

JEDCO Executive Committee Meeting

April 30, 2015

8:30 A.M.

Minutes

Call to Order 8:30 a.m.

Attendance: Jimmy Baum, Mario Bazile, Joe Ewell, Brian Heiden, Greg Jordan, Steve LaChute, Bruce Layburn, Dr. Vinicio Madrigal, Mark Madderra, Bill Peperone, Paul Rivera

Staff: Jerry Bologna, Lacey Bordelon, Cynthia Grows, Alberto Queral, Scott Rojas, Kelsey Scram, Penny Weeks

Absences: Bruce Dantin and Mike Rongey

Attorney: Ruth Walker, Jefferson Parish Attorney's Office

Guests: Bill Becknell – The Becknell Law Firm
Kent Schexnayder – Sisung Group
Shaun Toups – Government Consultants, Inc.

I. Call to Order – Chairman, Paul Rivera

Chairman Rivera opened the meeting by welcoming the above named guests and leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to amend the agenda to include: *Approval of letter commenting on the President's Executive Order*. Motion was made by Dr. Vinicio Madrigal; seconded by Bruce Layburn. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Approval of Board Absences** – Dr. Vinicio Madrigal motioned to excuse the above named absences; seconded by Greg Jordan. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of JEDCO Minutes for March 26, 2015**– Dr. Vinicio Madrigal motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Greg Jordan. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Unfinished and New Business – Chairman, Paul Rivera

- **Approval of letter commenting on the President’s Executive Order – Jerry Bologna**

Jerry explained that Executive Order 13690, the new Federal Flood Risk Management Standard, and the Draft Revised Guidelines for Implementing Executive Order 11988 Floodplain Management has the potential to severely hamper JEDCO’s ability to attract investment into Jefferson Parish. Jerry also shared concerns about the effect this order will have on all federally approved or funded projects related to development/construction activities occurring in floodplains that are regulated at the federal, state, and/or local levels. Commissioner Layburn provided additional detail regarding the Executive Order and the impact it will have on residential construction.

Jerry asked the Board to approve the letter commenting on the President’s Executive Order (a copy of the letter will form a part of these minutes). Bruce Layburn motioned to approve the letter with amendments to include all aspects of development and construction – commercial and residential; seconded by Mark Madderra. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Resolution authorizing Executive Director to execute conveyance of land to Delgado (deferred from March 26, 2015 meeting) – Lacey Bordelon**

By motion of Dr. Vinicio Madrigal and seconded by Mark Madderra, this agenda item was deferred to the May 28, 2015 Board of Commissioners meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Reimbursement of Chairman’s travel expenses – Jerry Bologna**

Dr. Vinicio Madrigal motioned to approve reimbursement of travel expenses in the amount of \$2,200.00 for Chairman Rivera’s attendance at the 2015 Super Region Canvas Workshop in Phoenix, Arizona; seconded by Mark Madderra. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Discussion of Proposed Legislation - 2015 Regular Session – Jerry Bologna**

More than thirty-three bills have been presented during this legislative session which may interfere JEDCO’s ability to do business. Jerry made reference to the JEDCO By-laws and a Public Policy Position adopted by the Board in April 2009 regarding JEDCO taking a position on bills related to Economic Development: If any such bill requires attention before the next Board meeting, the Chairman or the Executive Director will present his analysis and recommendation to the Board via email. If five commissioners oppose his recommendation, the bill in question would then be presented at the next Board meeting for discussion.

- **JEDCO resolution to incur debt for the repayment of Forward Jefferson Corporation's loan – Lacey Bordelon**

Lacey presented the resolution and gave the background as it relates to the principal balance on Forward Jefferson Corporation's loan for the construction of the JEDCO building. The principal balance, approximately \$2.2 million, will be due on February 20, 2016. On the advice of the Parish's financial advisor and bond counsel, and with the approval of the Board of Commissioners, JEDCO will move forward with the application to the state bond commission, as well as the request to the Parish for the guaranty. It may take up to two months for approval from the state bond commission; during this time, JEDCO will continue evaluating its financing options.

Dr. Vinicio Madrigal motioned to approve the resolution; seconded by Greg Jordan. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Monthly Financial Report – Cynthia Grows

Dr. Vinicio Madrigal motioned to accept the report as submitted; seconded by Mario Bazile. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Executive Director Report – Jerry Bologna

Super Region Canvas – April 19 thru April 21, Jerry and Chairman Rivera attended the 2015 Super Region Canvas: A Benchmarking Workshop held in the Greater Phoenix and Tucson areas of Arizona. The purpose of the initiative was to gain an understanding about how our regions can work together and observe best practices. Topics included: Super-regionalism, Education and Workforce Development, Transportation, Health Care and Bioscience.

JEDCO Funding – On April 29th, the Parish Council approved a resolution ratifying the Intergovernmental Agreement, increasing JEDCO's funding in 2015 by \$300,000.

The Jefferson EDGE 2020 Strategic Plan/The Next Five Years – The first round of the Jefferson EDGE 2020 Stakeholder meetings are scheduled for the month of May at the JEDCO Conference Center. The second round of meetings are planned for June. GCR, Inc. was retained to prepare the initial framework for the plan, facilitate the planning process and craft the ultimate strategy, which will result in an updated, refocused Jefferson EDGE with a five-year scope.

Technical Assistance Panel/Urban Land Institute (TAP/ULI) – A presentation and tour of the study area is scheduled for June 23 and June 24. Through the TAP, ULI will take a look at the Jefferson Highway corridor and make recommendations on the corridor's redevelopment. JEDCO will co-sponsor the TAP from a staffing and support perspective.

V. Public / Other Comments – None

**VI. Adjournment – Dr. Vinicio Madrigal motioned to adjourn; seconded by Greg Jordan.
The motion passed unanimously.**



Bruce Layburn

JEDCO, Treasurer

(JEDCO Executive Committee Minutes for April 30, 2015)