

JEDCO

Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission

Executive Committee Meeting

July 25, 2013

8:40 A.M.

Minutes

Call to Order 8:40 a.m.

Attendance: Joe Ewell, Jim Garvey, Greg Jordan, Steve LaChute, Dr. Vinicio Madrigal, Lynda Nugent-Smith, Bill Peperone, Paul Rivera, Stan Salathe

Staff: Jerry Bologna, Cynthia Grows, Alberto Queral, Scott Rojas, Kelsey Scram, Dottie Stephenson, Penny Weeks

Absences: Mario Bazile, Mike Rongey

Attorney: Linda Hewlett – Parish Attorney

Guests: Cherreen Gegenheimer and Jennifer VanVrancken – Jefferson Parish

I. Chairman Comments – Stan Salathe

Chairman Salathe opened the meeting by welcoming the above named guests and by leading in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

- **Approval of Board Absences**

Joe Ewell motioned to excuse Mario Bazile and Mike Rongey; seconded by Lynda Nugent-Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Approval of JEDCO Minutes for June 27, 2013**

Lynda Nugent-Smith motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Joe Ewell. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Executive Session Regarding Personnel Matter

Joe Ewell motioned to move to executive session; seconded by Greg Jordan. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Salathe asked the Executive Director, Jerry Bologna, to attend the executive session.

III. RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING - Unfinished and New Business – Chairman, Stan Salathe

- **Motion resulting from Executive Session**

Chairman Salathe stated that at the June 27, 2013 Board meeting a salary increase was approved for the Executive Director, Jerry Bologna. Due to the terms of Jerry's original contract, he has declined to accept. Chairman Salathe asked the Board for a motion to accept Jerry's decision and to address the salary increase at the Executive Director's traditional evaluation in October 2013. Greg Jordan made the motion; seconded by Lynda Nugent-Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Approval of JEDCO 2013 First Amended Budget – Cynthia Grows**

Cynthia presented the 2013 First Amended Budget. Dr. Vinicio Madrigal motioned to approve the Budget as amended; seconded by Bill Peperone. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Executive Director Report – Jerry Bologna

- **Prospects Update**

Jerry briefed the Board regarding several prospects; highlighting a major Churchill prospect, Stewart Enterprises/SCI and 2424 Manhattan. He also provided updates regarding the expansion efforts of Ochsner and Zatarain's.

- **Retention Overview – Lacey Bordelon**

Lacey presented a detailed report of the EDS activities regarding Business Retention and Expansion. The total number of BR&E meetings with the parish's top employers for 2013 stands at 81 (to date). The report included relevant findings from the BR&E program; i.e., employment, sales, and planned or current expansions.

- **JEDCO Activities Report Survey**

Jerry thanked the Commissioners for participating in the JEDCO Activities Report survey. The survey results identified five (5) topics they were most interested in reading about. Future reports will be formatted to cover these topics of interest.

- **Other Announcements**

- The first day of school for Patrick F. Taylor Academy is August 9th and the dedication is scheduled for September 5th at 10:00 a.m.
- The JEDCO Conference Center is nearing completion and a soft opening is planned for early November. Staff is preparing the CEA between JEDCO, Henry Shane and Jack Stumpf for the donation of art work to be hung in the

Conference Center. The CEA will be presented to the Board in October for approval.

- The Parish Council approved the ordinance amending the Jefferson Parish Code of Ordinances whereby exempting JEDCO from the Jefferson Parish procurement procedures.
- Received several applications of interest for the Business Development and Enterprise Manager position. Staff has interviewed three and the last interview is scheduled for today. Hoping to fill the position by the end of August.

V. Financial Report – Cynthia Grows

- **Monthly Financial Report**

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

- **Request for Proposal**

A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been advertised for CPA firms interested in serving as auditors for JEDCO to perform annual audits for 2013, 2014 and 2015. The deadline for submitting proposals is August 23, 2013.

VI. Public / Other Comments

Chairman Salathe asked Jennifer VanVrancken to give a report on the Film and Movie Industry. She stated that the movie industry usually moves to the state with the best incentives and was pleased to report that during the last legislative session the incentives for the film and movie industry did not change. She believes that Jefferson Parish would see more long-term leases if there was a way to guarantee that the incentives at the state level would stay in place.

VII. Adjournment

Joe Ewell motioned to adjourn; seconded by Greg Jordan. The motion passed unanimously.



Paul Rivera
JEDCO Secretary
(JEDCO Minutes for July 25, 2013)