. The meeting will be held at the IDF Offices.