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7	MEETING MINUTES FOR THE BOARD
8	OF THE
9	LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
10	HELD AT
11	LOUISIANA STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM BUILDING
12	FOURTH FLOOR BOARD ROOM
13	8401 UNITED PLAZA BOULEVARD
14	BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
15	ON THE 16TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2015
16	COMMENCING AT 9:30 A.M.
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20	REPORTED BY: DESIREE DELATTE, CCR, RPR
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LEDC BOARD MEETING

1	Appearances of Board Members Present:
2	A.J. Roy, III Aldren Andre
3	Quentin Messer Nitin Kamath
4	Cal Simpson Susan Tham
5	Louis Reine
6	
7	Staff Members Present:
8	Melissa Sorrell Brenda Guess
9	Errol Smith
10	Steve Baham Christian Pennington
11	Susan Bigner Ann Villa
12	Bob Cangelosi
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1	MR. ROY:
2	Good morning. Call to order the
3	board of directors for the Louisiana
4	Economic Development Corporation. Roll
5	call, please.
6	MS. SORREL:
7	A.J. Roy.
8	MR. ROY:
9	Here.
10	MS. SORRELL:
11	Jules Rousseau.
12	(No response.)
13	MS. SORRELL:
14	Alden Andre.
15	MR. ANDRE:
16	Here.
17	MS. SORRELL:
18	Quentin Messer for Secretary
19	Moret.
20	MR. MESSER:
21	Here.
22	MS. SORRELL:
23	Nitin Kamath.
24	MR. KAMATH:
25	Here.



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LEDC BOARD MEETING

1	MS. SORRELL:
2	Cal Simpson.
3	MR. SIMPSON:
4	Here.
5	MS. SORRELL:
6	Susan Tham.
7	MS. THAM:
8	Here.
9	MS. SORRELL:
10	Robert Stuart, Jr.
11	(No response.)
12	MS. SORRELL:
13	Harry Avant.
14	(No response.)
15	MS. SORRELL:
16	Louis Reine.
17	MR. REINE:
18	Here.
19	MS. SORREL:
20	We have a quorum.
21	MR. ROY:
22	Welcome, everyone. If you could
23	please silence your cell phones, I'd
24	appreciate it.
25	First order of business is the



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1	approval of minutes. We have before us the
2	board minutes of the August 15th meeting.
3	MR. ANDRE:
4	Motion.
5	MR. ROY:
6	All right. Motion for approval
7	as presented.
8	MR. SIMPSON:
9	Second.
10	MR. ROY:
11	Any discussion?
12	(No response.)
13	MR. ROY:
14	Hearing none, all in favor,
15	"aye."
16	(Several members respond "aye.")
17	All opposed, "nay."
18	(No response.)
19	MR. ROY:
20	Without objection.
21	Also before us are the screening
22	committee minutes for October 17th, November
23	14th, and December 19th. Have those been
24	approved by the screening committee already?
25	MR. ANDRE:



1	Yes.
2	MR. ROY:
3	Okay. Those are by way of
4	reference. They've been approved
5	previously.
6	MR. REINE:
7	Do we need a motion to redact?
8	MR. ROY:
9	I don't think so if they've been
10	previously approved.
11	Counsel?
12	MR. CANGELOSI:
13	It wouldn't hurt.
14	MR. ROY:
15	It wouldn't hurt. All right.
16	So we have a motion for approval as
17	presented.
18	MR. MESSER:
19	Second.
20	MR. ROY:
21	Second. Any discussion?
22	(No response.)
23	MR. ROY:
24	Hearing none, all in favor,
25	"aye."



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1	(Several members respond "aye.")
2	MR. ROY:
3	All opposed, "nay."
4	(No response.)
5	MR. ROY:
6	Without objection.
7	As per our board request, we
8	have the list of in-house approvals that
9	have been approved by the screening
10	committee as per our rules. Any questions
11	or comments on those projects?
12	(No response.)
13	MR. ROY:
14	Okay. Hearing none, we'll move
15	on.
16	Does anyone need a few minutes
17	to review them?
18	MS. THAM:
19	No.
20	MR. ROY:
21	Good. Okay. Next order of
22	business is an EDAP. Ms. Bigner. How do
23	you pronounce it? Help me out.
24	MS. BIGNER:
25	Virdia.



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1 MR. ROY: 2 Good morning. 3 MR. KINARD: 4 Good morning. 5 MS. BIGNER: 6 Good morning, everyone. I have Brian Kinard with me. He's a representative 7 for both Virdia and Ensign [ph]. This is a 8 9 project that's going to -- it's going to be 10 a new facility in Raceland. What they're 11 going to be doing is they're going to take 12 what's left after the sugar cane process --13 that biomass that has no market whatsoever 14 right now; they just stockpile it -- and 15 taking that and extracting sugars out of it. 16 Then what's left over, Ensign is going to take and create another chemical. So it's 17 18 kind a joint venture between Ensign and Virdia, Virdia B2X. 19 20 Virdia B2X is fully-owned by 21 Virdia, which is a Delaware company. Virdia 22 was started as an RND. B2X is going to be 23 taking that technology that was created in 24 Virdia Inc. and using it in the new 25 facility. They've done a 20-year land lease



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with Raceland for this process. Virdia B2X has agreed to take all responsibility for the project, 100 percent, but they're going to be using the jobs and the capital -- cap X that's going to be created through Ensign to meet their numbers. It's a \$60 million project between the two companies, and they've agreed to create 81 new jobs for a payroll of 4.8 million.

This is going to be located in Lafourche Parish. The unemployment rate as of September 2014 was 4.5 percent, compared to the state of 6.1. The per capita for Lafourche was 51,863, compared to the per capital income of 41,204 for the state.

Most of the contingencies that we have for this project are basic, except that we are assigning all responsibility for the jobs and the cap X no matter who actually it occurs to, either Ensign or Virdia.

Virdia B2X will be 100 percent responsible for all reporting and for the responsibility of the EDAP. Ensign will not sign the contract. It will only be Virdia.

So staff recommends approval of



1	it. It's for a million dollars, so that's
2	1.66 percent of the \$60 million project.
3	I've got Brian here, and he's going to say a
4	few words about the project, and then any
5	questions that you've got, I'll be more than
6	happy to answer.
7	MR. KINARD:
8	So, everybody, thank you for
9	your time. Before I start, we've been doing
10	this for several years, developing this
11	technology, and I think Louisiana needs to
12	be proud of the fact that this technology
13	actually started in Louisiana. We licensed
14	this technology originally from LSU, and
15	just last year, we purchased it from LSU, so
16	it went around the world and came back.
17	So the other thing is is since
18	over the last three or four years, we've
19	gone to almost every state looking at state
20	incentives, and pleasant experience in
21	almost every state because everybody's in

And getting back to the jobs numbers, we've already hired our first team

salesperson mode. But Kelsey Shore, Susan

and her team, we were extremely impressed.



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of technicians from a technical college, community college in Lafayette, and they're now in Virginia right now being trained.

We're extremely impressed with the quality of people we've gotten here in Louisiana, so we're really excited to come here.

Amplifying what Susan said about our copartner, Ensign, you know, what we do is -- there's a problem in Louisiana. way the sugar cane producers used to -- they just burned the bagasse in the fields. The economic -- the ecological people said, You can't do that anymore, so then they started putting it into landfills, and then they said, You can't do that anymore, either. So there are piles of this bagasse all over southern Louisiana. Raceland has almost a mountain of it. They produce about 80,000 tons of it more every year. What we do is we're going to take that 80,000 tons per year and convert it into a different type of sugar; it's called xylose. It actually has a higher purchase price than regular refined sugar.

So we feel that not only are we



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creating jobs for the state of Louisiana, but we're solving an economical problem.

One of the other things you guys may or may not know: When you process the gas, you know, the machine pulls the sugarcane out and it leaves the leaves on the fields, and those leaves just stay on the field, and after two or three years, it accumulates enough chemicals in the field. They do crop rotation. So every four years, the field sits dormant, and this is very preliminary.

One of our research projects with Raceland is we found that we can actually convert the leaves into sugar. So one of the efforts we're looking at now is actually taking the leaves and converting those into sugar also. If we're successful in that, then crop rotation can be eliminated and, effectively, you could theoretically increase the amount of sugar produced in the state of Louisiana by 25 percent without increasing the amount of land necessary.

So we're really excited to be



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1	here, kind of working with the people here.
2	We're starting with Raceland. We're already
3	talking to Sterling and Enterprise, which
4	are two other sugar producers. We're really
5	excited to be here.
6	MS. BIGNER:
7	And I apologize. The million
8	dollars is going to be for the washing
9	system, which is equipment. I forgot to
10	mention that. I apologize.
11	MR. KINARD:
12	The value of that piece of
13	equipment is \$5.3 million. We're still in
14	the design phase. The, you know, worse
15	thing I know, from a financial
16	perspective, you've got to cover your
17	investment. From a financial perspective,
18	if something really bad happened, the
19	equipment alone is worth over \$1 million, so
20	I think the state of Louisiana is pretty
21	secure in their investment.
22	MS. BIGNER:
23	Because we're using that
24	equipment as the collateral for the EDAP as
25	well.



1	MR. ROY:
2	Any questions, comments?
3	MR. ANDRE:
4	I have a question. I'm from a
5	sugarcane family, so I'm pretty familiar
6	with what you're talking about. Is this the
7	first commercial operation of this?
8	MR. KINARD:
9	Yes, sir it is. And one of the
10	questions that Susan had put in her
11	application was, you know, Why do you need
12	the million dollars? And this is a \$60
13	million project. You know, why a million
14	dollars? The million dollars is critical
15	because it's the tipping point from our
16	financial perspective. It reduces our cap X
17	by just enough so that the risk of scaling
18	up to full scale for this first factory is
19	justified.
20	So what Louisiana is really
21	providing us is the opportunity to take on
22	our investor, which is the parent company,
23	Stora Enso, to take on this full-scale
24	investment, and once we approve this out, we



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don't need -- no offense, but we don't need

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1	the million dollars for factory number two.
2	We're already planning an expansion in
3	Raceland. That second factory is going to
4	be much more economical because we're going
5	to be further up a learning curve.

MR. ANDRE:

And you have a proven market for this?

MR. KINARD:

Yes, sir. There's this -- this sugar is called xylose, and you can look it up. Xylose is right now used in all chewing gum. Xylose has an interesting consequence in that it actually prevents tooth decay, and it also doesn't hydrolyze in your body, so it's a nondiabetic alterative to sugar.

The problem is right now xylose is made by one company, which is Dupont.

They pretty much have 100 percent market share. It's 95 cents a pound. So because it's so expensive -- and sugar, as you know, is 15, 16 cents per pound. Because it's so expensive, only the chewing gum companies actually use it. They want it because, pound for pound, it's 40 percent sweeter, so



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you can pack more sweetness in chewing gum.

we believe that we can produce xylose for about 20 cents per pound, more expensive than refined sugar, but once you can sell it for 20 cents a pound, all the sudden you're selling it to companies like Colgate and Proctor and Gamble, and they're putting it in toothpaste. A lot of people don't know this, but toothpaste has about 25 percent sugar. Your kids are brushing their teeth with sugar every day.

So we're hoping that we can expand the market for xylose by this opportunity.

MR. ANDRE:

One more question. I'm familiar with the mountains of bagasse. I'm familiar with the Almont [ph] sugar refinery, and they've got a huge amount. Obviously, that stuff -- will that stuff deteriorate over time? You're going to be taking from it all year, but it's been stored a long time.

Will your stock deteriorate with that? Is it going to be the same at the end of year?

MR. KINARD:



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1	Excellent question. So you say
2	you're a sugar guy. I grew up on a hay farm
3	in Texas, and if you see those round hay
4	bills, the outside of the hay is bad, but it
5	serves as a roof for the hay on the inside.
6	If you look at the inside of a one-year-old
7	hay bill, it's nice and green on the inside.
8	What we found from those piles of bagasse is
9	the top three or four feet and what he's
10	talking about is there are these mountains
11	of bagasse that have been there for years,
12	and the first three or four feet is
13	composted. It's pretty much just useless,
14	but we've done bore samples, and right
15	underneath, it's as if it had been processed
16	the day before.
17	MR. ANDRE:
18	Can I ask one more question?
19	MR. ROY:
20	Yes, sir.
21	MR. ANDRE:
22	The next thing, how are you
23	going to get the leaves into your factory?
24	MR. KINARD:
25	That's the biggest problem.



1	We're in the process of talking about that
2	right now. Again, I'm a hay farmer. We
3	have worked these wide, cheap rakes where we
4	run through the field and rake up all the
5	hay into a nice row. A guy comes behind it,
6	bales it into hay. We're thinking maybe it
7	might be a process like that, because, as
8	you know, as you know better than I do,
9	sugarcane is not plowed up and replanted
10	every year. They use the same plant every
11	three years, so they're going to have this
12	thing that you're going to have to rake
13	over. We haven't quite figured out the
14	technology.
15	MR. ANDRE:
16	They burn the leaves right now.
17	MR. KINARD:
18	Sir?
19	MR. ANDRE:
20	They burn the leaves right now.
21	So if these things are all wet and soggy and
22	muddy, how are you going to get them up?
23	Because they're sitting there hauling cane
24	in the rain and mud.



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MR. KINARD:

1 Yes. It's a very good question. 2 That's one of the things that we're working on right now, and actually the Duplantis 3 4 family that runs the Raceland facility has us talking to the farmers, because they 5 actually do sharecropping on the land. And 6 we're working with farmers now to trying to 7 8 figure out how to collect that, the leaves. 9 MR. ANDRE: 10 Ouite a chore. 11 MR. KINARD: Here's the interesting part. 12 13 buy -- and you can see this on our lease. 14 We buy the bagasse. The mountain of 15 bagasse, we buy for a dollar a ton from 16 them, so we're getting it very, very 17 inexpensively. The fresh bagasse that comes 18 off every year, we're paying about \$30 per 19 The leaves in the field actually have 20 a negative value because of this deterioration effect, so if we can -- if it 21 22 costs us less than \$30 a ton to collect 23 that, we're ahead of the game. So there's a 24 lot of money in that. 25 MR. ANDRE:



1	It's solving an environmental
2	problem as well, because it's really bad.
3	MR. KINARD:
4	Yes, sir. And, again, if we can
5	eliminate crop rotation, we can increase the
6	output of the state of Louisiana for sugar.
7	MR. ANDRE:
8	Thank you.
9	MR. REINE:
10	I am just curious. You detect
11	the bagasse and then extract the sugar.
12	What do you do with the leftover product?
13	MR. KINARD:
14	Very good question. So what the
15	Raceland family the Raceland wants us to
16	do is completely get rid of us it,
17	completely consume it. Virdia, our process,
18	we consume about 60 percent of the mass of
19	the bagasse. The rest of the bagasse is
20	what we call processed bagasse. The last
21	thing Raceland wants us to do is to send
22	that back to the pile, because we've only
23	reduced the pile by 60 percent. That's
24	where Ensign comes in. Ensign comes in



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behind us, and they have a process called

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1	pyrolysis. They take that remaining 40
2	percent, and they convert it into an oil
3	called pyrolysis oil. Pyrolysis oil has a
4	very wide market because it's an essential
5	ingredient in the manufacture of ethanol.
6	One of the reasons that Ensign
7	is important to us, because we need that
8	other 40 percent consumed, but it's not
9	critical to Virdia, which means that we're
10	able to guarantee their cap X and their
11	jobs. The pyrolysis oil process is pretty
12	well known, and if, for some reason, Ensign
13	just pulls the rip chord and doesn't come in
14	with us, we can either do it ourselves or we
15	can hire someone else to consume that
16	remaining bagasse.
L7	MR. ANDRE:
18	One more question.
19	MR. REINE:
20	I was going to ask another
21	question, but go ahead.
22	MR. ANDRE:
23	What is the footprint of your
24	facility? How large how many acres of
25	land does it take to install your facility?



Т	MR. KINARD:
2	So our first facility is
3	we're going to consume 80 kilotons per year
4	of bagasse. We're going to produce 7.2
5	kilotons per year of xylose. Everything,
6	including the staging, the hopper, the
7	washing system, everything is 22 acres. The
8	reason Bob Jansen, our CPO, was not able to
9	come today and talk to you is he's actually
10	in Raceland this morning because we're
11	actually expanding from 22 acres to 60 acres
12	in Raceland. Because our studies are
13	showing this thing is going to be so
14	successful, we're already planning our
15	expansion in Raceland. We have a dead and
16	set feeling that once we it becomes well
17	known that you can actually make money with
18	bagasse, other people are going to start
19	coming into Louisiana and doing this, too.
20	MR. ANDRE:
21	You mentioned three sugar
22	plantations. Do you know of any others?
23	MR. KINARD:
24	No, sir. Only those three.
25	Those three are owned by the same family,



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1	which is the Patout family. They locked us
2	in on exclusivity, so we have to buy from
3	them first before we go to anyone else.
4	MR. ROY:
5	Good.
6	MR. REINE:
7	I move for approval based on the
8	satisfied contingencies.
9	MR. ANDRE:
10	Second.
11	MR. ROY:
12	Motion for approval as
13	presented. Any other discussion or
14	questions?
15	MR. MESSER:
16	Second.
17	MR. ANDRE:
18	I seconded already.
19	MR. MESSER:
20	Oh, you already seconded?
21	MR. ROY:
22	Got a third. Okay. All right.
23	Any comments from the public?
24	(No response.)
25	MR. ROY:



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1	Hearing none, all in favor, aye.
2	(Several members respond "aye.")
3	MR. ROY:
4	All opposed, nay.
5	(No response.)
6	MR. ROY:
7	Without objection.
8	Congratulations. Please keep us
9	posted on your success.
10	MR. KINARD:
11	Well, thank you very much.
12	Again, we're very excited to be here, and I
13	think it's a great symbiosis.
14	MR. ROY:
15	It is. Thank you.
16	MS. BIGNER:
17	Thank you very much.
18	MR. ROY:
19	Next order of business. Mr.
20	Pennington. Avenue Development, LLC, the
21	SSBCI program.
22	Good morning gentlemen, if you
23	can turn your microphone on, we'd appreciate
24	it.
25	MR. PENNINGTON:



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1	Good morning, guys.
2	MR. ROY:
3	Good morning.
4	MR. PENNINGTON:
5	I'd like to introduce Mr. Jim
6	Lyons from First National Bank and Mr
7	Dr. David Foreman. He's a business owner.
8	This is the second loan we've done with
9	First National Bank. They had done one
10	about six to ten months ago, I believe, and
11	I'm really excited to see them come back to
12	use our program again, and I really
13	appreciate Dr. David coming today. He had a
14	surgery this morning, so they were really in
15	a rush to get here. I was waiting
16	downstairs for them.
17	Like I said, Dr. David Foreman
18	is one of the owners of the business we're
19	considering this morning. What we're
20	considering is a construction of a new
21	convenience store in Maurice, Louisiana.
22	It's going to be located at 9403 Maurice
23	Avenue. It's at the corner of US Highway
24	167 and LA Highway 92. Right now it's
25	currently a green field. There's nothing



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there. It's a signal intersection at two commercial ulterior roadways with a current average traffic count of 27,000, so there's 27,000 people that go through this intersection a day.

They had an outside person do a feasibility study on the site, IMST, who's a consulting firm, and they came with the data for that, and that feasibility study is in your packet, if you want to look at it.

It's on page 37 of my analysis.

But what we'll be talking about today, the building and the improvements will be 1.3 million. The bank had \$480,000 already financed for the land itself.

That's going to be rolling into this loan.

We won't be guaranteeing that, because it's against the rules of doing refinance.

So the total project is going to be 2.4 million. The term structure of the loan is going to be a ten-year loan amortized over 15 years with a bloom in 10, and our guarantee is going to cover the first seven years of the construction period.



Now, there's going to be, like, a six- to nine-month period of -- a construction period, and before the term, the permanent finance goes into place and we'll be covering that as well. Basically, the interest rate for the first six months, the construction period, is going to be 5 percent interest only. After that, it's going to be a term loan with a fixed rate of 5 percent, and then after the first five years, it will become a floating. It's going to be Wall Street Journal prime plus one for reporters.

The collateral offer is going to be the land itself. It will first going for mortgage on the 1.8 acres of lands and improvements located at 9403 Maurice Avenue, Maurice, Louisiana, and we're going to have personal guarantees of the owners.

The staff recommends approval of the request for the loan guarantee not to exceed 1,900,467.50 based on 75 percent of the 1.4 million term loan, excluding any bank finance fees or costs under the Louisiana Small Business Loan Guarantee



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1	Program. The LEDC will utilize SSBCI funds
2	for the entire period, and this
3	recommendation is subject to the bank's
4	commitment letter and our standard
5	contingencies.

Any questions on this project or anything you'd like to discuss? Mr. Jim, would you like to say anything about this?

MR. LYONS:

I guess, first off, thank you y'all for having us today. As far as this project here, if you're familiar or not with Lafayette or the Lafayette area, Maurice is a pretty huge growth site for Lafayette. As Christian said, 27,000 traffic count in a rural area shows you what kind of cars are going through this site.

As far as convenience stores, when Dr. Foreman and his partner approached us about -- it's been about a year we've been looking at this and putting it together -- we first looked at, you know, competition in the area, and there's very little competition in Maurice, Louisiana, as you can probably well imagine if you've been



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through there as far as not only convenience stores, but also places to eat, you know, fuel up, all that stuff. There's not a whole lot, so we feel like between the site and the need and demand in that area, this is going to be a very good project for these guys, for the bank, for everybody.

So we like the project. I'm sure you saw the package, the site analysis done by IMSE. We've seen similar analyses by them in the past for other projects we've done. They're usually pretty much right on the money, if not even more conservative than the actual numbers tend to be, so we forget about that. We figured about the projections. We like the project and we hope y'all do, too.

MR. PENNINGTON:

What I thought was interesting about the IMSE projections was they use a much smaller markup on retail for the gasoline sales than they had and the average had been for the past several years, so it is a conservative estimate. They used 12 cents markup off of the gallon of gas,



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	whereas last year it was 19 cents on
	average, and then the last three years I
	think it averaged 17 cents. So it is a
	conservative projection as far as that goes.
п	

And, Dr. David, do you have anything you'd like to say?

DR. FOREMAN:

Well, it's been a fun project for me because it's not something that we have typically done in the past. We have a number of other little businesses that we've taken advantage of.

The first thing that we looked at was an area that was underserved. I think we're going to be an asset to the area, and I know this: I know the whole community is actually very excited about it. I've talked to the Alderman and the police jury and the different citizens, and everybody truly is excited, because right now they have a captive -- they're a captive to the one main station that they have there, even though it's a really very significantly growing area, both to the west, south, and the east.



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The east is Youngsville, which
is kind of analogous to Ascension Parish,
growing heavily. Well, what do they plan to
have right there at the intersection? One
day they plan a loop there. That's right
where the loop is going to go, so I think
that's going to be a much bigger area.
We're going to be primed and ready to go for
that. We plan on having my comment was
we don't want a station to compete with
who's there. We want a station to compete
with everybody who will ever come there.
That's what our plan is, and we'll be full
service.

One of the guys who's going to end up being an owner, because he can't afford it right now, but our goal is and we've set certain parameters up, financial parameters. When we've met those, he will then assume ownership or part ownership of that station.

I am of the belief that we want people to own part of the projects that we have, and he will, therefore, be part on it. Could not have been otherwise. But his



forte is two-fold. Number one, he's an old 1 2 restauranteur. We're going to be huge in the restaurant and food business. 3 4 where, I guess, honestly, where the big markup is, but that's also a needed 5 6 commodity in that area. But he also brings another thing, another concept, and that is 7 8 what he has done over the last few years in addition to food is he's the guy who works 9 10 for the sales distributors on the order end. 11 In other words, we would be buying from his 12 store at the present time. So he knows the 13 business from multiple different aspects, 14 both from a provider aspect as well as a distributor aspect. So we think -- we're 15 16 comfortable with him.

We also have room for other retail businesses that can be in there, all of which will be planned on, again, the basis of need for the parish and the community. It's the northern aspect of Vermilion, southern aspect of Lafayette.

I'm pleased to say that we will be the first station, at least that we know of, and we're using Lord Oil as our distributor, which is



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out of Hammond. We're the first distributor
that will be allowed to have both
non-ethanol and ethanol products and diesel
at the same pump. So you'll be able to
select them all at that pump. It's a new
pump coming out of -- Gilbarco is the name
of the company.

But we ask the oil companies,
Why can't you do that? Because it's against
the law. Now, you may see some stations
that will have them under the same canopy,
but it's not considered to be -- it's not
been approved by the fuel distributors.
This is approved. This has been approved by
Texaco, which is who we've chosen to use.

Texaco is starting a whole new division. They're going to try to revamp their stations. They want to get back into business, so I think that's a good thing. We're going with somebody who wants to get back into the mainstream business of fuel sales. We think it's good. But furthermore, they've allowed us to put that non-ethanol under the same canopy, which I think is kind of nice.



1	So you'll be able to pull your
2	boats up. We've talked to other we've
3	done our homework in regards of that, and we
4	think that we'll be able to provide maybe
5	28,000 gallons a month of non-ethanol gas
6	because we're on the main highway down to
7	the bay, and right now there's no money
8	offers in non-ethanol gas. It's for the
9	votes. So we'll be that supplier. In fact,
10	we've already made news in some of the
11	hunting and fishing magazines, unknown to
12	us, but we've heard about it. So it seems
13	that the hunting and fishing community is
14	excited about that new offering. So that's
15	what I do know.
16	But we're excited about it, and
17	we appreciate everyone's support here. It's
18	very nice. In our opinion, the State has
19	stepped up and has helped us. So any
20	questions, I'm happy to answer.
21	MR. ROY:
22	Any questions or comments?
23	MR. ANDRE:
24	Motion for approval.
25	MR. ROY:



1	Motion for approval is
2	presented.
3	MR. SIMPSON:
4	Second.
5	MR. ROY:
6	Second. Any discussion?
7	(No response.)
8	MR. ROY:
9	Hearing none, all in favor, aye.
10	(Several members respond "aye.")
11	MR. ROY:
12	All opposed, nay.
13	(No response.)
14	MR. ROY:
15	Any comments from the public?
16	(No response.)
17	MR. ROY:
18	Hearing none, motion passes.
19	DR. FOREMAN:
20	I'd like to say something about
21	that last project. I thought it was
22	interesting, but I'm a head and neck
23	surgeon. I'm here to confess that we see,
24	from September, October, November, December,
25	when whey start burning the cane, our



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1	business triples, probably because of that.
2	It is truly an environmental issue.
3	MR. ANDRE:
4	Right.
5	DR. FOREMAN:
6	And you can't believe the
7	amount, and there's nothing that's an
8	inflammatory illness. Everybody says it's
9	allergic. No, it's not allergic; it's
10	inflammatory. We can't use antihistamines
11	on those people, so they end up increasing
12	their sinus infections and those kind of
13	things, and I don't know about you, but in
14	our town in Lafayette, there's just tons of
15	ash coming down, and when you get it on your
16	shoes and bring it inside, now you have ash
17	all over the carpet.
18	So if they're saying I came
19	in late, but if they're saying that this is
20	going to circumvent burning cane is that
21	what I heard?
22	MR. ANDRE:
23	Right.
24	DR. FOREMAN:
25	That's awesome. I think that's



1	awesome.
2	MR. ROY:
3	Good point. Thank you, Doctor.
4	Congratulations. Please keep
5	us posted, and best wishes.
6	DR. FOREMAN:
7	Thank you.
8	MR. LYONS:
9	Thank y'all very much.
10	MR. PENNINGTON:
11	Thank you.
12	MR. ROY:
13	Next order of business is the
14	treasurer's report. Ms. Villa.
15	MS. VILLA:
16	Good morning. I have the
17	secretary of treasurer's report as of
18	January 16, 2015, for fiscal year '15. On
19	the summary page, our financial assistance
20	program has a budget for FY15 of 190,000,
21	and that is our projected year end balance.
22	For our states's small business credit
23	initiative, our budget is 1,934,394. We
24	have approved projected expenses of
25	2,336,200, which gives us a subtotal of a



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1	negative 401,806, and we have the pending
2	board approval of 272,857, which gives us a
3	negative balance of 674,673, and then we
4	have a project under review for 60,938,
5	which gives us a projected year end balance
6	of a negative 735,611. Not to be alarmed,
7	on the second page, which has the details
8	we've got our third tranche, which we are
9	waiting for the treasury with the
10	appropriation authority of \$4,342,922. So
11	once we get that third tranche, we'll be
12	back into the positive.

On our capital outlay appropriations for EDAP, our FY15 budget is 12,963,721. We have already approved projected expenditures of 5,630,000, and then we have the board pending approval, which was approved today, of a million dollars, which leaves us with a balance of 6,333,721, and we have projects under review of 5,307,500, which give us a year end projected balance of 1,026,221.

Our capital outlay appropriation for EMRED [ph], we have a budget for fiscal year '15 of 725,314, and we have approved



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projected expenditures of \$330,005, and that's -- we have no -- we have no pending board approvals, so that will be our projected year end balance.

The detail for the financial assistance program and state small business initiative is on page 2. It lists the many projects that we've already approved this fiscal year and the one that we just approved, and so that, as you can see, the detail to what the year end balance projection of 700 -- a negative 735,611, but, again, we should be receiving that third tranche really soon.

On the third page of the report, we have our capital outlay appropriation, which shows all our many projects that we have approved through the EDAP program this year, along with the Virdia project today, so we're projecting a year end balance of 1,026,221. I think there was a concern about this time last year as to the many EDAPs that we hadn't been bringing forth to the board, so as we had projected, an increase in volume we have seen this year



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1	we'll continue to see. And I think Susan
2	has a report on the existing projects that
3	we still have under review as a separate
4	handout for the board.
5	And then on the fourth page is
6	our actual Louisiana Development fund
7	balance and what our projections are as well
8	as what the actuals were for '14. So we're
9	projecting a fund balance availability of
10	\$17,479,268 and total expenditures of
11	17,110,033, which leaves us with a balance
12	of 369,235, and we also have a total revenue
13	expected of 673,917 on the un-obligated fund
14	balance for the capital outlay
15	appropriations, which would leave us with a
16	balance of 1,033,152 at the end of this
17	fiscal year.
18	Any questions on the secretary
19	of treasurer's report? Susan, do you have
20	the separate handout?
21	MS. BIGNER:
22	Yes. I've already handed it
23	out. It has a list of the pending projects
24	from the EDAP. A couple of them are still
25	on there. I tried to update when was the



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latest term that -- when was the last time that I had any contact on that project and what type of update they are.

The first three are still pending. I have not heard too much about them. Elmer Candy is a new one. I'm expecting them to put in an application, so it would probably go to the board. If not next month, it will be March. Cool Planet, the other two facilities for Cool Planet are still on there. We're expecting one later this year and then next year, the third one. Crest Industries, they've got their application, and I'm expecting it sometime next week. So I'm kind of expecting that they'll either go through February or March.

O-Xylene is a project you're probably familiar with. We did a loan guarantee. They've also been offered an EDAP. I've also spoke to them and expecting their contract. Paperwork's still pending as well as Set Point NFR, and then Virdia was the one that we approved today.

If you've got any questions, I'd be happy to answer them.



1 MR. ROY: 2 Questions or comments? 3 MR. ANDRE: 4 Thank you for this. MR. ROY: 5 6 After the next tranche, we will receive all the projected projects that we 7 8 have in place for anything that carries. 9 MS. VILLA: 10 Well, two separate things. SSBCI dollars that we have, the 4 million, 11 probably better -- Brendan can think of how 12 13 that will take us. It usually takes us 14 about a year to go through the tranche. 15 Year, year and a half. Probably a year now 16 since we've increased our marketing and we've done those many efforts that we did 17 18 this past year. We've seen an increase in 19 the volume of participation from the banks, 20 so probably a year to go. 21 MS. GUESS: 22 Maybe a year. I will say that 23 if we had not had the increased activity, it 24 would have taken us longer, but right now, I 25 think Christian has several items that are



1	expected in this week that are pending. So
2	I would say in probably about a year. The
3	activity has really increased, and I think
4	if we we should get our second third
5	tranche. We should have it by our next
6	board meeting, and if so, I'll plan to give
7	an updated report at that time.
8	MR. ROY:
9	Very good. Anyone else?
10	Questions, comments.
11	MS. VILLA:
12	And then the second item,
13	separate from the SSBCI is the EDAP, so
14	we're projected to have a balance of a
15	million dollars at the end of the year.
16	This does not include 10 million dollars
17	that we have in key 5, which is in the
18	capital outlay HBT bill, so if we do have
19	other projects that come forth, we can enter
20	into contracts with those, and we expect to
21	have that P5 moved to P1 this session. So
22	whenever HBT has presented this session.
23	MR. ROY:
24	Okay. Thank you. Any motions
25	to accept the treasurer's report?



1	MR. REINE:
2	Motion.
3	MR. ANDRE:
4	Second.
5	MR. ROY:
6	Motion and second. Any
7	discussion? All in favor, aye.
8	(Several members respond "aye.")
9	MR. ROY:
10	All opposed, nay.
11	(No response.)
12	MR. ROY:
13	Any comments from public?
14	Hearing none, it's approved.
15	The accounts report. Mr. Smith.
16	MR. SMITH:
17	Good morning. I'll start this
18	report. LEDC status report as of December
19	31, 2014. I don't have any bad news to
20	report. Every loan that we have is
21	reporting. We have two that's late. We
22	have M&M, which is SSBCI. I'm sorry. Let
23	me just start over. M&M Realty, which is
24	the car dealership that's been delinquent
25	for some time now. We have A-Vets [ph].



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That's a direct loan. It's paying on time. 1 2 I think in about maybe four months, they will have completely paid that out. 3 4 EDAP, we still have the same, Cofax [ph].

That's one annual payment a year. Argo, 6 CPS, they're all paying on time. They have a total balance of 1,151,742 at the end of 7

8 December.

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If you look on the second page, we have this, the old program to guarantee loans, we only have three currently. will fall off in January, so that will be a reminder of two. They're all current, paying on time. The next page just shows the allowances that we're required to have on each different type of loan. If you look at the next page, we have the current SSBCI loans. I show 23 current loans. If I'm not mistaken, I think the Natchez of New Orleans closed recently for a total of 7,344,560. M&M loan, it's delinquent. It's been delinquent for some time. The guarantee has now reduced to 25 percent. They've been called that loan. If I'm not mistaken, in October this year, it falls off as well.



1	that's pretty much the same news I've had
2	for the last I don't know how many
3	months, but that's it. We have pretty good
4	loans. Thank you very much.
5	MR. ROY:
6	Any questions or comments?
7	MR. ANDRE:
8	Move to accept the report.
9	MR. ROY:
10	Motion to accept the report.
11	MS. THAM:
12	Second.
13	MR. ROY:
14	Any discussion?
15	(No response.)
16	MR. ROY:
17	Hearing none, all in favor, aye.
18	(Several members respond "aye.")
19	MR. ROY:
20	All opposed, nay.
21	(No response.)
22	MR. ROY:
23	You have a record that's envious
24	of bankers. I'm glad to see that Puppy Love
25	is love is paying.



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1 MR. SMITH: 2 Yes. Yes. 3 MR. ROY: 4 All right. The president's 5 Mr. Messer. report. 6 MR. MESSER: Good morning, everyone. 7 I will 8 be very brief, because I'm between you and 9 an asset, so I think we've got some other 10 matters. First off, I want to thank 11 12 everybody for their participation. I know 13 it's a sacrifice, and I know that this crew 14 has sort of come together, and I think it's 15 very important as we try to push forward, so 16 thank you for making it. One thing I do want to highlight is I did pass out LED's 17 18 selected economic highlights for your 19 In that document, you'll have a perusal. 20 sense of what we've accomplished. You are 21 an important part of that, so I want to 22 highlight that and also thank our staff. 23 with that, I will be quiet and open up for 24 any questions if you have it, but that's



what I have formally.

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1 MR. REINE: 2 The projected construction particularly around Lake Charles and the 3 4 other areas, where are we progressing as far as the projected timeline? Are they on 5 6 schedule, behind schedule, ahead of 7 schedule? 8 MR. MESSER. 9 Well, that's a great question. 10 So I think it's largely a project-by-project 11 type of question. I think Sasol is 12 certainly progressing. That's our largest 13 out there. They're progressing in the 14 timeline with the drop of oil prices that 15 may slow down some other projects, some of 16 the other LED projects, but Sasol, which is 17 the largest construction, is progressing as 18 we would anticipate. 19 MR. REINE: 20 On both their projects? 21 MR MESSER: 22 As far as I know. 23 MR. REINE: 24 Okay. Thank you. 25 MR. ROY:



1	Anyone else? Questions,
2	comments? Thank you. All right. The next
3	order of business, which is on the amended
4	agenda at this time again to elect officers,
5	to elect chairpersons, vice chairmen, and
6	any can. If someone doesn't want it, I'll
7	continue to do it. If someone does, please
8	say so.
9	MR. REINE:
10	I got a question for you before
11	we proceed with that. Is seems that
12	everybody's term is expired. Are we
13	approved by the appointees, required to have
14	approval?
15	MS. GUESS:
16	Well, basically, you are
17	you're served until replaced.
18	MR. REINE:
19	That's true, but they also
20	passed a law a couple years ago that if
21	you're not replaced and you continue to
22	serve, that you have to be reapproved by the
23	Senate, if we're confirmed by the Senate.
24	MS. GUESS:
25	We've not received any



1	communication from
2	MR. REINE:
3	Well, there is no procedure, but
4	that's what the law says.
5	MS. GUESS:
6	Okay.
7	MR. REINE:
8	So I'm concerned about why we
9	haven't been reappointed.
10	MS. GUESS:
11	That I can't answer. The office
12	of boards and commissions are who we, you
13	know, get the directives from. Someone
14	asked the question of why haven't we gotten
15	a new member appointed. We've had a member,
16	too, that was resigned, Shelly Farlow [ph]
17	almost three years ago, and she's not been
18	replaced. So that's a function of the
19	office of the government's office of
20	boards and commissions.
21	MR. REINE:
22	Okay. Will you look into I
23	may be mistaken, but I don't think so.
24	There was a statute passed a couple years
25	ago that said that if you continue to serve,



1	
1	you have to be reconsidered by the Senate
2	within, like, a two-year period, and I don't
3	know that there's a procedure to do it, the
4	set u. I went through that with another
5	board.
6	MS. GUESS:
7	We'll look into it.
8	MR. REINE:
9	I think we ought to know about
10	it.
11	With that, Mr. Chairman, I
12	nominate you to continue as chairman, and
13	I'm sure somebody will second.
14	MR. SIMPSON:
15	Second.
16	MR. ROY:
17	If anyone wants it, please, you
18	know
19	MR. REINE:
20	I move the nominations be
21	closed.
22	MR. SIMPSON:
23	Second.
24	MR. REINE:
25	I cast a vote and move that you



1	be elected via acclamation.
2	MR. ROY:
3	Thank you very much. I
4	appreciate your vote of confidence, and I'll
5	continue to try to do my best. The vice
6	chairman position is currently off
7	nomination. That is Mr. Andre.
8	MR. REINE:
9	I move to nominate Mr. Andre.
10	MR. ROY:
11	Motion to nominate Mr. Andre.
12	MR. MESSER:
13	Second.
14	MR. REINE:
15	Mr. Chairman, I move the
16	nominations be closed.
17	MR. SIMPSON:
18	Second.
19	MR. ROY:
20	Second. All in favor of the
21	motion to close the nominations, "aye."
22	(Several members respond "aye.")
23	MR. ROY:
24	All opposed.
25	(No response.)



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1	MR. REINE:
2	Mr. Chairman, I cast a vote to
3	move that Alden Andre be elected vice
4	chairman by acclamation.
5	MR. ROY:
6	And so he shall be. Thank you,
7	Mr. Andre. Congratulations.
8	Okay. Let's all right. We
9	have other housekeeping business just on
10	committees. As all of you know, we have not
11	had extensive any extensive meetings.
12	The committees have not had any extensive
13	meetings. We've handled a lot of things
14	just by the full board, but, nonetheless,
15	it's important that we have the committees
16	established and, as necessary, the meeting.
17	So the committees are the executive
18	committee, and let's see. I might let
19	Brenda elaborate on this a little bit more,
20	if she'd like to, on just the committees and
21	who has to be on what and et cetera.
22	MS. GUESS:
23	Okay. They're going to give me
24	a copy of what you guys are looking at. The
25	if I could just the executive



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1	committee has been, I think, in the past
2	that we've not very much haven't utilized
3	that executive committee as much as we
4	mentioned because of the change that was
5	made in the resolution with the resolution
6	last year to allow the screening committee
7	to convene to hear projects in the event we
8	couldn't convene a board. So I'm going to
9	defer and ask for the assistance of Mr.
10	Cangelosi as well. I'm not certain if we
11	we may have to look to see if this
12	particular board is still a committee is
13	still one that might be viable. We can
14	it appears that what takes place is that
15	these are still the committee chair and the
16	chairman of the board, the chairman of the
17	screening committee, and the various chairs
18	of the other standing committees. And to my
19	recollection, we've not had to convene one
20	to take care of any additional business that
21	was not taken care, either at a full board
22	or at one of those standing committees.
23	MR. ROY:
24	Let me ask this of the board
25	members: I assume everyone has a copy. Is



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1	everyone content with the committees that			
2	they are on, and would anyone like to be on			
3	a different committee or additional			
4	committees?			
5	MS. THAM:			
6	I'd like to be on the finance			
7	committee.			
8	MR. ROY:			
9	Okay. I think that's a great			
10	idea, so let's do that.			
11	MR. SIMPSON:			
12	Should we add it or replace			
13	somebody?			
14	MR. ROY:			
15	Perhaps we've not seen Mr.			
16	Stuart in a while. I think you should be			
17	the chairman. Everyone okay with that?			
18	MR. MESSER:			
19	Do we need a formal motion for			
20	that?			
21	MR. CANGELOSI:			
22	Yes.			
23	MR. ANDRE:			
24	I second.			
25	MR. REINE:			



1	I have a question. Doesn't the
2	chairman just appoint the committee members?
3	MR. ROY:
4	Usually, but I'd prefer if it's
5	by acclamation.
6	MR. REINE:
7	I'm just wondering.
8	MR. ROY:
9	I think technically, yes, I have
10	that ability, but I prefer if it's by
11	acclamation so everybody's on the same page.
12	So let's do that. And any other changes any
13	of you think are in order or anyone like to
14	be added to a different committee or taken
15	off of a committee?
16	MR. MESSER:
17	Just I was just talking with
18	A.J. I think for policy maybe we
19	probably need a make a similar change with
20	Harry Avant, and I suggest that Cal Simpson
21	be made chairman of that committee.
22	MR. ROY:
23	Simpson, you're okay with that?
24	MR. SIMPSON:
25	Sure.



1	MR. ROY:
2	Anyone else have any thoughts on
3	that subject? Very good. Mr. Simpson will
4	be the chairman of the committee and added
5	to it. Any other changes, recommendations,
6	et cetera?
7	MR. REINE:
8	I'm just curious. Is Avant
9	staying on the committee or
10	MR. ROY:
11	I think so. I think we
12	MR. REINE:
13	Okay.
14	MR. ROY:
15	We just add Mr. Simpson. Any
16	other thoughts, committees, chairmen,
17	chairperson? Okay. Well, that will be
18	those will be the committee assignments.
19	Brenda, do you have anything to add?
20	MS. GUESS:
21	No, sir. I think those are
22	the those are very good additions to the
23	committees, and it should help us to
24	function in a more timely manner. We do
25	have the finance committee probably will



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1	be the first. The next one will be pulling
2	the action possibly next month. We have two
3	audits that are awaiting presentation to
4	finance and, therefore, present presentation
5	to the board. We have the one from the
6	Louisiana legislative auditors that was
7	performed back last year and one by Chaffe
8	and Associates, which does the analysis of
9	our portfolio. So we would like to schedule
10	those for prior to next month's meeting.
11	MR. ROY:
12	Good.
13	MR. REINE:
14	Have you received any
15	information from the legislative auditors
16	about is it complete?
17	MS. GUESS:
18	Yes, it's complete.
19	MS. VILLA:
20	Their final report was released
21	about a month ago, I want to say. I can
22	forward it to the board members.
23	MR. REINE:
24	Thank you. Anything bad on
25	there?



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1	MS. VILLA:			
2	No. Everything was positive.			
3	MR. REINE:			
4	Thank you.			
5	MS. VILLA:			
6	We had no findings and no			
7	recommendations. Thank you.			
8	MR. ROY:			
9	All right.			
10	MS. VILLA:			
11	We'll include that in next			
12	month's packet.			
13	MR. ROY:			
14	Any other business before we			
15	adjourn?			
16	(No response.)			
17	MR. ROY:			
18	Hearing none, motion to adjourn.			
19	MR. KAMATH:			
20	Motion.			
21	MR. ANDRE:			
22	Second.			
23	MR. ROY:			
24	Thank you.			
25	(Meeting concludes at 10:27 a.m.)			



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2	
3	
4	I, DESIREE DELATTE, Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana,
5	as the officer before whom this meeting for the Board of Commerce of the Louisiana Economic
6	Development Corporation, do hereby certify that this meeting was reported by me in the stenotype
7	reporting method, was prepared and transcribed by me or under my personal direction and
8	supervision, and is a true and correct transcript to the best of my ability and understanding;
10	That the transcript has been prepared in compliance with transcript format
11	required by statute or by rules of the board, that I have acted in compliance with the
12	prohibition on contractual relationships, as defined by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure
13	Article 1434 and in rules and advisory opinions of the board;
14	That I am not related to counsel or to the parties herein, nor am I otherwise
15	interested in the outcome of this matter.
16	
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