

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 4:00 pm
8320 G. Leon Netterville Drive, Classroom 1
Leon R. Tarver, II Cultural and Heritage Center Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

*Meeting was called to order by President Shields
Janene Tate, Communications Director, submitted affidavit attesting to notice of hearing.*

2. Roll Call and Acknowledgment of Quorum

Counsel called roll.

*Present: Dennis J. Shields, Commissioner
Patrice Aron, Commissioner
Craig Stevens, Commissioner
Matt Valliere, Commissioner
Erin Monroe, Commissioner*

A quorum was present.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

*Commissioner Valliere moved to adopt the agenda, and it was seconded by Commissioner Stevens.
Motion carried.*

4. Public Comments

NONE – see Charles Tombs comments below

5. Action Items

A. Approval of Minutes from July 31, 2024 Board meeting of District

*Commissioner Stevens moved to adopt the 7/31/24 Board Meeting Minutes for the District.
Motion was seconded by Commissioner Aron. Motion carried.*

B. Board's receipt of proof of notice to LSA-R.S. 33:9038.76 and LSA-R.S. 42:19.1 of its intention by publication once a week for two (2) weeks in the Advocate, the official journal of the District, the first publication to appear at least fourteen (14) days before the public meeting of the Board which was established on January 16, 2025 and the second notice was published on January 24, 2025.

Commissioner Valliere moved to adopt the receipt of proof of notice. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Monroe. Motion carried with revision (notice contained a typo).

C. Board's receipt of proof of notice LSA R.S. 42:19.1 to provide notice to the Board, State Senator Regina Barrow and State Representative Barbara Carpenter of the District's intent to levy New Tax; on or about January 27, 2025.

Commissioner Valliere moved to adopt the receipt of proof of notice. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stevens. Motion carried with revision (notice contained a typo).

- D. Consideration and adoption of a Resolution of the Board to levy and collect a (a) one percent (1.0%) sale and use tax upon the sale at retail, the use, the lease or rental, the consumption and storage for use or consumption of tangible property and on sales of services in the district and (b) one percent (1.0%) of hotel occupancy taxes within the boundaries of the Southern University Economic Development District as established by the State Legislature pursuant to R.S. 33:9038.76 commencing on April 1, 2025, and otherwise providing with respect thereto. *Commissioner Stevens moved to adopt the proposed Resolution of the Board. Commissioner Valliere seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

6. Other Business

A. Depository Institution: Liberty Bank

Commissioner Monroe moved to adopt Liberty Bank as the depository institution. Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion:

Commissioner Valliere – Proactive, what do we want to do with the money?

President Shields – We want to support university-based activities.

-Apts. could give grant.

-Get Board Member Masingill involved.

Commissioner Stevens – Until we see what revenue it generates, I'm hesitant on steps the EDD could/should take.

Commissioner Valliere – To what extent do you want to include master plan?

-Games ticket & sales

-Committed to support until we see revenue.

-Mayor and Northern Economic Development mirror with what they do.

-Support what they have.

-May want to reach out to local entities

Charles Tombs – with Mayor Sid Edward's Office.

- Public Commission
- Land Build BR grocery store right next to Palisades
- Referenced receiving money from Cleo Fields (\$400,000)
- Kellen Coleman's District
- 2 projects on campus – welcome center & evacuation route
- Open to have a myriad of conversations

Commissioner Shields – requested that Mr. Tombs write a letter and give us insight on Mayor's office. Suggested that it may be beneficial to have a meeting with City/Parish government

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned.