STATE OF LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

BEING HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2022

AT THE LASALLE BUILDING

617 North Third Street, FLOOR 1, LABELLE ROOM Baton Rouge, Louisiana

REPORTED BY: KELLY S. PERRIN, C.C.R.

COURT REPORTERS OF LOUISIANA, LLC

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1	APPEARANCES:
2	BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
3	CHAIRMAN A.J. ROY, III
4	CHARLES E. JACKSON, III
5	ANDY L. ADLER
6	CAL SIMPSON
7	NORISHA K. GLOVER
8	BRAD LAMBERT, DEPUTY SECRETARY, LED
9	STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:
10	LAURA WOMACK
11	LIZ MCCAIN
12	SUSAN BIGNER
13	ROBIN PORTER
14	MARISSA DOIN
15	SHAMELDA PETE
16	CRYSTAL DALGO
17	MOLLY HENDRICKS
18	ANNE VILLA
19	KELLY RANEY
20	BRENDA GUESS
21	DEBORAH SIMMONS
22	TEDRA CHEATHAM
23	OLEVIA SHARBAUGH
24	
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1	APPEARANCES CONTINUED:	
2	SPEAKERS FROM THE AUDIENCE:	
3	RODRIGO SALAZAR, TERNIUM	
4	RHONDA BOATNER, DIDIER CONSULTANTS, INC.	
5		
6	REPORTED BY: KELLY S. PERRIN, CCR	
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	CHAIRMAN ROY: (BEGINNING AT 9:32 A.M.)
3	Good morning. I'll call to order the
4	Board of Directors, Louisiana Economic
5	Development Corporation. Roll call, please?
б	MS. SIMMONS:
7	Good morning.
8	A.J. Roy?
9	CHAIRMAN ROY:
10	Here.
11	MS. SIMMONS:
12	Charles Jackson?
13	MR. JACKSON:
14	Here.
15	MS. SIMMONS:
16	Louis Reine?
17	(No response).
18	MS. SIMMONS:
19	Brad Lambert?
20	MR. LAMBERT:
21	Here.
22	MS. SIMMONS:
23	Cal Simpson?
24	MR. SIMPSON:
25	Here.

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1	MS. SIMMONS:
2	Andy Adler?
3	MR. ADLER:
4	Here.
5	MS. SIMMONS:
6	Norisha Glover?
7	MS. GLOVER:
8	Here.
9	MS. SIMMONS:
10	Stephen David?
11	(No response).
12	MS. SIMMONS:
13	We have a quorum.
14	CHAIRMAN ROY:
15	Very good. I'll ask everyone to please
16	silence their devices. First order of
17	business is the approval of some of the
18	minutes. We do not have three of the minutes
19	listed on the agenda. The first set of
20	minutes for approval is the February 10th
21	Board Meeting Minutes.
22	MR. SIMPSON:
23	Move to approve.
24	CHAIRMAN ROY:
25	Motion for approval as presented.

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1	MR. JACKSON:
2	Second.
3	CHAIRMAN ROY:
4	Seconded. Any discussion?
5	Hearing none, all in favor, aye?
6	(AYES BY ALL).
7	CHAIRMAN ROY:
8	All opposed, nay?
9	Any comments from the public?
10	Without objection.
11	Next order of business are the March 10th
12	Board Minutes.
13	MR. JACKSON:
14	Move to approve.
15	CHAIRMAN ROY:
16	Motion for approval is presented.
17	MR. ADLER:
18	Second.
19	CHAIRMAN ROY:
20	Seconded. Any discussion?
21	Hearing none, all in favor, aye?
22	(AYES BY ALL).
23	CHAIRMAN ROY:
24	All opposed, nay?
25	Without objection. Any comments from the

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1	public?
2	They're approved.
3	All right. Moving along under the EDAP
4	program, Economic Development Awards Program,
5	Ms. Womack? Good morning.
6	MS. WOMACK:
7	Good morning. My name is Laura Womack
8	and I'll be representing Staff. I also have
9	Rodrigo Salazar, a representative from Ternium
10	and I also have Ms. Rhonda Boatner, who is the
11	consultant on the project.
12	Ternium is an existing business that is
13	requesting approval for a million-dollar
14	sponsored EDAP for the expansion of their
15	existing manufacturing facility located in
16	Caddo Parish. Ternium is a leading company in
17	North, South, and Central America that
18	manufactures and processes a wide range of
19	steel products using the most advanced
20	technology. They have 17 production
21	facilities located in Mexico, Brazil,
22	Argentina, Columbia, as well as the Southern
23	United States and Guatemala.
24	The Ternium group manufactures a broad
25	spectrum of value added steel products,

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1	including hot-rolled and cold-rolled sheet,
2	galvanized and zinc-coated steel sheet,
3	tinplate, repainted sheet, shapes, tubes,
4	profiles, and slabs. It also provides cutting
5	services through their value added service
6	centers. The company offers a broad range of
7	their steel products for customers active in
8	the automotive, transportation, housing,
9	infrastructure works, packaging, energy
10	industries, and many more.
11	Ternium USA is wholly owned by Ternium
12	International Espana, which is a wholly owned
13	subsidiary of Ternium S.A. Ternium is
14	expanding their existing facility at the Port
15	of Caddo-Bossier, which they're currently
16	leasing from the Port. The company entered
17	into a 99-year lease with the Caddo-Bossier
18	Parishes Port Commission in October of 2005.
19	This expansion consists of adding a
20	second coil coating paint line with an annual
21	capacity of 120,000 tons, which will increase
22	its production capacity in the US by
23	53 percent. The coil coating process consists
24	of cleaning, treating, and painting flat sheet
25	metal that is rolled into coils. This

1	investment is the latest addition to Ternium's
2	goal of providing a full menu of state of the
3	art options for the metal building industry.
4	The expansion includes the construction
5	of a new building, the purchase of the capital
6	equipment, as well as infrastructure and site
7	improvements. The EDAP funds will be used to
8	be assist with the costs of the site
9	improvements, which include roads, parking,
10	and site prep. Total project costs are
11	estimated to be roughly \$93 million. The
12	company will retain 157 existing jobs with an
13	associated payroll of \$10.9 million, which is
14	to be increased 2 percent annually. And also,
15	it will create an additional 35 new jobs with
16	an associated payroll of \$2.6 million by
17	December 2026. All jobs and payroll are to be
18	maintained through December 31st, 2026. Total
19	capital investment of \$85.2 million is to be
20	expended by December 31st of 2023.
21	Caddo Parish's unemployment rate was
22	4.9 percent as of January of 2022 compared to
23	the State rate of 4.3 for the same period.
24	The per capita personal income for Caddo
25	Parish for 2020 was \$55,047 compared to the

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State per capita income of \$50,874. The
project is estimated to have State revenues of
roughly \$6.1 million with the company
receiving the million-dollar EDAP as well as
\$2.2 million from quality jobs. And this
results in a net revenue of roughly \$2.9
million for the State.
Staff recommends approval of this project
as a sponsored EDAP with their usual
contingencies that are normally in place as
well as the retention of the 157 jobs with an
associated payroll of \$10.9 million increased
at 2 percent annually, the creation of 35 new
jobs with an associated payroll of \$2.6
million maintained through December 31st of
2026 as well as total capital investment at
the facility of \$85.2 million by December 31st
of 2023. In addition, the EDAP Award will be
reimbursed at \$500,000 upon verification that
the company achieved \$1.2 million in new
payroll, as well as expending at least \$50
million in capital expenditures, and that's
expected to occur at the end of 2023. And
then the remaining \$500,000 will be reimbursed
upon verification that the company achieved at

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1	least \$2.5 million in new payroll as well as
2	expending the full \$85.2 million in capital
3	expenditures, and that's expected to occur in
4	year 2024.
5	Also, in addition, we are requiring the
6	execution of a parent company corporate
7	guaranty on this EDAP award. And with that, I
8	would like to introduce Mr. Rodrigo Salazar,
9	and he can give more information about the
10	company and the project.
11	MR. SALAZAR:
12	Thank you. And thank you, Laura, for all
13	the details. And good morning. I'm Rodrigo
14	Salazar, Director of Operations of Ternium USA
15	and I'm here to represent this project. We
16	have been working for a few years already on
17	this project. And it is the main interest of
18	the company to continue to grow our business
19	in the area of Shreveport, Caddo Bossier.
20	So we are in the process right now of
21	acquiring the land or buying the land on the
22	bidding process on that. And we, as Laura was
23	mentioning, we are going to retain the
24	existing jobs that we have and we're planning
25	to have 35 more jobs (indiscernible) on

1	payroll. The company is the largest steel
2	international company belonging to the chain
3	group. We have five divisions of steel making
4	process; one is piping, one is flat roll steel
5	products. Our main business in the area is to
6	produce steel coils. We sell it to our main
7	customers. We do all the roll forming process
8	for all the buildings and building's
9	infrastructure. We do galvanizing and
10	painting. That's our main core business and
11	we have seen good opportunities in the area.
12	And we distribute our steel through all the
13	states.
14	So I'm not sure if there is any other
15	questions. I guess, Laura, you were pretty
16	clear on everything that we are doing on the
17	investment, what we will invest. And this is
18	part of our growth. Right now, we're calling
19	it Phase I. For sure, we have implored
20	multiple growths on our plan. As of now, this
21	is what we have gotten approved by the
22	company.
23	CHAIRMAN ROY:
24	Thank you. Any questions or comments?
25	MS. GLOVER:

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1	Yes. Norisha Glover with questions.
2	First of all, as a person who works in the
3	construction industry, very excited to see
4	your expansion into the Shreveport and Caddo
5	area. Your materials are very much needed and
6	we hope that you will give favoritism to the
7	State of Louisiana when you get us our
8	materials. My question for you is, when do
9	you anticipate the start of construction?
10	MR. SALAZAR:
11	We anticipate to start construction in
12	September.
13	MS. GLOVER:
14	In September. And can you just speak to
15	why September and the other clarifications to
16	that? Because I saw in the application that
17	is part of the guaranty that they had to start
18	within 180 days. And the context that I am
19	approaching is, this is six months and the
20	cost of construction could significantly
21	increase over that period of time. So why
22	September as opposed to yesterday?
23	MR. SALAZAR:
24	Well, they we cannot start
25	construction on the weekend. The all the

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1	detail is from the OEM. So right now, we're
2	closing the commercial tender for the land.
3	So we receive the offers and we're awaiting
4	the offers. So a good three weeks, we should
5	be able to issue a contract. Nobody else
6	the cost of those loans to date is around \$35
7	million just on equipment. It's a large piece
8	of equipment. It's not equipment itself.
9	It's a set of multiple equipments that
10	consolidate the line. And they will produce
11	and continue with painting products. So this
12	is why. So we are on the tender process that
13	is being extended because everything is
14	changing on the market right now. It's very
15	challenging.
16	MS. GLOVER:
17	Have there been candid conversations in
18	terms of the anticipation of delays in
19	construction? I mean you're going to be a
20	pre-engineered building. It is at least six
21	months out, five or six months out as it
22	relates to the materials. And so,
23	essentially, you want to be signing on for
24	that. But I just, I want to be mindful of
25	construction not delaying things so much.

1 MR. SALAZAR: And I can briefly like -- what we 2 Okay. 3 have done in order to avoid any delays, we 4 just issued the engineering contract, so 5 there's a local firm engineering company that 6 got awarded the contract and they will get 7 with us. And so as soon as they release those type of drawings, we are going to start the 8 construction of what is the infrastructure of 9 10 the roads of the main building, but we cannot 11 find all the foundations on the land until we 12 get the basic engineering from the OEM. 13 MS. GLOVER: 14 Right. 15 MR. SALAZAR: 16 So that's why we're making all the 17 preparations in order to avoid any further 18 delays on the construction. 19 MS. GLOVER: 20 Thank you. 21 MR. JACKSON: 2.2 All right. You're buying the land, so 23 this is not leased from Port of Shreveport 24 Caddo; is that correct? 25 MR. SALAZAR:

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1	It's leased land.
2	MS. BOATNER:
3	It's leased from the Port of
4	Caddo-Bossier.
5	MR. JACKSON:
6	It is leased?
7	MR. SALAZAR:
8	Ninety-nine years, 99-year lease.
9	MR. JACKSON:
10	Okay. So that's really the reason it's a
11	sponsored?
12	MS. BOATNER:
13	Yes.
14	MR. SALAZAR:
15	Yes, sir.
16	MR. JACKSON:
17	Okay. All right. So it's a long-term
18	lease in that regard. Okay. I guess I
19	misunderstood. I thought you had said at one
20	point you were still trying to nail down
21	buying the land.
22	MR. SALAZAR:
23	No.
24	MR. JACKSON:
25	Did I mishear that?

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1	MS. BOATNER:
2	No.
3	MR. JACKSON:
4	Okay. Thank you.
5	CHAIRMAN ROY:
6	Any other questions? Comments?
7	MR. SIMPSON:
8	Do the supply chain demands pose any
9	problems in the steel industry as it is in so
10	many other industries?
11	MR. SALAZAR:
12	No. Actually, everything that happened
13	over the last few years has actually been
14	beneficial for the steel business. We haven't
15	been as busy as we have been over the last two
16	years on our supply chain. As I was
17	mentioning, we are a large steel producer and
18	we've got different sources of steel. Most of
19	the steel that is removed from the area of
20	Shreveport Caddo-Bossier, it's basically
21	moving with the steel that we produce, you
22	know. So those big steel warehouses on ADS in
23	the Port, they hold some of our product. And
24	also our customers are holding some of our
25	product. So all those expansions end up being

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1	on warehouses in there is to manage our
2	product, the steel.
3	MR. SIMPSON:
4	Okay.
5	MR. SALAZAR:
6	We have found it to be a very specific
7	location for us because we have multiple ways
8	to distributing our steel, we've got access to
9	rail, we've got access to barge, we've got
10	access for trucking as well.
11	MR. JACKSON:
12	You had mentioned there were five or six
13	divisions, different product lines. Did I see
14	on the map, this is your only facility within
15	the United States? And is this your, I guess,
16	your primary steel coil facility? How much
17	do you do a lot of your exporting or is that
18	all for U.S. domestic market or what?
19	MR. SALAZAR:
20	Everything is U.S. domestic. All our
21	product goes in within the states, but Ternium
22	does has over 16,000 employees through all
23	Latin America. So this is the only facility
24	that we have within the states. It is our
25	strategy to continue to grow. And we have

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1	facilities in Mexico, in Brazil, in Argentina,
2	in Guatamala and Columbia, and this is the
3	flat roll division of steel making.
4	We also have the piping, the steel
5	division that is Tenaris that is part of the
б	group, the chain group. And we have multiple
7	places in Houston. So we are the largest
8	producer of steel piping for gas products,
9	seamless pipe. It's a huge company, so the
10	chain holds five companies and we have
11	divisions on all, one on steel piping, one on
12	flat rolled coils, which is Ternium, and then
13	we have Tecpetrol, which is oil, related to
14	oil, and then we have engineering construction
15	as well.
16	MR. JACKSON:
17	And the added jobs are all basically
18	going to be production line jobs primarily?
19	MR. SALAZAR:
20	We have production line jobs and
21	technicians, maintenance technicians.
22	MR. JACKSON:
23	Okay. All right.
24	MS. GLOVER:
25	And so why did y'all choose Shreveport as

the location of the U.S.? 1 2 MR. SALAZAR: 3 When the company, we acquired former 4 Steelscape. Back then, there was three 5 companies of Steelscape, one in Kalama, 6 Washington. There was one in California, 7 Rancho, and this one is in Shreveport. So we 8 chose this one because the proximity to Monterey, which we have one of our steel 9 10 foundries in proximity to a location, and our 11 market has always been in the south. We are 12 the strongest producer on the south. 13 MR. SIMPSON: 14 We're glad to see you here. I move to 15 approve. 16 CHAIRMAN ROY: 17 Motion for approval is presented. 18 MS. GLOVER: 19 Second. 20 CHAIRMAN ROY: 21 Seconded. Any discussion? 2.2 Hearing none, all in favor, aye? 23 (AYES BY ALL). 24 CHAIRMAN ROY: 25 All opposed, nay? Any comments from the

1	public?
2	Hearing none, congratulations. Please
3	keep us posted on your success.
4	MS. BOATNER:
5	Thank you very much.
6	MR. SALAZAR:
7	Thank you very much.
8	CHAIRMAN ROY:
9	All right. We will hear from the In
10	House Committee on the Small Business Loan
11	Guaranty Program. We'll hear from Staff, that
12	is.
13	MS. PETE:
14	Good morning. This is Shamelda Pete
15	representing Staff. Today, the loan I have
16	for you is Jalaram Covington, LLC. Jalaram is
17	a newly-established partnership owned by Paul
18	Patel and Danny Patel, each leveraging their
19	combined 32 years in the hospitality industry.
20	With extensive industry experience, both
21	partners are current owners of five profitable
22	hotels, including Super 8, Econo Lodge,
23	Comfort Suites, Red Roof Inn, and Travelers
24	Rest Motel. Jalaram plans to purchase a Best
25	Western hotel, which is similar in size to

1	most of the hotels they currently own.
2	The Best Western flag is a nationally
3	recognized hotel franchise. Best Western is a
4	global network of hotels composed of 18 unique
5	hotel brands. Best Western is a mid-scale
б	hotel with excellent brand recognition
7	targeting tourism and business travelers.
8	Citizen Savings Bank is requesting an
9	18.78 percent LEDC guaranty on a \$2,662,500
10	loan. The purchase price for the property is
11	\$3,550,000. The borrowers will make a 25
12	percent equity injection. The total appraised
13	value of the property as of March 17th, 2022
14	is \$3.7 million, which brings the loan to
15	value to 71 percent.
16	Citizens has approved the loan subject to
17	a seven-year LEDC guaranty. The reason for
18	the guaranty is to reduce the bank's exposure
19	in the hotel market.
20	The Mandeville/Covington area has had a
21	projected population growth rate of
22	7.83 percent over the next five years. In
23	response to the residential growth, there has
24	been new commercial development in the
25	Mandeville/Covington area. With the

1	significant increase in development, there is
2	an anticipated increase in tourism and
3	business travelers.
4	Staff recommends approval of this loan
5	with the standard contingencies in place.
6	CHAIRMAN ROY:
7	Comments?
8	MR. ADLER:
9	Were the buyers able to get any
10	historical financial information from the
11	sellers on this property or it's all based on
12	projection?
13	MS. PETE:
14	No, they've received historical.
15	MR. ADLER:
16	And have we looked at those and analyzed
17	those? Is this the quantum leap from where
18	the current owner is from a net operating
19	standpoint, a revenue standpoint?
20	MS. PETE:
21	No, they maintain a 61 percent occupancy
22	rate. And even in light of COVID, the Best
23	Western was able to maintain the occupancy as
24	well as with Hurricane Ida. They also had
25	travel workers, contract workers and the

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1	displaced residents also visiting that hotel.
2	So the hotel has maintained profitability in
3	light of COVID. And the projections provided
4	were very conservative, showing a 50 percent
5	occupancy rate with a 5 percent growth.
6	MR. ADLER:
7	Excellent.
8	MS. PETE:
9	Yes, sir.
10	CHAIRMAN ROY:
11	Any other questions or comments?
12	MR. JACKSON:
13	Seven percent seven-year length of
14	guaranty?
15	MS. PETE:
16	Yes, sir.
17	MR. JACKSON:
18	Can you speak to that just a little bit?
19	MS. PETE:
20	Yes, sir. Our standard guaranty terms
21	are one to seven years. Our rules do allow us
22	to go to 20 years. But in light of it being a
23	revolve not a revolving loan the loan
24	program, we don't want to tie up those
25	proceeds to the loan, so we tend to use those

1	seven years for real estate projects.
2	MR. JACKSON:
3	Okay. This has been through In House, so
4	I'm moving approval.
5	CHAIRMAN ROY:
6	Yes. Motion for approval presented.
7	MR. ADLER:
8	Second.
9	CHAIRMAN ROY:
10	Seconded.
11	I have one question. So this is an ARM,
12	and it's adjustable how often?
13	MS. PETE:
14	For the first five years, yes, sir.
15	CHAIRMAN ROY:
16	Is it locked for five?
17	MS. PETE:
18	Yes.
19	CHAIRMAN ROY:
20	Okay.
21	MR. ADLER:
22	So it's really a balloon. It's not it
23	balloons in five years?
24	MS. PETE:
25	No, I'm sorry. It doesn't balloon in

1	five years.
2	MR. ADLER:
3	Five years is the rate.
4	MS. PETE:
5	The rate will be set at five years and
6	then it's a 20-year mortgage.
7	MR. ADLER:
8	So it's a 20-year maturity date; every
9	five years, the rate changes.
10	MR. JACKSON:
11	Our guaranty is the seven.
12	MR. ADLER:
13	So we extend it for two more years until
14	our guarantee or our guaranty goes away or
15	MS. RANEY:
16	It goes away.
17	CHAIRMAN ROY:
18	It's a five-year locked rate; is that
19	right?
20	MS. PETE:
21	Yes, it's an adjustable rate. I'm sorry,
22	I'm not specific on the interest rates.
23	CHAIRMAN ROY:
24	And at five, it will reprice; is that
25	correct?

1 MS. RANEY: 2 That's correct. 3 CHAIRMAN ROY: 4 And I know what Mr. Adler is thinking, 5 it's probably the same thing I am. With a 6 rising interest environment, you know, 7 shopping these loans for rising interest rates 8 will be an important thing to consider as we go forward. 9 10 MS. PETE: 11 Yes, sir. 12 CHAIRMAN ROY: 13 Thank you. Any other discussion? Any comments from the public? 14 15 Hearing none, all in favor, aye? 16 (AYES BY ALL). 17 All opposed, nay? 18 Without objection, thank you. 19 MS. PETE: 20 Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN ROY: 2.2 All right. Next order of business, 23 Ms. Villa will give us the, Chairman of the 24 Finance Committee, she will give us a report. 25 MS. VILLA:

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1	Good morning. Anne Villa, Secretary
2	Treasury for the LDEC Board. On April 14th,
3	the LDEC Finance Committee met and were
4	presented the audited financial statements by
5	Mr. Aaron Cooper for the period ending
6	June 30th, 2021, which were based on the
7	Government Auditing Standards. In his
8	opinion, the financial statements referred to
9	were presented fairly in all material
10	respects, the respective financial position of
11	LDEC as of June 30, 2021, and the changes in
12	the financial position and cash flows for the
13	year that ended in accordance with generally
14	accepted accounting principals in the U.S.
15	In summary, the net position for the end
16	of the fiscal year was \$42,225,883. The
17	detailed report was in your April 14th, 2022
18	Board packet. So the Finance Committee did
19	accept that and we'll wish the Board to take a
20	position on accepting those formally.
21	The second report presented was by
22	Chaffe, which performed a valuation
23	engagement, as that term is defined in
24	statement on standards per valuation services
25	of the American Institute of Certified Public

Accountants of the value interest as of the 1 valuation date. This valuation was performed 2 3 solely for LDEC. The resulting estimate of 4 value may not be used for any other purpose or 5 by any other parties. So Chaffe conducted this valuation 6 7 engagement in accordance with the SSVS. The 8 estimate of value that results from valuation engagements is expressed as a conclusion of 9 10 Chaffe was not restricted or limited value. 11 in any manner in the scope of his work or data 12 available for analysis for the companies in 13 which an opinion was expressed. There was 11 14 active funds that is presented within the 15 detailed report. And as you look at the 16 report, I think it's Exhibit 1A, if I'm not 17 mistaken, there were 11 funds that we were, that the LDEC was invested in and some 18 19 valuations increased and some valuations 20 decreased. 21 There were discussions around PerSonus, 2.2 which was the sale that occurred at the end --23 after June 20th, 2021, and those returns from 24 that sale were returned back to LDEC in Fiscal

Year 2022, so it will be reported on in the

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1	next year reports.
2	Again, both the detailed reports for the
3	Chaffe report is also in your April 14th Board
4	packet and we request a favorable acceptance
5	from the Finance by the Board from the
6	Finance Committee of the presentation with the
7	financial statements and valuations.
8	CHAIRMAN ROY:
9	You made that is that in the form of a
10	motion?
11	MS. VILLA:
12	Well, I think you guys have to do the
13	motion.
14	MR. JACKSON:
15	So moved.
16	CHAIRMAN ROY:
17	Okay. So the motion for approval of that
18	is presented.
19	MR. SIMPSON:
20	Second.
21	MS. VILLA:
22	Thank you.
23	CHAIRMAN ROY:
24	Any discussion? Any comments from the
25	public?

1 Hearing none, all in favor, aye? 2 (AYES BY ALL). 3 CHAIRMAN ROY: 4 All opposed, nay? 5 Without objection. 6 MR. JACKSON: 7 Mr. Cooper has retired? We already have 8 a replacement CPA firm? MS. VILLA: 9 Well, there was a little bit of confusion 10 11 on that part. I was under the impression that 12 he had retired, but he has sold his firm, but 13 he is engaged still with the State, but he's 14 through another firm; is that correct? 15 STAFF MEMBER IN AUDIENCE: 16 Uh-huh. 17 MS. VILLA: So he'll still continue, so you will see 18 19 him next year. 20 MR. ADLER: 21 So we're following him through his new 2.2 firm or his old firm? 23 MS. VILLA: 24 The Legislative Auditor selects who 25 audits the LDEC and they will continue a

1	relationship with the new firm.
2	STAFF MEMBER IN AUDIENCE:
3	I don't know if they've decided yet.
4	MS. VILLA:
5	Oh, okay.
б	STAFF MEMBER IN AUDIENCE:
7	Because they put it out for bid.
8	MS. VILLA:
9	So it will go out for bid.
10	MS. GUESS:
11	It's out for bid.
12	MS. VILLA:
13	It is out for bid.
14	MS. GUESS:
15	It's out for bid for the main function
16	that Aaron served; but I think for the AFR,
17	they're going to retain Aaron for that portion
18	of it. So he still will have a part in what
19	we're doing, but the overall engagement will
20	be with a new firm selected by Legislative
21	Auditors.
22	MS. VILLA:
23	Potentially his.
24	MS. GUESS:
25	Yeah.

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1	CHAIRMAN ROY:
2	All right. Thank you. Next order of
3	business is a report from Mr. Jackson, the
4	Chairman of the Screening Committee.
5	Mr. Jackson?
б	MR. JACKSON:
7	Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Screening
8	Committee met last month in absence of a
9	quorum on the main board. We considered two
10	items, one was an unsponsored EDAP for
11	Alliance Compressors. They make the
12	compressor for Carrier and Trane air
13	conditioners. And we did approve an
14	expansion. They're adding a third line, I
15	think, at least a second, but a third
16	production line to meet demand. And so we're
17	helping with an unsponsored EDAP in that
18	regard. We approved that action.
19	We also approved an additional extension
20	on Hubig's Pies. At this point last month,
21	they were still caught up in conflict between
22	the State Fire Marshal and inspections. And
23	that really was the only thing that was still
24	keeping them from getting back into the
25	building. And they were hoping to get that

1 done imminently. I don't know if Staff has heard an update 2 3 since that time. But after them explaining the circumstances, we did vote to extend one 4 5 additional time hoping that the regulatory 6 approvals would come through at that point. 7 So these both come as recommendations from the Screening Committee for your approval. 8 MS. GLOVER: 9 10 I have a question. So Hubig's that we've 11 heard before, the last time they requested an 12 extension is because there was, I think it was 13 a refrigerator, right, that they were --14 CHAIRMAN ROY: 15 Yeah, it was stuck in the --16 MS. GLOVER: 17 -- but they've gotten all that? 18 MR. JACKSON: 19 The issue, and Staff, help me because 20 it's been a month, but the issue at this point 21 was kind of a Catch 22 between the State Fire 2.2 Marshal and the FDA on some approvals of their 23 alarming systems. They had actually done some 24 additional, they had added some things to 25 their fire suppression systems and that all

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1	had to be tested before they could get
2	approval from the FDA. And it was is that
3	about the gist? Can anybody remind me?
4	MS. DOIN:
5	Yes, that's correct.
6	MR. JACKSON:
7	Yeah.
8	MS. DOIN:
9	Marissa Doin, representing Staff. So
10	they were waiting for the fire marshal to come
11	in to let them know exactly what kind of fire
12	suppression system that they needed. So the
13	system has to be put in place, and then
14	they'll come back and inspect that.
15	MR. JACKSON:
16	Okay. But there were some issues with
17	actually getting the inspectors there and
18	getting appointments set for them to come in?
19	MS. DOIN:
20	And but the refrigerator is up and is
21	cold.
22	MR. JACKSON:
23	Right. Right. Well, we do recommend
24	approval.
25	CHAIRMAN ROY:

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1	Mr. Jackson makes a motion to approve for
2	the Screening Committee's recommendation, and
3	we'll take them up one at a time. So Alliance
4	Compressors, we have a motion.
5	Second? Any discussion? Any comments
6	from the public?
7	Hearing none, all in favor, aye?
8	(AYES BY ALL).
9	CHAIRMAN ROY:
10	All opposed, nay?
11	Without objection, so approved.
12	And Hubig's Pies, similarly a motion for
13	approval per the recommendation from the
14	Screening Committee. Is there a second?
15	MR. ADLER:
16	Second.
17	CHAIRMAN ROY:
18	Seconded by Mr. Adler. And any
19	discussion? Hearing none any comments from
20	the public?
21	Hearing none, all in favor, aye?
22	(AYES BY ALL).
23	CHAIRMAN ROY:
24	All opposed, nay?
25	Without objection, so approved. Thank

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1	you, Mr. Jackson.
2	All right. Secretary Treasurer's Report,
3	Ms. Villa?
4	MS. VILLA:
5	Secretary Treasurer's report as of
6	April 29th, 2022, Fiscal Year 2022, our FY '22
7	budget for the year is \$18 million it's
8	\$18,931,985. We have approved projected
9	expenditures of \$5,430,200. And we also had a
10	pending Board approval of \$1 million, which
11	gives us a projected sub-balance of
12	\$12,501,785. And we currently \$1,975,000
13	worth of projects under review by the Staff,
14	which gives us a projected year end balance of
15	\$10,526,785.
16	The next page, it's kind of a summary of
17	our Financial Assistance Program, which we
18	have \$190,000 there. And then our State Small
19	Business Credit Initiative, just refer to that
20	as 1.0, we have a zero balance there.
21	Our next page gives us our Capital Outlay
22	Appropriation for the year, which is broken
23	out between the EDAP and the EDRED program and
24	that is comprised of EDAP \$16,306,023, of
25	which we have the detailed projects there that

make up the \$5,430,200, and then the project
we just approved for Ternium. And then we
have the detail, the projects that are
currently under review by the Staff. There's
five projects that are under review for the
\$1,975,000, which gives us a projected year
end balance for the EDAP program of
\$7,900,823.

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And our Capital Outlay Appropriation for 9 10 the EDRED program, we have \$2,435,962, and 11 that's our expected balance at the end of the 12 We do have in Priority 5 in HB2 that's year. 13 currently going through the budget process 14 through the Legislature, we have \$5 million in HB2 in Priority 5, which will allow us to 15 16 contract with any potential projects if we 17 exceed that \$7.9 million that we already have 18 the authority for.

And then if you go on to the next page, it's our fund balances. Our projected fund balance that's available is \$13 million -- I'm sorry, \$33,419,092. And our appropriation letter is \$16,234,181, which leaves us with a projected fund balance availability of \$17,184,911.

1 MR. JACKSON: 2 Do we have any reason to believe that we 3 may have some additional projects coming 4 through or is -- and I --5 MS. VILLA: 6 Yeah, we have a -- I mean I can only 7 speak that to the pipeline and we do have 8 potential projects in the pipeline that are unannounced, so I can't --9 10 MR. JACKSON: 11 Sure. 12 MS. VILLA: 13 But we do have significant projects that 14 are in the pipeline. 15 MR. JACKSON: 16 Okay. I knew times were better budget 17 wise. I wasn't sure if that was just kind of 18 a placeholder or if we had some specifics. 19 MS. VILLA: 20 Yeah. 21 MR. JACKSON: 2.2 Okay. Thank you. 23 CHAIRMAN ROY: 24 To that question, I know the LBA, the 25 convention is next week.

1 MS. RANEY: 2 Uh-huh. 3 CHAIRMAN ROY: 4 Do we have any presence there? 5 MS. RANEY: 6 Yes, we do. 7 CHAIRMAN ROY: Very good. Lots of heads shaking. Okay. 8 Any other questions/comments for 9 Ms. Villa? 10 11 Hearing none, entertain a motion to 12 accept the Treasurer's Report. 13 MR. JACKSON: 14 So moved. 15 MR. ADLER: 16 Second. 17 CHAIRMAN ROY: 18 All in favor, aye? 19 (AYES BY ALL). 20 CHAIRMAN ROY: 21 All opposed, nay? Any comments from the 22 public? 23 So ordered. Next order of business is the 24 25 Accountant's Report. Ms. Dalgo?

1 MS. DALGO: 2 Good morning. I'm Crystal Dalgo, and 3 I'll be presenting to you today the 4 Accountant's Report. Some of you may have 5 ended up with two copies. I apologize. They 6 are both the same from our revised report. 7 I'm going to start off with page one. As of March 31st, 2022, there were 18 SSBCI 1.0 8 Guaranteed Loans totaling \$3,120,202. 9 The 10 allowance for SSBCI 1.0 Guarantee Loan Losses 11 is \$561,637, and that's reflected at the 12 current rate of 18 percent. 13 Moving on to page two, we have the EDAP 14 Loan Portfolio, and there are three loans, the 15 Town of Colfax, City of Bastrop, and Town of 16 Vivian. As of April 30th, 2022, they total 17 The allowance for the EDAP Loan \$344,800. 18 Losses is set at the current rate at 15 19 percent and it is \$51,720. 20 And then, lastly, on page three, we have 21 our LDEC Guaranteed Loan Portfolio. As of 2.2 March 31st, 2022, it totals \$878,080 with one 23 loan, NOLA Detox. The allowance for LEDC 24 Guarantee Loan Losses is set at 18 percent and 25 it is \$158,054.

1And that concludes my report. Any2questions?

CHAIRMAN ROY:

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4 I have one. And Staff has historically 5 done an incredible job, the Treasurer, et 6 cetera with calculating our reserves, we've 7 never had an issue that I've ever seen. Ι 8 would just encourage just by way of history looking at some of our historical numbers as, 9 10 again, we go into a rising interest rate 11 environment and God forbid, a looming 12 recession, what that might do the reserve, so 13 just putting a bug in your ear for something 14 you might want to look at from a historical 15 standpoint. 16 Entertain a motion to accept the 17 Accountant's Report. 18 MR. LAMBERT: 19 So moved. 20 CHAIRMAN ROY: 21 Motion. 2.2 MR. ADLER: 23 Second. 24 CHAIRMAN ROY: 25 Second. Any discussion? Any comments

1	from the public?
2	Hearing none, all in favor, aye?
3	(AYES BY ALL).
4	CHAIRMAN ROY:
5	All opposed, nay? Without objection.
б	Thank you, ma'am.
7	All right. We'll just have Mr. Lambert
8	with us here today to give the President's
9	Report.
10	MR. LAMBERT:
11	Good morning. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
12	Brad Lambert, Deputy Secretary, Louisiana
13	Economic Development. Just a handful of items
14	to bring you guys kind of up to speed on this
15	morning. We are less than a month away from
16	the conclusion of the regular legislative
17	session. The session must end by six p.m. on
18	Monday, June the 6th. I'm happy to report
19	that LED as a department has been reauthorized
20	for another five years. Chairman Paula
21	Davis's House Bill 120 has passed all the way
22	through the process. And that Bill is
23	currently to the Governor's Office for
24	signature.
25	And also, we are at the, almost at the

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1	completion of the Quality Jobs Program, also
2	being reconstituted for another five years,
3	two Bills, generally similar that are at the
4	end of the process and should be getting
5	through shortly.
б	In the March LEDC meeting, I highlighted
7	the announcement at Syrah Technologies in
8	Vidalia, a \$176 million expansion of their
9	graphite processing facility there. I'm
10	pleased to report that the news since then has
11	gotten even better. The U.S. Department of
12	Energy, their Loan Programs Office on April
13	the 18th, announced a conditional commitment
14	to lend Syrah up to \$107 million to further
15	expand capacity at that facility, which
16	produces critical materials for lithium-ion
17	batteries. And it's worth noting that in
18	December, Tesla agreed to purchase about
19	70 percent of that facility's output.
20	Through the Bipartisan Infrastructure
21	Law, the U.S. Department of Energy Loan
22	Programs Office has as much as \$60 billion to
23	push out the door for various projects. And
24	it's pretty gratifying to know that Syrah in
25	Vidalia is one of the first loans that the

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1	U.S. Department of Energy Loan Programs Office
2	has agreed to make very, very good sign there.
3	I had a teams meeting last Friday morning with
4	Jigar Shah, who heads the Loan Programs
5	Office, and they are very excited about a lot
б	of things happening in Louisiana on this
7	energy transition front.
8	So they have they are very much
9	focused on Louisiana, things going on here,
10	projects going on here, whether it's in carbon
11	capture or potentially a hydrogen hub. So
12	we're keeping the lines of communications open
13	with that office, which has, as I indicated, a
14	considerable amount of federal dollars to push
15	out the door.
16	Within the last three weeks, it's been
17	kind of a busy events calendar for LED. The
18	night of April the 21st, I was present at the
19	Louisiana Growth Leaders Awards ceremony.
20	That program is focused on second stage
21	companies, and it was the fourth cohort of ten
22	companies that were awarded, a mix of
23	companies throughout the entire state.
24	Last Thursday night, we had our Small
25	Business Awards ceremony. It's worth noting

1	that the LEDC Bank of the Year was Hancock
2	Whitney, as Mr. David is not here today, but I
3	did see some Linkedin coverage earlier this
4	morning with Hancock posted on Linkedin about
5	receiving the award last Thursday night. And
6	also during that day last Thursday, LED, along
7	with some of our small development centers
8	participated in a Small Business Day at the
9	State Capitol, and more than 120 individuals
10	participated in that legislative outreach. So
11	a lot of interaction going on with legislative
12	audiences and stakeholders about the
13	importance of small businesses in our state.
14	And, finally, just a couple of notable
15	project announcements since we last gathered
16	on April the 19th, Great Southern Wood, their
17	facility in Avoyelles Parish, their lumber
18	facility announced a 22 and a half million
19	dollar expansion. It will create 58 new
20	direct jobs and retain 75 existing jobs, and
21	it will be 300 construction jobs during the
22	construction phase. So very, very good for
23	Central Louisiana, Avoyelles Parish.
24	A week or so later, April 28th, Baton
25	Rouge based Focus Foods, a \$1.7 million

expansion out of their existing Celtic Studios base of operations, they're going to move out of Celtic, add 100 new jobs and retain the 333 existing jobs in the food preparation and service sector. And then last week, May 5th, Entergy announced an expansion of its Northeast Louisiana Contact Center in West Monroe, 171 new direct jobs and retaining the 53 existing jobs within that Contact Center right now.

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11 So, again, as Undersecretary Villa 12 alluded to, we do have a lot of things going 13 Even talking to our Head of Office of on. 14 Business Development yesterday afternoon in 15 the hallway, just an almost unprecedented 16 amount of calls that we're getting, interest 17 that companies are showing, whether it's 18 getting things done before interest rates rise 19 or supply chain things getting more difficult 20 or not, but that's kind of all playing into 21 this dynamic that's happening in the market or 2.2 maybe to reshore some things and, certainly, 23 the Syrah lease in being able to really kind 24 of get a foothold in that electric vehicles 25 market, I think, is very, very important as we

1 really begin to move through this energy transition. 2 So just a couple of things I thought I 3 4 would highlight for you guys. It's always a 5 pleasure to be here. And I always thank you 6 guys for making me feel welcome. So thanks 7 very much. 8 CHAIRMAN ROY: 9 Thank you so much; great report and very 10 interesting information. 11 Next order of business are Committee 12 Assignments. Everyone should have a sheet 13 describing duties of the committees and who 14 currently is on which committees. As you can 15 see, we have some vacancies, particularly on 16 the Finance Committee, Governmental Outreach 17 Committee, and I would ask for volunteers for such committees. 18 19 We'll start with Finance, if anyone would 20 like to volunteer for the vacancy on the 21 Finance Committee? 2.2 MS. GLOVER: 23 A.J., I have a question. So I recognize 24 that there are vacancies, but I notice that we 25 also have Board vacancies. Do we not want to

1	hold some of those positions for Board
2	vacancies or do we feel like that would take
3	too long before those vacancies, the Board
4	vacancies are filled before we
5	CHAIRMAN ROY:
6	If they're imminent, I think your point
7	is excellent. Let's hear from Staff.
8	MS. GUESS:
9	It all depends on your definition of
10	imminent. I've been in communication with the
11	Office of Boards and Commissions, but they are
12	we are trying to find three nominees for
13	the two vacancies that we have. The first
14	vacancy is for a minority person that
15	represents a business person that
16	represents minority business interests. If
17	there are any individuals that you all can
18	send to us for us to submit to the Governor's
19	Office, that will be perfect. I've already
20	talked to several board members and several
21	former members about the giving us some of
22	those, some recommendations.
23	I think the biggest challenge may be with
24	the filling of the spot from the venture
25	capital world on the angel investor. It could

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1	be either or. The inherent problem with
2	probably either one of those selections is the
3	fact that we have to select someone that may
4	not be coming forward to us to take advantage
5	of our programs once we get our additional
6	funding. That's the challenge.
7	So but having said that, it's not
8	imminent. It's on my radar. It's on the
9	Boards and Commissions's radar and the
10	Secretary's radar. We've had conversations
11	about it. But right now, we're probably
12	closer to getting one to fill the Small
13	Business, the minority seat than we might be
14	with the Venture Capital seat.
15	CHAIRMAN ROY:
16	And given that answer, perhaps we should
17	do what we can to fill the vacancies. There
18	always seem to be some looming vacancies for
19	various reasons.
20	MR. JACKSON:
21	Maybe if we juggle them around.
22	CHAIRMAN ROY:
23	Exactly. We can move things around. And
24	so the Finance Committee certainly is
25	important. And in the interest of doing our

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1	best to make sure that we have a quorum going
2	forward, it would probably be best to fill
3	that, given that we may have to wait for more
4	board members. So any thoughts on who might
5	want to fill that vacancy?
6	MR. SIMPSON:
7	I will.
8	CHAIRMAN ROY:
9	All right. Mr. Simpson jumps right in.
10	Appreciate you doing that, sir. As always,
11	appreciate everyone's service on these
12	committees.
13	Let's move on to the Governmental
14	Outreach Committee, which we first and
15	foremost need a chairman for. Would anyone
16	like to volunteer to be the chairman thereof?
17	And some of these committees, this being one
18	of them, does not meet as frequently, so the
19	load is not might be lighter, if that
20	helps.
21	MR. ADLER:
22	I'll do it.
23	CHAIRMAN ROY:
24	Thank you, sir, Mr. Adler. All right.
25	Perhaps, we can pick up one more volunteer for

1 that additional vacancy. 2 MS. GLOVER: 3 I'm already on it. 4 CHAIRMAN ROY: 5 Yes, you are. Actually, you do take the chair, so we 6 need -- we still need at least one. 7 MR. ADLER: 8 9 Other than us that are here, is it just 10 Louis that's --11 CHAIRMAN ROY: 12 Yeah, I think we can volunteer -- this is 13 a good time for me to exercise my prerogative, 14 so Mr. Reine. Reine it is. 15 MR. LAMBERT: I don't think it will be bad for him. 16 17 He's probably over there right now. CHAIRMAN ROY: 18 19 Absolutely, Government Outreach without a 20 doubt. Okay. I think that's -- anything else 21 on committees from Staff? 2.2 All right. Hearing none, those will be 23 Assignments. 24 If -- it's not on the agenda, but 25 perhaps -- I know Kelly and I were speaking a

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1	couple of days ago. Would you like to give a
2	brief update on what we're hearing from the
3	Feds on our potential programs?
4	MS. RANEY:
5	Yes, I'll share some comments that we
6	talked about the other day, and Brenda may
7	have some additional comments on SSBCI. So as
8	many of you might recall, we did submit our
9	full application on February 11th with the
10	rest of the country. And as of today, we have
11	heard of only one state who has received some
12	feedback from the U.S. Treasury Office
13	regarding their application moving forward to
14	the finishing line for approval, they did have
15	some additional questions and asked for some
16	clarification points. And it's our
17	understanding that's the process they will
18	take with each application, reach out and let
19	you know that it has been selected, may have
20	some additional questions, some points of
21	clarification that we may need to answer for
22	them. And then we'll move forward with the
23	allocation agreement. One that's executed, we
24	will receive the federal funding.
25	Now we have received, as of the middle of

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1	last week, the technical assistance guidance
2	that is the second part of SSBCI. So SSBCI
3	really has two components. It's the main
4	capital bucket which is that the capital
5	funding through other credit support programs,
6	such as the capital and debt programs. It may
7	also include cap programs, but that is not a
8	particular program that was included in our
9	Louisiana application.
10	Now the second arm of SSBCI, like I just
11	mentioned, is for technical assistance. And
12	so while I'm calling it an informational sheet
13	was circulated by U.S. Treasury Office, there
14	is going to be some additional guidance coming
15	out around the details for the technical
16	assistance as well as the actual application
17	components for that. It will be a separate
18	application, which will be due on June the
19	30th.
20	Was there anything that I missed, Brenda?
21	MS. GUESS:
22	No.
23	CHAIRMAN ROY:
24	Thank you. I look forward to getting
25	things approved.

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1	MS. RANEY:				
2	Agreed.				
3	CHAIRMAN ROY:				
4	All right. Any other business before the				
5	Board?				
6	Hearing none, I'll entertain a motion to				
7	adjourn.				
8	MR. ADLER:				
9	So moved.				
10	CHAIRMAN ROY:				
11	All right. Second. We're adjourned.				
12	(WHEREUPON, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT				
13	10:28 A.M.)				
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1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE				
2	I, KELLY S. PERRIN, a Certified Court				
3	Reporter, Certificate #23035, in good standing with				
4	the State of Louisiana, as the officer before whom				
5	this testimony was taken, do hereby certify that				
6	the witnesses, to whom oath was administered, after				
7	having been duly sworn by the Hearing Officer did				
8	testify as hereinbefore set forth in the foregoing				
9	56 pages;				
10	That this testimony was reported by me in				
11	stenographic machine shorthand by Computer-Aided				
12	Transcription, transcribed by me or under my				
13	personal direction and supervision, and is a true				
14	and correct transcript to the best of my ability				
15	and understanding;				
16	That the transcript has been prepared in				
17	compliance with transcript format guidelines				
18	required by statute or by rules of the board, that				
19	I have acted in compliance with the prohibition on				
20	contractual relationships, as defined by Louisiana				
21	Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules				
22	and advisory opinions of the board; that I am not				
23	of counsel nor related to any person participating				
24	in this cause and am in no way interested in the				
25	outcome of this event.				

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1	This certification is valid only for a					
2	transcript accompanied by my handwritten or digital					
3	signature and the image of my State-authorized seal					
4	on this page.					
5	Signed:					
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7	KELLY S. PERRIN, CCR					
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	10:28 56:13 10th 6:20 7:11	4.9 10:22	action 34:18 active 9:7 30:14	apologize 42:5 application 14:16
\$				54:9,13,18 55:9,16,18
	11 30:13,17	5	actual 55:16	appointments 36:1
\$1 38:10	11th 54:9		add 48:3	appraised 23:12
\$1,975,000 38:12	120 44:21 47:9	5 25:5 39:12,15	added 8:25 9:5 20:17 35:24	approaching 14:19
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