

## **Baker Main Street Economic Development District**

### **Board of Directors – Inaugural Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Monday, May 5, 2025

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Location:** Baker Fire Department Conference Room, 3701 Groom Rd, Baker, LA

**Recorder:** Dante Bidwell

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 4:02pm by Dante Bidwell.

#### **2. Welcome, Prayer, and Pledge**

- Dante Bidwell offered a welcome and opening remarks.
- Councilman Cedric Murphy led the board in a prayer.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all attendees.

#### **3. Swearing-In Ceremony**

- The oath of office was administered to all appointed board members by Kenneth Fabre, Baker City Attorney.
- Each member affirmed their commitment to the responsibilities of the board.
  - Shaelisa Bradley-Hunt
  - Cedric Murphy
  - Willie Williams, Jr.
  - Michel Woods
  - Kermit Johnson, IV.

#### **4. Roll Call**

**Present:**

- Shaelisa Bradley-Hunt
- Cedric Murphy
- Michel Woods
- Kermit Johnson, IV
- Willie Williams, Jr.

**Absent:**

- The appointee of the member of the Louisiana State Senate whose district encompasses all or the greater portion of the area of the district
- The appointee of the City of Baker School Board

**5. Overview of the Economic Development District**

- Dante Bidwell provided an overview of the district’s mission, framework, and strategic purpose.
  - Key points included the vision of a vibrant and thriving Baker, with continuous investment and community engagement.

**6. Election of Officers**

The board conducted the election of officers with the following results:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Elected Member</b>	<b>Motioned By</b>	<b>Seconded By</b>	<b>Vote Outcome</b>
President	Cedric Murphy	Michel Woods	Shaelisa Bradley-Hunt	Approved
Vice-President	Shaelisa Bradley-Hunt	Michel Woods	Cedric Murphy	Approved
Secretary	Kermit Johnson, IV	Michel Woods	Willie Williams, Jr.	Approved

Position	Elected Member	Motioned By	Seconded By	Vote Outcome
Treasurer	Willie Williams, Jr.	Michel Woods	Cedric Murphy	Approved

## 7. Discussion and Adoption of Bylaws

- The board reviewed and formally introduced the proposed bylaws.
  - Key sections discussed included meeting frequency and the process for making amendments in the future.
- **Motion:** To introduce the bylaws as presented, to be voted on at the next meeting to be held June 2, 2025.
  - **Moved by:** Willie Williams, Jr.
  - **Seconded by:** Cedric Murphy
  - **Vote Result:** Approved

## 8. Meeting Calendar

- The board discussed the frequency and schedule of future meetings.
  - Meetings will be held on the first Monday of each month
- The July meeting is moved to Tuesday, July 8, 2025 to accommodate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.
  - **Moved by:** Cedric Murphy
  - **Seconded by:** Michel Woods
  - **Vote Result:** Approved
- **Next Meeting Confirmed:** Monday, June 2, 2025 at 4pm
- Additional dates: Tuesday, July 8, 2025, and then August 4, 2025

## 9. Public Comment

- The floor was opened for public comment.
- Mayor Waites requested that the Baker Main Street EDD find a date in the next 90 days to hold a joint meeting with the Baker Economic Development District and Convention Center.
  - Councilman Vincent, who represents the Convention Center District agreed.
- Councilman Vincent also asked about adding additional City Council appointees.
  - It was explained that Shaelisa Bradley-Hunt is the appointee selected from the list provided by Councilmembers.

## 10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:32pm.

- **Moved by:** Michel Woods
- **Seconded by:** Willie Williams, Jr.
- **Vote Result:** Approved

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**Minutes Prepared By:** Dante Bidwell

**Date of Preparation:** May 5, 2025