

**Iberia Economic Development Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 21, 2025**

Board of Commissioners of the Iberia Economic Development Authority
met on Friday, March 21, 2025, at 7:30 a.m. at
101 Burke Street, New Iberia, LA 70560

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cecil Hymel and the roll was called for.

Members Present: Damon Miguez, Fran Henderson, Cecil Hymel, Scott Saunier

Others Present: Mike Tarantino, Elizabeth Mauney, Jeff Simon, Evelyn Ducote, Richard Passler, Troy Villa

Members Not Present: Bart Romero

Public Comments: None

Mr. Hymel asked the Commissioners to review the February 2025 regular meeting minutes. On a motion by Fran Henderson, seconded by Damon Miguez, the minutes were unanimously accepted.

Mr. Hymel asked the commissioners to review the February 2025 financials. On a motion by Damon Miguez, seconded by Fran Henderson, the financials were unanimously accepted.

Mr. Simon suggested that a motion be made to expand the agenda to go into Executive Session. Mr. Hymel asked the commissioners for a motion to expand the agenda to go into Executive Session – Discussion of strategy and/or negotiations with respect to prospective litigation with the Iberia parish School District and the Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office after formal written demand when an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body. On a motion by Damon Miguez, seconded by Fran Henderson, the motion to expand the agenda and go into Executive Session was unanimously approved. The agenda was expanded, and Executive Session was initiated. Ms. Mauney and Mrs. Ducote were excused from the meeting.

Mr. Hymel asked the commissioners for a motion to be made to come out of Executive session. Scott Saunier made a motion to come out of Executive Session and this was seconded by Damon Miguez and unanimously approved. It was noted that no action was taken, and Ms. Mauney was asked to return to the meeting.

Mr. Hymel asked the commissioners to consider a resolution authorizing the Iberia Economic Development Authority to commit to an expenditure of portions of the First Solar PILOT agreement proceeds to compromise claims and potential claims asserted by the Iberia Parish School District and/or the Iberia Parish Sheriff's Office, and to take all action in connection therewith. Mr. Simon suggested that the consideration be deferred without a date. On a motion by Scott Saunier and seconded by Fran Henderson, the deferment was unanimously approved.

Mr. Hymel asked Mr. Tarantino to give his Business Park and Funding update. Mr. Tarantino first thanked Mr. Simon for all his work on the Progress Point property purchase. Mr. Tarantino reported that the purchase has been completed. Mr. Tarantino discussed the LACRED/ One Acadiana ceremony that he attended recently. He reported that this ceremony was to commemorate funding given by the state through

One Acadiana to IEDA to aid in the purchase of the 31.69 addition acres for Progress Point. Mr. Tarantino stated that soon he would like to have IEDA host a dedication ceremony for the new property, where all of the contributors could be recognized and thanked. Mr. Tarantino showed the commissioners the new concept map of Progress Point completed by Fenstermaker and discussed.

Mr. Hymel asked Mr. Tarantino to give his Economic Development update. Mr. Tarantino reported on the Economic Indicators for the month of February, and he also gave an update on the Hotel/Motel tax collections for the prior month.

On a motion by Scott Saunier, seconded by Damon Miguez, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 25, 2025 at 7:30 AM. The meeting will be held at the IDF Offices.