



Build Baton Rouge Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting

Date: Thursday, August 24, 2023
Place: 757 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70817
Time: 9:00 A.M.

Minutes

Attending Board Members: Rodney Braxton, Chairman; Charles Landry, Vice Chair; Will Campbell, Treasurer; Suzanne Turner, Secretary; Bobby Hamilton (each, a "Commissioner")

Also attending: Gretchen Siemers, Vice President; Kendra Hendricks, Senior Manager of Economic Development and Finance; Tricia Prewitt, BBR Office Coordinator; Amanda Robertson, V.Graham; Kincaid Jackson, Kean Miller; Helena Cunningham, Consultant; Lloyd Johnson, Faulk & Winkler; Arthur Pania, member of public.

Meeting Called by: Rodney Braxton

Type of Meeting: Build Baton Rouge (BBR) Board of Commissioners – Regular Meeting

Note Taker: Tricia Prewitt

- I. **Action Item** Mr. Braxton called the meeting to order at 9:02 p.m.
- II. **Action Item** Mr. Braxton confirmed receipt of proof of notice of meeting and the posting of public notice.
- III. **Action Item** Mr. Braxton confirmed the number of Board Commissioners present in person and the constitution of a majority.
- IV. **Action Item** The Board reviewed the minutes from the BBR Board of Commissioners July 26, 2023, regular meeting. Ms. Turner noted error. Mr. Landry made a motion to approve the amended minutes and Ms. Turner seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- V. **Discussion Item** Ms. Robertson presented the YTD profit-loss actual vs. budget, program statement of activity, and cashflow projections for the period ended July 31, 2023. Ms. Robertson reported that July ytd results, revenue and income are in line with expectations, expenses are a little bit less than budget, and there are no concerns. There were no objections.
- VI. **Discussion Item** Mr. Lloyd Johnson, of Faulk and Winkler, went over the audit report with the board. The audit was completed and submitted prior to June 30th. There are no mismanagement of funds or accountability



issues. There were no difficulties during the audit. Ms. Siemers requested a briefing on the CCEDD audit. Mr. Johnson recommended adopting policies and procedures like BBR's existing ones, to have needed operational processes and structures in place for future needs. Operational processes need to be documented for future audits. Mr. Johnson will discuss everything in detail at the next CCEDD meeting, date to be determined.

VII. **Discussion Item**

Ms. Siemers updated the board on a potential new hire. The board discussed staffing and the need for a clearer, overall strategy of the organization. Ms. Cunningham and Mr. Braxton will work with BBR on a staffing plan.

Ms. Siemers reported that BBR will be participating with CPEX for Parking Day on September 15th. BBR will have materials and do some outreach for the event.

VIII. **Discussion Item**

Ms. Siemers provided a Land Bank and Redevelopment update. The board discussed the progress on the LAOCD payback and the potential operating agreement with BREC. BREC found several species on a portion of the property that might be considered unique and are willing to work with BBR on a plan to preserve some of that property. The board discussed the Chase Grant and actions steps needed to be taken. Ms. Siemers reported that some of the metrics have been met, but not all. Mr. Braxton requested a report for the next meeting on where we are in the process as well as what is left to do.

Mr. Landry requested getting Mr. Johnson back for the executive session in the September meeting, and that the certification of the audit would require an action item.

IX. **Discussion Item**

Mr. Braxton asked if there were any comments from the public. Mr. Arthur Pania requested more information on a property. As he was not on the schedule, Mr. Braxton deferred him to BBR staff. Staff was able to answer Mr. Pania's questions outside of the meeting.

X. **Action Item**

The Board did not adjourn for Executive Session

XI. **Action Item**

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:50 a.m. with a motion by Mr. Braxton and a second by Mr. Landry.