```
0001
2
3
4
5
6
7
        MEETING MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
8
                 OF THE
9
        LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
10
                 HELD AT
        LOUISIANA STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
11
             FOURTH FLOOR BOARD ROOM
12
13
            8401 UNITED PLAZA BOULEVARD
14
             BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
15
            ON THE 20TH DAY OF MAY, 2011
16
             COMMENCING AT 9:38 A.M.
17
18
19
20
         REPORTED BY: ELICIA H. WOODWORTH, CCR
21
22
23
24
25
0002
1
    Appearances of Board Members Present:
2
    A.J. Roy
    Steven Grissom
    Michael Saucier
5
    Alden Andre
    Thomas Cotten
6
7
    Shelley Ferro
8
9
    Staff members present:
    Daria Vinning
10
     Brenda Guess
11
12
     Clark Forrest
13
     Kristy McKearn
14
     Rick Broussard
15
     Seth Brown
     Robert Cangelosi
16
17
     Kathy Blankenship
18
     Errol Smith
19
     Joyce Davidson
20
     Randy Veillon
21
     Susan Bigner
22
23
24
25
0003
```

MR. ROY:

 Good morning. If everyone will have a seat, we'll begin the presentation anticipating a quorum shortly. So the board members and everyone else here at the table might want to have a seat in the audience so you can see.

MR. BROUSSARD:

Everyone, I would like to introduce Tom Kurtz. He works for LEDC and is the Director of the Business Expansion and Retention Group. He's going to make a short presentation for us and then we can start the board meeting.

Tom.

MR. KURTZ:

Good morning. Thank you for having me, members of the LEDC Board. I think I was here about maybe a year and a half or so, maybe a year ago. I was asked to update you all with our progress of both our program and our projects.

As you know, under Governor Jindal and Secretary Moret, one of the key issues was to have an impressive program working with

existing businesses, which really had not been done in the past. Ironically, today, we have a project before you, which is a Business Expansion and Retention project, Medic, in which I have actually worked on with our local and regional allies and will come before y'all today.

So we're about -- we've been around about a little over two and a half years, and basically we think for the last two and a half years have been very aggressive with our outreach and the results of our efforts.

Let me just take you through sort of a background for the program, which actually has grown since we last spoke to you all. We started off with three people in the beginning of '09. Right now, we've got five professional staff people, professional economic developers, and administrators that was put in basically the beginning of last year. So we have six people that are focused specifically on existing businesses and focus from a retention standpoint and expansion standpoint at LED. And then we also coordinate -- one of the things that we

would not be successful in that was another one of our allies, and that's our local and regional economic developmental organizations, local economic developmental organization and utilities.

We also serve with Tier One Funding. We fund recreational organizations around the state to help us make calls to companies, especially our economic drivers. These economic drivers we define as companies that have roughly about two to 300 employees and above, usually a large multiplier, usually a manufacturer or technology-type company and then we work to help them on some things and solve problems, but more importantly, try to uncover projects as you're all aware of. A lot of the incentives and a lot of the systems provided by the LEDC board has gone to existing companies with the State and help them with expansion or consolidation opportunities. So that's our bread and butter is trying to uncover obviously opportunities to both retain and expand companies that are already here in Louisiana.

And then the other results from our efforts is that we collect data from companies, and this allows us to present to both the administration and to the legislature information with regards to what are the key issues with regards to the economy and the state. I have some of those slides here to share with you in regards to what some of the companies and what are those major issues through 2010.

So, basically, the last two years, we've reached out to over 1,000 companies with our group. If you add the regional groups in there, it's probably close to probably 2000, and this includes companies that are just not only driver firms but also fast-growth companies, technology companies. Of course, we have the Blue Ocean strategy and the emerging companies we're trying to assist. So our group would work with a small digital media projects, small group companies in Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Lafayette, to a major renewable energy project that may be a spinoff of an existing large chemical or oil and gas-type related business in Louisiana.

One of the things that I think it is important to realize is that as companies, especially with consolidations and companies that own other companies and subsidiaries, we work with companies that have considered out of state or another line of business and have a good experience in Louisiana. That helps us in getting into the door and into other operations within that corporate structure. So I think that's very important to realize and touch those companies that are currently in the state.

One of the other things too that we set up that we think is unique to our program compared to the other states is that we have a designated rapid response person assigned to each case. So somebody is assigned to DOTD and somebody is assigned to DEQ that basically our staff can call on and say "I have a company that has an issue," and that person is responsible for assisting that company with that effort. So, of course, sometimes they're reasonable requests, sometimes they're not, but the long and short of it is that that person is basically

our lead so we don't kind of get lost in the system with the State government in helping that company, and that's been very helpful.

So for 2010, what are the results? And, of course, we're already in May, almost in June, so we do it from a calendar year and a fiscal year basis, but we had onsite interviews with like over 650 companies. If you add the employment of the companies that we touched, it's almost 110,000 employees that we've touched with our efforts. Economic driver firms, as you can tell here, or more than half, about 60 percent, and then of those visits, we've participated in about 30 percent of those from all types, a combination of both our allies and then BERG staff. Once again, we're all over the State working with our regional and local allies on these visits.

What are some our early wins? Our first success was the Gardner Denver Thomas project that y'all may be aware of. That was a facility in Monroe that was about to close and move to Sheboygan, Wisconsin. In a period of eight weeks, we basically turned

that around to where we had the Sheboygan facility with 350 jobs move that facility into Monroe. So now that they're almost close to about 270 or so people up in Monroe and expanded their facility. So that was a win from Berg. And, also, this was the

first major project for Fast Start, which y'all were briefed on in the last couple of weeks by Jeff Lynn, the executive director of that program. And so you can read the quote down there. Basically the CEO was extremely excited about the Fast Start work and how it made a big difference in their effort. In fact, helped them with their stock price, and talking about the move to Louisiana and how positive it had been.

The other projects was Folgers. We found out that Folgers was acquired by Smucker company. We for months tried to get in and meet with local plant managers. Finally, we were able to get in and meet with them, and through about a three or four-month process negotiate with them. Their Kansas City facility closed. They closed their Sherman, Texas facility and

consolidate all of their operations to New Orleans. In fact, this week, there was an announcement that we had worked on behind the scenes, but we had just acquired a company in Miami, which will move jobs to New Orleans and that will involve an additional 20 or 30 jobs we estimate with the company, which is a Miami-based. A Cuban family started that business. So Folgers has bought that brand, and we'll be getting more into the expresso market. So that goes to show you that the more the opportunities, the more larger the facilities, the better chance of getting other operations to your state, obviously, if you increase capacity operations of Louisiana operations. So good example here.

Another project was Globalstar, which you may have read that was the headquarter relocation, and it was. This was other project worked by the BERG team where the company actually bought a smaller technology company in Louisiana that was making GPS devices that was using their satellite

service, their satellite/telephone service, with about 44 satellites around the world. And so for discussions, about a six-month timeframe, we turned a 22 job save into a relocated 593 total jobs relocation of their Canadian and, more importantly, Silicon Valley headquarters to Covington. And so this was a major win for us, and just goes

to show you that, once again, a small technology company that was acquired and we found out about it and in working with the executives there that they moved the whole operation from California to Covington. So this is a big, big one for your group and obviously the State.

 Some of the other successes was Ormet. This was just announced this week. That was another project that was worked with the local economic development corporation and BERG won that project. Sasol is another expansion project in Lake Charles. TCI, a logistics operation that expanded to the Port of New Orleans. TCI is sort of an interesting project. That's actually taking resin -- we don't think that EDLOP was

approved here by the LEDC board, but they're taking resin that was being shipped from Louisiana plants to Houston to being shipped out -- now being shipped out of the Port of New Orleans and they continue to grow. We continue to meet with them on other potential further expansions.

Saint-Gobain is another company that had been closed down completely and consolidate. We were able to work with them and create jobs and retain them. BASF in Geismar, worked with them on expansion. Sapa, Red River Pharma, a pharmaceutical operation. So that's just a handful. There are other companies. That's not a complete list, but others that we've worked with, met with the company and then found out if there was a project. And, right now, there was about probably between 30 and 40, about 35 projects that are currently in the hopper that we're working with. Some are as small as 20 jobs, and some are as big as 1,000 jobs. So they vary in scope in regards to size and capital investment. And then our program received second place last year by

the IEDC, International Economic Development Council. We reapplied this year to see if we can get the best number one state program in the country. So we were recognized for having the best. We got honorable mention. We were the only state program in that category that received recognition for our efforts from the Internation Economic Development Council.

So what are our four key strategies for

our efforts? Well, one is we constantly have hired consultants for the last year and a half to work with us. That work was done about six months ago, eight months ago. We constantly look at companies that are being acquired or closing facilities in other states that could be in financial distress, and we basically hound on that and we make calls to those companies that could be under the threat of consolidation. So Folgers is a good example of a company that we specifically targeted because of their acquisition by Smucker, for example.

 And, so, one of the things that we've often done is we've been very proactive in

meeting with headquarters operations where these companies are located where we see opportunities for consolidations. So the secretary and some of the staff have targeted these states in metro areas where these consolidation opportunities are and some of them are actually projects that I talk about that potentially could be in the hopper. We may be coming back to you all on projects hopefully with good news in the future. And these are some of the facilities that had multiple-state facilities around Louisiana, but had sister facilities in other states. So it's just like manufacturing where they might be warehousing distribution and that sort. And so that is a key initiative. I have a staff member who likes to kind of name us kind of a project vulture.

For many years, Louisiana was kind of picked off on projects in the past. We're now reversing that trend.

The other thing that obviously is a key to a business retention program is basically software and collection data. And so we

have a program called Synchronist that collects data that our eight regional groups and six local groups, economic development groups, that use the software to collect data and allows us to do various reports, from contact information to what are their key issues, and it really helps us with policy development on what are the key issues of the State, and so we go out and we look at the company. We have an online portal where we, you know, have basically the LED staff and basically the regional and

local LED's collection information.

And, Kristy, this morning, I know, was at the BEOC. We actually have a tab during emergencies where we can collect information from the companies during emergency and export that information very quickly. We were the first state in the country to use it and now the other states have started copying ones that have the Synchronist license developed by other states. In fact, our tab was copied by Alabama during the recent disaster, for example. They asked, "Could we borrow your tab?" We said "Sure."

So that gives you -- and we're allowed to export that data. That really helps us in regard to waterblocking your area, how many jobs do you see effected by the -- let's say, if it's a hurricane or a flood or whatever, and could you get access to your suppliers so that we can through the BEOC, the Bureau of the Emergency Operation Center, which is a joint venture of LSU and UL and LED, basically takes information and more readily and quickly provides information to the FEMA and obviously goes to them to assist them in regards to really understand what the economic impact during the emergency.

So, anyway, that's something that we do. We have to form that. We meet with companies. Like we say, we don't approach it as a census case. We're not here to do census, you know, the questions, A, B, C. This is a conversation that actually occurs. We're just not there taking a survey. So this information extremely helps our efforts, and we probably have a total of 3,300 companies that are currently in the

Synchronist database with information.

So where are our businesses? The majority, as you can tell, are in the Southeast, mainly because of the population. A lot of economic troubles, primarily in the states in the I-10 corridor areas, so this kind of reflects that.

The other thing is types of industries that are visited. We do visit with a lot of the original industries in the state obviously from the retention standpoint, from manufacturing industrial goods to consumer goods, but then we have financial services to technology operations. Of

course, you know, we receive calls at the time from companies that are looking for help or assistance, but, anyway, this kind of gives you a rough breakdown of the percentage of the type of companies.

15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

2

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19 20

21

22

23

24

25

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

0019 1

0018 1 So what are the key issues that are out there? Of course, a lot of times, we meet with companies that have local issues, but these are the top issues. This is coming directly from companies. We ask them what are your key issues that are affecting your

business, and so you can tell a lot of the issues right now the companies are talking about for Federal issues primarily. State issues have dropped. As you can tell, a little more of a drop for the leader, which is obviously the oil and gas company, occurred April of last year, so you had basically seven or eight months of data with the oil spill going on, and so that was a major issue. Regulation and environmental was more on the Federal side. But you can tell -- healthcare reform, cap and trade. And generally, there was some Federal policy that enacted in the last few years that was affecting the business, so that was specific to that area, and then card check and taxes in general. And so a lot of Federal concerns, which is, I guess, kind of a reflection of the State. The State issues are not high up there, but that's directly from company interviews, which are about 400 companies that answered that question.

The other thing that we've done has been the use of GIS mapping. I'm a big advocate in using GIS mapping and GIS in general to

help us in identifying opportunities for expansions of existing companies in the state, but also attracting new companies to the state. So we have collected slowly a list of mapping layers from both local and state and Federal sources that allow us to look at where companies that we visit and also, let's say, in the manufacturing or chemical end where there are probably located and where there's various pipelines for access, they may use natural gas or that information. And so one of the things that we've created is a portal called ReTelligence, which is a tool that we use that we meet with companies, find out the product that they make. We also look at

secondary data sources that they also purchase companies that are in the State. So one of the things we're trying to do is co-locate. So, for instance, this is a real life story, we were out meeting with companies that said, "You know, we need a foundry out of Texas or Oklahoma," I think it was. "Could you put a list of all of the foundries in the state? That would really

save us some money." So we actually visited with maybe six or eight foundries around the state as part of our efforts. So we were able to download that information and provide that information for the company. So obviously that keeps opportunities for companies that are already in Louisiana to utilize Louisiana product and services. So we're one of the first states in the country to have this GIS portal and information and this tool to help with these opportunities. We had a company looking for an ethylene producer the other day for major project, so we were able to pull up information basically to plan out and give them the map to show gas pipelines and all of that to be e-mailed and sent off to the company. So that is something that definitely puts Louisiana we don't have many states that actually can do that. A lot of them have GIS, but not this capability. And I mentioned that GIS has also been helpful in regard to our efforts in the hurricanes and map where our economic drivers are and where the storm could be coming in and what's

going to be the impact of that storm basically on the companies, mainly the economic drivers. So this gives you basically just a rough sketch of companies that we visited around the state. As you can tell, it's pretty geographically spread around, and we have some parishes that have no economic drivers. The largest economic driver would be a 30-job company, for instance, in a very rural area.

And that's our portal. That's our GIS portal, where local basically planning organizations, local parishes are putting in basically their information, local GIS information. To give you an example, here is a company we met for a potential expansion. We were able to take the size of the property, show where, in talking to

plant manager especially when we went to go visit their headquarter officials, this is where they have the plant, this is where the rail spur was. So this is the kind of information that's very valuable. We sit with the company and say, "Hey, where can you grow your plant here in Louisiana? This

is your property. This is where all of the attributes are." And we can have all of the other companies plotted and their site there. In fact, we meet with the company sometime they don't even recognize their own site, so we let them keep the map after the meeting.

And then this is our ReTelligence portal, which allows us to basically search for a company or a product by base code or by company name or product. There's three different searches. And so I did Folgers, for example. It pulls up a map of the facility. We're able to look around the facility, the product that they make, you know, information about the plant. And then, for instance, I looked up the product. This was actually Ethylene Oxide, so Shell came up. So if you look here, it shows basically the various products that they take their inputs, their intermediaries and then outputs. So this really helps us when companies come to us especially from out of state looking for companies, whether it's a foundry or a chemical operation, could be an

IT operation looking for a software provider, a particular type of software, we can look it up if we visited with company and we had that information. So, once again, we can do a product search, by region, if it's an input/output. We have about 1,500 companies in here and we continue to add to it. We haven't transferred the information from Synchronist to over here. It's definitely a very valuable tool. That's BASF here.

So the last strategy we have is we were one of the first states in the country to implement an innovative incentive program just for retention and expansion. It's called a Retention and Modernization Program. This provides a five percent refundable tax credit to a company that's looking to invest in their facility. They have to spend at least five million dollars

or more, and the idea is that they're either going to increase their efficiency by 10 percent or the facility is in threat of closure or the facility is competition for a capital budget. They have 20 million

21

22

23

24

25

2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

0025 1

0024 1

dollars that they have to spend X amount in this state or this state. So this is a discretionary incentive by the department. This provides us leverage in regards to participate in the five percent credit, especially projects that are looking at upgrades and may not add jobs or maybe a minimal amount of jobs being added, this provides an additional incentive in strategy with other states that do not have this type of program. Kentucky, I think, last year created a similar-type program. There are other programs, but not with this degree and have this type of capability. But since the beginning of 2010, we have awarded or allocated companies that have not flipped the switch yet, but they will soon in the next few months. We've awarded 19 million dollars in credit since the beginning of 2010, and that has lavished into a billion dollars in capital investment. We have some products we haven't announced yet. And some of the ones were actually announced last month have been companies such as Folgers, Angus, Georgia Pacific, Zatarains, Sasol and

Ormet was actually one of the ones that were actually awarded programs. If you look at the companies that we've awarded, it's retained 4,100 jobs and created 400 new jobs, and then if you add the payroll to that, that's 234 million dollars in retained payroll and about 20 million in new payroll. That's a very effective program for us where there's a situation, let's say, a modernization and you're in competition with other facilities and this is only for manufacturers and there is a 10-million-dollar cap per year on credits awarded. Of course, the company does not get the credit. It's allocated to them, but they don't get it until they actually put the operation in service and they have completed the capital investment and they actually turn in. It's over a five-year period that the credit is spread out. And, of course, if they don't meet their job

accounts required as part of the program,

23	then in that year that they're below on
24	payroll, they do not get the credit. So it
25	is a pay-as-you-go, but you're rewarded as you
0026	and the second s
1	go. So it's not up front. It's over a
2	five-year period. So we're one of the few
3	states that have this kind of innovative
4	tool to have companies reinvest into their
5	facility.
6	And that's just a quick Rick told me
7	it's unusual for me not to talk fast and
8	take my time, but, anyway, people know me,
9	but I try to we have a quorum now.
10	Any questions on the retention program
11	or the effort of our group at all?
12	(No response.)
13	Y'all have copies of the presentation,
14	so thank you.
15	MR. ROY:
16	Thank you, Tommy, for that presentation.
17	Very informative.
18	Call to order the Board of Directors
19	Louisiana Economic Development Corporation.
20	Roll call please.
21	MS. VINNING:
22	A.J. Roy.
23	MR. ROY:
24	Here.
25	MS. VINNING:
0027	
1	Jay Rousseau.
2	(No response.)
3	MS. VINNING:
4	Alden Andre.
5	MR. ANDRE:
6	Here.
7	MS. VINNING:
8 9	Steven Grissom. MR. GRISSOM:
10	Here.
11	MS. VINNING:
12	Shelly Ferro.
13	MS. FERRO:
14	Here.
15	MS. VINNING:
16	Mike Saucier.
17	MR. SAUCIER:
18	Here.
19	MS. VINNING:
20	Bal Sareen.
21	(No response.)
22	MS. VINNING:
23	Thomas Cotten.
24	MR. COTTEN:

25	Here.
0028	
1	MS. VINNING:
2	Harry Avant?
3	(No response.)
4	MS. VINNING:
5	Louis Reine.
6	(No response.)
7	MS. VINNING:
8	Robert Stuart.
9	(No response.)
10	MS. VINNING:
11	We have six out of 11 members. We have
12	a quorum.
13	MR. ROY:
14	The first order of business the
15	presentation of the minutes of the April
16	15th meeting.
17	Any corrections?
18	MR. COTTEN:
19	Move for approval.
20	MR. ROY:
21	Motion for approval has been presented.
22	MR. SAUCIER:
23	Second.
24	MR. ROY:
25	Second.
0029	
1	Any discussion?
2	(No response.)
3	MR. ROY:
4	Hearing none. All in favor "aye".
5	(Several board members responded "aye".)
6	MR. ROY:
7	All opposed "nay".
8	(No response.)
9	MR. ROY:
10	Without objection.
11	Mr. Forrest, Economic Development Loan
12	Program, Ormet Primary Aluminum Corporation.
13	MR. ANDRE:
14	Mr. Chairman, before you start, I need
15	to recuse myself. Ormet is a customer of my
16	company and we're not in discussions with
17	them to establish that relationship, so the
18	minutes will reflect that I left the room at
19	this time.
20	(Mr. Andre has left the room.)
21	MR. ROY:
22	Very good. And it will be entered into
23	the minutes.
24	Good morning.
25	MR. FORREST:
0030	

Good morning. Ladies and gentlemen, we're very pleased to have Ormet here before us today. I was reflecting with Mr. Tom Notaro to our right and is the controller for Ormet that this is the second time I've been involved with the restart of their facility at Burnside. Mr. Notaro was not with the company back in 1985, so I've earned these gray hairs. At that time, the tallow trees were growing in the parking lot. Mr. Notaro assured me that they were not closed down that long for the tallow trees to start going and that they're in fact having cars in the parking lot.

1 2

One other side is that Governor Edwards was in office at that time, and, of course, the public relations had written up an announcement for Ormet. Unfortunately, they had not consulted with him and one of the few words that he had difficulty pronouncing was aluminum, so he was a little embarrassed, but he quickly recovered and just substituted tin. So if anybody has difficulty, we'll just refer to that same solution.

Ormet is at Burnside. It is a subsidiary of the Ormet Corporation of Hannibal, Ohio. The predecessor companies was, of course, Olin and Revere Metal Corporation, which, of course, explains their acronym for Ormet. They begin in '56, and they convert the oxide to aluminum, which is an ingredient for the smelter up in Hannibal, Ohio.

Ormet, unfortunately, the predecessor company that Mr. Notaro was not with, declared bankruptcy in January 2004 and they emerged in March of 2005. The company has been profitable since 2009 when they earned 32 million. And in 2010, their net profits were 39 million plus. They're well on their way to recovery, and their performance, of course, indicates that they have sufficient cash flow to cover any bonded indebtedness.

The EDLOP application is a million five, which will assist the company in the acquisition of capital and equipment to restart the facility, and, of course, we have a summary there of the company's investment of 38 million plus, which is 96

percent of the project with the State investing a million five or four percent.

And, of course, the company obviously is contributing to keeping their six existing employees, plus growing to 243. During the startup year, they'll have 258, with some of the older employees retiring, they'll drop down to the 243, which they'll have committed to maintaining for 10 years. And the potential benefits, of course, to the State will be returned in five years. And the statistics there on Ascension Parish, which is to our south, is that their unemployment rate was 7.6 in March of 2011, compared to the State's eight percent.

Our recommendation, the staff recommendation is that the board approve the projects as a five-year EDLOP job-created loan. The company will be given until December 31st of this year, 2011, to achieve their proposed to 243 job commitment, which they must retain throughout their five-year life of the EDLOP contract. If the required jobs are created and retained and the stipulated annual payroll levels, then the

EDLOP will be considered satisfied. However, if the company does not create the projected jobs and payroll on an annual basis, the unearned credit balance that year will be due and payable two LEDC plus interest.

And the contingencies are these: The first is that the funding will depend on the availability of LEDC funds that are allocated to the EDLOP program by the Board at the time of approval. This project must also be approved by the Division of Administrations Office of Facility Planning and Control as eligible for capital outlay funding, and the EDLOP applicant also will have 90 days to start the project or will have the appear before the LEDC Board to explain why the project is not under way. Of course, we have assurances that they're well on their way to restarting the plan.

And the final contingency is that if execution and recommendation are approved, the Ormet property at Burnside values at least 1.8 million, according to a certified appraisal, and that appraisal has been

completed and the property is valued as substantially more.

So if y'all have any questions, I will be glad to try to answer them, otherwise,

5 we'll turn the meeting over to Mr. Tom 6 Notaro, who is the controller and has worked 7 diligently to prepare the application and he 8 comes from Western Pennsylvania. 9 MR. ROY: 10 Morning. 11 MR. NOTARO: 12 Good morning. I would like to thank the 13 Board for meeting today to hear our plans 14 for expansion, and I would also like to 15 thank your Governor, Secretary Moret and Tommy Kurtz and the people from the LED who 16 17 has helped in assisting us to restart our 18 facility is invaluable. 19 There's approximately 15 million dollars of aid that the State is awarding to Ormet 20 21 over a 10-year period, and the one and a 22 half million dollars of EDLOP is a piece of 23 that aid. Without that, I find it difficult 24 to think that we would be able to go ahead 25 with this project, so thank you. 0035 1 Unfortunately, I don't have a whole lot 2 of experience in the aluminum industry or 3 the alumina industry. I've been associated 4 with Ormet for the past four years, and it's 5 been an interesting time in my career. This 6 opportunity to start this facility up is 7 very exciting, and we appreciate the part of 8 the local government as well as the State, 9 as I've said. 10 The 200 -- approximately 250 jobs are a 11 mixture of management, skilled hourly labor, 12 semi-skilled hourly labor, and we're anxious to get this project under way. And I would 13 14 also like to thank the local skill workers 15 that we've renegotiated a contract, I 16 believe, back in February. We signed the contract, so we're ready to start working. 17 18 If you have any specific questions, I 19 would be happy to address them at this time. 20 MR. GRISSOM: 21 Tommy, is it okay if I ask a question of 22 you? 23 MR. KURTZ: 24 Yes. 25 MR. GRISSOM: 0036 1 Do you mind coming to the table? 2 MR. KURTZ: 3 Yes. Sure. 4 MR. GRISSOM: 5 I thought Tommy may be best positioned to 6 help me on one small detail. The proposal

7	to us includes performence objectives for 10
	to us includes performance objectives for 10
8	years, and I think in Clark's description,
9	he mentioned a five-year contract, so I was
10	trying to get a better understanding. Is
11	the agreement for 10 years essentially the
12	10 years that are presented in the
	•
13	application?
14	MR. KURTZ:
15	The offer was made on a 10-year based
16	upon the quality jobs, 10 years exemption
17	and the modernization for five year, so the
18	offer that was originally made was for 10
19	
	years.
20	MR. GRISSOM:
21	For the EDAP?
22	MR. KURTZ:
23	No, no. The EDLOP was for five.
24	MR. GRISSOM:
25	Okay. Thank you. That's all the
	Okay. Thank you. That's an the
0037	.•
1	questions.
2	MR. KURTZ:
3	As you know, we do offer to companies on
4	a 10-year basis.
5	MR. SAUCIER:
6	The other 13 and a half million dollars
7	
	is based on a 10-year program; is that
8	right?
9	MR. KURTZ:
10	Yes. It's based on a 10-year property
11	tax, the quality jobs and the modernization
12	programs.
13	MR. SAUCIER:
14	This is five?
15	MR. KURTZ:
16	Right.
17	MR. ROY:
18	Mr. Cotten?
19	MR. COTTEN:
20	Yes, sir. Commodity prices have
21	skyrocketed for the last year or two based
22	
	on dollar valuation. As you can see, it's
23	270 dollars back in 2007, forecasting 450 to
24	500. Where is that point in the future that
25	your company is looking to say spot alumina
0038	
1	has to be at least this value for this plan
2	to be profitable?
3	MR. NOTARO:
4	That's a very difficult question to
5	answer. If I knew the answer to that
6	question, I would probably be sitting on
7	Wall Street somewhere investing in
8	commodities. But, needless to say, in the
-	

9 four short years that I've been with Ormet, 10 I've seen commodity prices for aluminum go 11 from a high of about 3,100 dollars per metric ton back in August of '08 to a low of 12 13 about 1,250 dollars per metric ton in February of '09. Those types of 14 15 fluctuations are difficult to survive in. I 16 would say that given that kind of 17 fluctuation in volatility, the company needs 18 to address all of its expenses during those 19 periods, and we've done that in the past 20 and I would expect that we will do that in 21 the future. 22 As far as the specific refinery 23 facility, it's not the lowest-cost facility 24 in the country. There are only a few, as 25 you know, alumina refineries in the United 0039 1 States. We believe that with our hedging 2 opportunities on critical resources for that 3 facility that we can keep it manageable, 4 keep those costs manageable. So we believe 5 that for the next several years as least 6 that the Burnside refinery will be a viable 7 part of the corporation and beyond. 8 MR. COTTEN: 9 Okay. 10 MR. NOTARO: 11 I'm sorry if that's not responsive. 12 MR. ROY: 13 Follow up question to Mr. Cotten's and 14 your comments. How does it rank in terms of 15 costs compared to the other facilities around the country and efficiencies? 16 17 MR. NOTARO: 18 Well, most other facilities nearby as 19 well are double the capacity of the Burnside 20 facility. Our Burnside facility, though, is 21 geared to produce pretty much the exact 22 quantity that we need in our smelter, so 23 it's pretty balanced. There's some minor 24 penalty for the smaller size, but I wouldn't 25 characterize it as huge, but it is higher 0040 1 cost. 2 MS. FERRO: Do you know what some of the factors 4 were that contributed to the bankruptcy in 5 2004? 6 MR. NOTARO: 7 I honestly don't have any information on 8 that. 9 MR. FORREST: 10 I think without knowing the company's

11	details on that, Ms. Ferro, that it was a
12	combination of the high price of natural
13	gas was a major factor since that's
14	one of the components at Burnside. Tommy
15	may be able to contribute an additional
	•
16	answer.
17	MR. KURTZ:
18	The product demand, the market demand,
	•
19	probably the natural gas prices are two
20	double whammies.
21	MR. SAUCIER:
22	The first mortgage on a portion quote
23	"portion" of the industrial property, is
24	this going to be a subdivided lot? That's
25	not used; it's just vacant land that could
	not asea, it's just vacant land that could
0041	
1	be readily disposed of?
2	MR. NOTARO:
3	It's already subdivided. It is a
	•
4	partial that has been subdivided as we sit
5	here.
6	MR. SAUCIER:
7	It's not encumbered by
8	MR. FORREST:
9	Undeveloped.
10	MR. SAUCIER:
11	And I see that your comment about the
12	2009 issues with price being low, y'all
13	still show a profit on that?
14	MR. NOTARO:
15	Right.
16	MR. ROY:
17	Any other questions or comments?
18	MR. SAUCIER:
19	Move for approval.
20	MR. ROY:
21	Motion for approval has been presented.
	11
22	MR. COTTEN:
23	Second.
24	MR. ROY:
25	Second by Mr. Cotten.
	Second by Mr. Collen.
0042	
1	Any other discussion?
2	(No response.)
3	· `
	MR. ROY:
4	Very good. Hearing none, all in favor
5	"aye".
6	(Several board members respond with "aye.")
7	MR. ROY:
8	All opposed, "nay".
9	(No response.)
10	MR. ROY:
11	Without objection.
12	Any comment from the public?
	· •

13	MR. FORREST:
14	We have a member from Ascension Parish
15	Economic Development here. She may want
16	1
	to
17	Deanna Lafont.
18	MR. ROY:
19	Would you like to come up and make a
20	statement?
21	MR. CLARK:
22	A LEDC graduate, I might add.
23	MS. LAFONT:
24	
	Hi. I'm Deanna Lafont. I'm the
25	director for the Ascension Economic
0043	
1	Development. We are so glad that you've
2	approved this EDLOP, and we are thrilled
3	that Ormet has decided to reopen.
4	Thank you.
5	MR. ROY:
6	Thank you.
7	All right. So without objection, it's
8	approved and we wish you the best. Please
9	keep us posted on your progress.
10	MR. NOTARO:
11	Thank you. We look forward to it.
12	MR. ROY:
13	
_	Thank you, sir.
14	MR. GRISSOM:
15	Thank you.
16	MR. ROY:
17	Secretary/Treasurer's Report,
18	Ms. Blankenship.
19	MS. BLANKENSHIP:
20	Treasurer's report as of May 20th, our
21	Loan Assistance Program budget is two
22	million dollars. Approved projects today is
23	\$1,007,672 for a balance of 992,328
24	dollars.
25	In our EDAP program, our budget is
0044	
1	\$12,785,658. Previously approved projects
2	were 3,820,000. Today's projects we
3	approved for Ormet was 1,500,000, for a new
4	balance of 7,465,658 dollars.
5	Potential projects that are
6	possibilities that may come before the Board
7	at a later date total 3,750,000, which has a
8	projected balance of 3,716,658 dollars.
9	And if you'll turn to page three of the
10	Fund Balance, what I did is I took away the
11	prior actual, so everything would appear a
12	little bit larger on the page since we're
13	now close to the end of fiscal year 11. And
14	a change from last month that I added on row

18, which would be in the fiscal year 10/11 column, the clawback from the deposit, we have a refund from the clawback provision that's 34,585,976 dollars that was deposited into the LED fund, and we also made a payment for the Bond Debt payment out of interest earnings that were being held by their bank and so it reduced the amount of appropriation authority that was to come out of LED fund. So what the budget officers did for fiscal year 11/12 on row 8 in the

funds bill, which is House Bill 4077, they're basically sweeping those moneys, 37,673,208, so it's basically like a wash. We deposited it into the LED fund, then they're sweeping it out. So there's really not much change from last month. We're projecting to basically beak even at the end of fiscal year 12 with a balance of 105,466.

This week in the House Appropriations Committee, there was a general fund reduction to LED, which, depending on that rest of the legislative process, could play a factor into the LED fund, but it could possibly cause some of our programs that are being funded from the LED fund to be reduced, but it would probably be about the same impact that we would be coming basically back to a break even.

MR. ROY:

Mr. Cotten?

MR. COTTEN:

Question. When do we approve that 11/12 budget for LEDC? Does that get approved here?

MS. BLANKENSHIP:

The legislature will approve it.

MR. COTTEN:

I guess what -- the right side, do you have where some expenditures projected funding?

MS. BLANKENSHIP:

The expenditures were presented through process in the budget subcommission, which is due November 1st of every year to the budget office, and then the executive budget is released in late January or early February, which is what the budget office is recommending for approval. And then it goes through the legislative process, but it's pretty much close to what was last year.

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	MR. COTTEN: That's fine. I was just curious. This is what LED has presented to LEDC. I'm just Mr. Andre brought up another issue because there is I am on the board of one of these other entities down here, and I was just wondering if there is a vote that we take. If not, then I have no conflict of
25	interest.
0047	
1	MS. BLANKENSHIP:
2	No.
3	MR. COTTEN:
4	Thank you.
5	MR. ROY:
6	Any other questions or comments?
7	(No response.)
8	MR. ROY:
9	I'll entertain a motion to approve the
10	Treasurer's Report.
11	MS. FERRO:
12	Motion for approval.
13	MR. ANDRE:
14	Second.
15	MR. ROY:
16	Motion for approval presented.
17	Second.
18	Any discussion?
19	(No response.)
20	Hearing none, all in favor "aye".
21	(Several board members respond with "aye".)
22	MR. ROY:
23	All opposed, "nay".
24	(No response.)
25	MR. ROY:
0048	1,220, 210, 21
1	Mr. Smith, the Accountant's Report.
2	MR. SMITH:
3	Good morning. LEDC status report from
4	April 30th, 2011, total participation loan
5	as of 4/30/2011, 480,540. Total direct
6	loans 7,933,051. Past due, MV Realty,
7	480,540.
8	EDLOP loans, total EDLOP as of
9	4/30/2011, 1,708,963. Guaranteed loans, at
10	this point, we currently have 19 guaranteed
11	loans and all are current. Current balance
12	of 7,167,014.
13	Allowance for loan loss participation
14	and direct as of April 30th, reserve balance
15	617,579. Loan balance, 8,413,591.
16	Allowance for EDLOP loans, April 30th,
17	2011, 256,345. Loan balance currently
18	1,708,963.
10	1,700,700.

19	Allowance for guaranteed loans as of
20	April 30th, reserve 1,290,063. Loan balance
21	7,167,014.
22	And that concludes my report.
23	MR. ROY:
24	Any questions?
25	MR. SAUCIER:
0049	MR. STICCIER.
1	What is the status of the LEDC loan? I
2	know we talked briefly about that at the
3	<u> </u>
4	last meeting. I had requested some financial information on a seven and a half
5	million dollar loan from LEDC.
6	MR. BROUSSARD:
7	Mike, we had Susan Bigner, our LEDC
8	accountant, take a look at the financial
9	statements over the last five years.
10	MS. BIGNER:
11	Yes. I reviewed the statements from
12	2008 going forward. I think it was 2005
13	going forward.
14	MS. MCKEARN:
15	2005.
16	MS. BIGNER:
17	And I sent it to Kristy, and there's
18	no they're not operating at a positive,
19	and there the only way that we'll receive
20	payment is if they're operating at a profit.
21	MR. ROY:
22	Is that in the contract?
23	MR. BIGNER:
24	Yes, it is. They have to meet all of
25	their obligations before they make payment
0050	
1	to us, and the loan expires in 2012
2	matures.
3	MR. SAUCIER:
4	What month?
5	MS. BIGNER:
6	I believe it's
7	MS. MCKEARN:
8	I think it's June, but I'll double check
9	that.
10	MR. ROY:
11	How does the contract deal with it once
12	it matures, assuming they've made no
13	payments and they can't meet their
14	obligations?
15	MS. BIGNER:
16	That's going to have to be the division
17	of management and legal is going to have to
18	make. I don't remember reading in the
19	contract what it states, but I'll have to
20	review that. If you would like, I'll review
_0	10.10% mai. If you would like, I'll leview

21 22 23 24 25	that and also send it to you with a copy of the memo that I sent to Kristy. MR. SAUCIER: Okay. Thank you. MS. BIGNER:
0051 1 2	Is that sufficient? MR. SAUCIER:
3	Yes.
4	MS. BIGNER:
5	All right. I'll do that.
6	MR. ROY:
7	Any other questions or comments or
8	Mr. Smith or others?
9	(No response.) MR. ROY:
10 11	
12	Hearing none, I'll entertain a motion to accept the accountant's report or motion to
13	accept the report.
14	MS. FERRO:
15	Motion to accept.
16	MR. ROY:
17	Motion to accept has been presented.
18	MR. COTTEN:
19	Second.
20	MR. ROY:
21	Second.
22	Any discussions?
23	(No response.)
24	Hearing none, all in favor "aye".
25 0052	(Several board members respond with "aye".)
1	MR. ROY:
2	All opposed "nay".
3	(No response.)
4	MR. ROY:
5	Thank you, sir.
6	Any comments from the public regarding
7	those two matters?
8	(No response.)
9	MR. ROY:
10	President's Report, Mr. Grissom.
11	MR. GRISSOM:
12	I apologize I wasn't here for the
13	beginning of Tommy Kurtz's presentation
14	Business Expansion and Retentions, but I'm not sure
15 16	
17	Kristy, have you addressed the Board? MS. MCKEARN:
18	I have not. I can do that right now.
19	MR. GRISSOM:
20	What I would like to do is turn it over
21	to Kristy McKearn with and update with
22	regards to the Business Emergency Operations

23 Center and its activation related to the 24 Mississippi River and the high waters and 25 flooding associated with that, and then I'll 0053 1 wrap it up with some brief comments. 2 MS. MCKEARN: 3 Thank you, Steven. 4 Good morning. You might recall that I 5 had talked about the Business Emergency 6 Operation Center some time ago. Tommy 7 addressed briefly what it is. It is a 8 partnership between LSU, University of 9 Louisiana Lafayette and, of course, LED. 10 This is a true partnership. For those of you that live in Baton Rouge this meeting 11 talks about the specifics of disaster and 12 13 how Louisiana is prepared in the instance of 14 any disaster, not just hurricanes, obviously 15 we've noticed that in the last year with 16 flooding. 17 The Business Emergency Operation Center 18 does have a facility at LSU South campus. 19 They did meet this morning. I'll just give 20 you a quick update of where we are with the 21 flooding. We have not done a full 22 activation of the Business Emergency 23 Operation Center. Let me tell you who is 24 involved. I know we talked about it 25 previously. Major business entities have 0054 1 been invited to have a seat at the physical 2 location at the Business Emergency Operation 3 Center, entities such as LABI, LBA, 4 Louisiana Hospital Association, the 5 Louisiana Restaurant Association. So in a 6 case of disaster, we have everybody together 7 in the same room. Obviously, the State EOC 8 is operating and people in hospital 9 association play a critical role in that, 10 but everybody else, they need to know where 11 to go where to go from here and what direction to take. So we did not activate 12 13 the BEOC. We do have regular webinars and 14 communication with the. 15 In the instance of a flood, we have done a virtual evacuation -- a virtual 16 17 activation, and we had a meeting last 18 Friday. It was very productive with our 19 members. We encourage our members, we have 20 portal called the LABEOC.org, and we were 21 counting on businesses and our industry 22 leaders, get your business registered on the 23 portal, primarily because that's where we're 24 going to be sending all of the news, any

we're all on the same page.

In addition, if you can go aho

In addition, if you can go ahead and say, "Look, we can provide X, Y and Z." We have a business or one of our members can provide this." And some of members could say "We need sandbagging in our area." So it's a very, very useful tool, LABEOC.org.

type of press releases and communications so

I want to give you some updates to kind of tell you where we are with that. As of yesterday, the LABEOC had a total of 1,188 registered users. Hopefully those are businesses behind that for our flood event. Our web portal hits are in the thousands. So people are really utilizing this tool and we expect it to continue to grow. In relationship to small businesses, our LED Community Outreach Services continue to work as our small business development center in relationship to making sure that they have continuity plans and if they have needs in the areas that have been flooded, that they can address that. So we have been working with small business owners as well.

Tommy mentioned today about the Business Expansion and Retention team efforts. As of

yesterday, they had contacted 273 companies in the flood areas of the Mississippi and the Atchafalaya River Basin. So they have been working closely with those companies to see what their needs are and they have been reporting back.

And then finally, LED has attended the Unified Commander meetings. The UCG meetings are meeting daily, and those are meetings where the Governor attends and he is briefed by government agencies of where we are in the process. So we are pretty much saying that the very latest information is that.

Today's meeting, I didn't get to attend, but I was excited because the Colonel from the Army Corps of Engineers attended that BEOC meeting, a representative from the United States Coast Guard, and a representative from the National Weather Service, so I know that our business industry stakeholders are finding true value in the BEOC. And when we go out and recruit those companies from Louisiana, you know, people say, "Well, I don't remember New

1	Orleans being under the water. I remember
2	this. I remember that." You know what,
3	we're prepared now. And I think our
4	business and industries know that as well.
5	I'll be glad to take any questions about
6	it.
7	MR. ROY:
8	I would imagine we're probably the most
9	prepared in the country, perhaps that's what
10	that article says.
11	MS. MCKEARN:
12	Yes. Actually, we are having states
13	that are coming to visit us at the BEOC. So
14	it's exciting to know that Louisiana is
15	really leading the way on this.
16	MR. COTTEN:
17	Senator Landrieu toured the facility
18	last month, and she was very impressed with
19 20	the BEOC. I think she was taken away by
21	it's capabilities. MS. MCKEARN:
22	That's great to hear. Thank you.
23	MR. GRISSOM:
24	Okay. I wanted to, I guess, wrap up the
25	President's Report with just some quick
0058	Tresident's Report with Just some quick
1	comments and exciting news. You may have
2	already seen this, but this is great news
3	for the State, great news for the
4	department, for this board. Earlier this
5	month, around the first of the month, LED,
6	Louisiana Economic Development Agency, was
7	ranked or provided the honor of being
8	designated the number one state economic
9	development agency in the nation by Site
10	Selection Magazine. It's, I think, a great
11	testament of the efforts at the State level.
12	You know, the policy changes that have been
13	implemented over the last several years, the
14	leadership of the legislature, our
15	department, hard work of our board members;
16	but prior to last year, Louisiana or LED had
17	never been in the top 10. So we've really
18	made some strides there. Our site selection
19	has been doing this ranking for the last
20	nine years. Some of the factors included in
21	making that determination were the number of
22	expanding facilities in 2010, levels of
23	investment and job growth associated with
24	those projects. They look at that on an
25	absolute basis and on a per capita basis.
0059	-
1	They look at per capita, so Texas and
2	California aren't all in the lead. It's

3 also based on state GDP, unemployment rates 4 and survey results with corporate estate 5 executives, so it also takes into account 6 perception of the state and perception of 7 the department. We were very pleased to receive this honor. The other states in the 8 9 top five were Virginia, Texas, North Carolina and South Carolina. So it's not 10 like we're in good company, but certainly 11 12 we're excited to be at the top of that list, 13 and that designation will be something that 14 the department can use throughout the year 15 conveying the responsiveness of the agency 16 and also in speaking to our business 17 possibilities about the good things happening in the State. This is something 18 that reflects efforts of the team, including 19 20 the team members that you see here at our board meetings, and so really excited to 21 22 deliver this good news to you, to our board 23 members. 24 That wraps it up for my report. Thank 25 you. 0060 1 MR. ROY: 2 Fantastic news. Congratulations. 3 MR. GRISSOM: 4 Thank you. 5 MR. ROY: 6 Any other business? 7 (No response.) 8 MR. ROY: 9 Hearing none, I'll entertain a motion to 10 adjourn. MR. ANDRE: 11 12 So moved. 13 MR. ROY: 14 Motion to adjourn. 15 MR. SAUCIER: 16 Second. 17 MR. ROY: 18 Second motion to adjourn. 19 Meeting is adjourned. 20 (Meeting concludes at 10:42 a.m.) 21 22 23 24 25