



**Build Baton Rouge Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting**

Date: Thursday, August 20, 2024

Place: 100 North Street, #800, Baton Rouge, LA

Time: 2:00 P.M.

Minutes

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

Not Attending: Bobby Hamilton; excused absence.

Also attending: Gretchen Siemers, Vice President; Kendra Hendricks, Director of Operations and Programs; Tricia Prewitt, BBR Office Coordinator; Amanda Robertson, V.Graham; Kincaid Jackson, Kean Miller; Helena Cunningham, Consultant; Kathryn Willa Rose; Pennie May Landry; Dr. Dina Johnson

Meeting Called by: Rodney Braxton

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

Note Taker: Tricia Prewitt

❖ **Action Item**

- Mr. Braxton called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
- Mr. Braxton confirmed receipt of proof of notice of meeting and the posting of public notice. Mr. Landry requested that Ms. Siemers sign a certificate of posting of public notice, for this and all future meetings.
- Mr. Braxton Confirmed the number of Board Commissioners present and the constitution of a majority.
- The Board reviewed the minutes from the BBR Board of Commissioners July 25, 2024, regular meeting. Mr. Landry made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Campbell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

❖ **Discussion Item: Budget**

- Ms. Robertson presented the YTD profit-loss actual vs. budget, program statement of activity, and cashflow projections for the period ended July 31, 2024. Ms. Robertson reported that July ytd results, revenue and income are in line with expectations, expenses are a little bit less than budgeted, and there are no concerns. There were no objections.



- ❖ **Discussion Item: Administrative Update/Land Bank**
 - Ms. Siemers and Mr. Jackson updated the board on Shada. It is still in progress and Mr. Jackson is hoping to have a general title commitment before the next meeting.
 - Ms. Siemers gave the land bank update regarding Mr. Quarrels and the site adjacent to the Electric Depot. Mr. Jackson and Ms. Siemers opened a discussion with the board on how to handle legal fees for the Community Partners Program. Mr. Jackson is trying to come up with a template, to make the process less costly.
 - Continuing with the redevelopment update, Ms. Siemers notified the board that the annual report to JD Morgan Chase must be submitted in October. Ms. Siemers stated that we do not have a grocery anchor, which is a requirement of the grant, and the grant is set to expire in 2026. The board discussed possible solutions.
 - Ms. Siemers reported on the Florida Corridor plan. It was approved by the Planning Commission and will be going to Metro Council. Ms. Siemers stated that we had very positive reactions to the plan.
- ❖ **Action Item: Approve Board Chair to renegotiate terms for CAFA Loan Repayment and Approve contract for Success Labs to facilitate executive search.**
 - Mr. Landry moved that the second item should be taken first. Mr. Campbell seconded. There was no objection.
 - Mr. Braxton and Ms. Cunningham opened discussion to approve the contract for Success Labs to facilitate executive search. Ms. Cunningham informed the board of the search committee's vote to make a recommendation to this board to accept Success Labs recommendation. The search committee found Success Labs to be the most cost effective and have the best process for what they are trying to accomplish. Mr. Braxton entertained a motion to approve, Mr. Landry made the motion, Mr. Campbell seconded the motion, the motion to approve the contract for Success Labs to facilitate the executive search passed.
 - Mr. Braxton informed the board that CAFA will not extend their loan agreement and requested the board grant him the authority to reach out to CAFA to discuss partnering with them. Mr. Campbell made a motion to proceed, Ms. Turner seconded the motion, the motion to approve Board Chair to renegotiate terms for CAFA loan repayment passed.
- ❖ **Discussion Item: New Business:**
 - Ms. Siemers and Mr. Landry updated the board on potential upcoming projects.
- ❖ **Discussion Item: Public Comment**
 - Members of the public Penny May Landry and Dr. Dina Johnson asked for clarification from the board on matters discussed. The board reviewed the matters discussed with more clarity for the two ladies.
- ❖ **Action Item: Adjournment to Executive Session for discussion of real estate and personal matters**
 - The Board did not adjourn to Executive Session
- ❖ **Action Item: Adjournment**



- Mr. Braxton made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Landry made a motion, Mr. Campbell seconded, the regular meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.