

## JEDCO Executive Committee Meeting

March 26, 2015

8:30 A.M.

### Minutes

**Call to Order** 8:30 a.m.

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

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

**Absences:** Bill Peperone

**Attorney:** Reed Smith, Jefferson Parish Attorney's Office

**Guests:** Jeff Simno, Parish President's Office

#### I. Call to Order – Chairman, Paul Rivera

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

- **Approval of Board Absences** – Bruce Layburn motioned to excuse Bill Peperone; seconded Dr. Vinicio Madrigal. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of JEDCO Minutes for February 26, 2015** – Dr. Vinicio Madrigal motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Steve LaChute. The motion passed unanimously.

#### II. Unfinished and New Business – Chairman, Paul Rivera

- **Resolution reappointing Mr. Mark Madderra, Mr. Ryan Breaux and Mr. Richard Poche to the JEDCO Architectural Review Committee for a three-year term** – Lacey Bordelon

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

- **Resolution authorizing Executive Director to execute conveyance of land to Delgado.**

On the motion of Dr. Vinicio Madrigal and seconded by Greg Jordan, this agenda item was deferred to the April 30, 2015 Executive Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

### **III. Monthly Financial Report – Cynthia Grows**

- Bruce Dantin motioned to accept the financial report as presented; seconded by Joe Ewell. The motion passed unanimously.

### **IV. Executive Director Report – Jerry Bologna**

- **Financial Advisor for FORJ debt refinancing – Lacey Bordelon**  
The principal balance due on the Forward Jefferson Corporation loan, pertaining to the JEDCO building, will be due in February 2016. Staff is working with the Parish’s finance advisor to explore options for refinancing the debt.
- **2014 Business Retention & Expansion Report for Jefferson Parish**  
Kate Moreano gave an overview of the data collected from the 700 companies contacted by JEDCO’s EDS staff in 2014. The report included relevant findings regarding employment, workforce, site searches, incentives, business opportunities and threats.
- **2014 Business Retention & Expansion Report for the City of Kenner**  
Annalisa Kelly presented the 2014 Annual Report specific to the City of Kenner. The report included data collected from the 167 companies contacted by JEDCO in 2014, pertaining to tax incentives, business opportunities and threats, business expansion plans and community strengths and weaknesses.
- **The JEDCO Challenge**  
Kelsey Scram informed the Board that five startups were chosen out of thirty-three applicants to compete in this year’s challenge. On March 24<sup>th</sup>, InnoGenomics Technologies was announced the winner of the third annual pitch competition. InnoGenomics Technologies won a prize package worth almost \$80,000 in cash and business services.
- **Façade Improvements**  
Alberto Queral announced that a grant application was filed with the Jefferson Parish Department of Community Development for \$250,000. The total project cost of the Façade Improvements Program is \$1,000,000 and consists of the following: \$500,000 from existing HUD-CDBG RLF, \$250,000 new funding from HUD and \$250,000 from private funds match.

The program will specifically target façade and lobby improvements, including accessibility for persons with disabilities, for businesses located within the defined geographical locations. The Program will provide 75% of the total construction cost and a match of 25% will be required from the business owner and/or property owner.

- **JEDCO Funding**

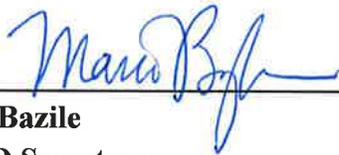
With unanimous support from both the Council and Administration, revisions to the IGA Ordinance are being considered.

**V. Public / Other Comments**

- Bruce Layburn, JEDCO Treasurer, briefed the Board regarding the Federal Executive Order related to FEMA. Members of the Board requested a summary of the white paper. Mr. Layburn plans to forward to JEDCO staff the information he has, for further distribution to the members of the Board.

**VI. Adjournment**

Dr. Vinicio Madrigal motioned to adjourn; seconded by Mario Bazile. The motion passed unanimously.



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**Mario Bazile**

**JEDCO Secretary**

**(Minutes for March 26, 2015)**