



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

Date: Thursday, July 19, 2025

Place: 100 North St #800, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Time: 9:00 A.M.

Minutes

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

Also attending: Deidre Robert, President and CEO; Marlee Pittman Miller, Executive Vice President; Kendra Hendricks, Senior Planning and Development Coordinator; Tricia Prewitt, Administrative Officer; Kelly Hudson, VGraham; Vanessa Graham, VGraham; Kincaid Jackson, Kean Miller; Matthew Zylicz; Matthew Clark

Meeting Called by: Rodney Braxton

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

Note Taker: Tricia Prewitt

❖ **Action Item**

- a. Mr. Braxton called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
- b. Mr. Braxton confirmed receipt of proof of notice of meeting and the posting of public notice.
- c. Mr. Braxton confirmed the number of Board Commissioners present and the constitution of a majority. Mr. Braxton took a moment to acknowledge the Juneteenth holiday and noted that it was also the anniversary of the Baton Rouge Bus Boycott.
- d. The Board reviewed the minutes from the BBR Board of Commissioners May 22, 2025, regular meeting. Mr. Landry made a motion to approve the minutes, and Mr. Hamilton seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

❖ **Discussion Item: Budget**

- a. Ms. Graham introduced Kelly Hudson. Ms. Hudson presented the profit-loss actual vs. budget, program statement of activity, and cashflow projections for the period ending May 31, 2025. Ms. Hudson reported that she had a review with Ms. Robert and revenue and income are in line with expectations. Expenses are a little bit less than budgeted. There were no concerns.



❖ **Discussion Item: CEO Report (Deidre Robert)**

- a. Ms. Robert reported on the ECO Park ribbon cutting ceremony on June 18, 2025. The event was well attended and a success.
- b. Ms. Robert updated the Board on finance and operations, reporting that the positions for Director of Finance and Operations, Director of Real Estate Management, and Land Bank and Real Estate Coordinator were being advertised. Amanda Robertson has left V.Graham and Kelly Hudson is the new director on the account. Ms. Robert welcomed Ms. Hudson. The BBR and CCEDD 2024 audits are under way and will be completed next week. Ms. Robert reported that the BBR requested budget was submitted. The city asked for additional funding scenarios that incorporate a funding reduction of 6% and 12%, for which we have provided. Ms. Robert updated the Board on other matters of grants and funding.
- c. Ms. Robert gave a brief legislative update regarding SB 236, a bill that passed that did not originate from BBR but will have an effect on the agency. The Board entered into a brief discussion about the bill, expressing some concerns and a need to continue to monitor it closely.
- d. Ms. Robert updated the Board on the master mapping group and her meeting with Superintendent Lamont Cole to further explore ways to assist with redevelopment.
- e. Ms. Robert updated the board on the CLBT and thanked Chairman Rodney Braxton for attending the ribbon cutting for the ECO Park, along with BREC, Republic Services, Congressman Fields, and Councilwoman Coleman.
- f. Ms. Robert updated the Board on the JPMC Grant; the amendment extends the grant completion to March 2026. BBR is working with NYU to receive unexpended funds that will be placed in the general fund. BBR is working in collaboration with partners and Trufund to expend the remaining funds they received in the Plank Road Corridor.
- g. Ms. Robert gave a brief update on the Plank Facade Improvement Update, Plank Choctaw and the 3:00 Project, and reported that BBR is working on an RFI to gauge developer interest in projects along the Florida Corridor Master Plan. For Ardendale, BBR is exploring options with local partners for the development of the remaining 5 acres. Ms. Robert closed by reminding the Board to set aside September 18th and 19th for a strategic planning session.
- h. Mr. Jackson gave the legal update outlining the Resolution Confirming the Final Legal Description of Shada.

❖ **Discussion Item: Redevelopment and Land Bank Report (Marlee Pittman Miller)**

- a. Ms. Miller presented the Baton Rouge Blight Redevelopment Playbook draft to the Board, which is a strategy guide for staff and answered questions as the Board had a brief discussion and a favorable response to the draft.



- ❖ **Action Item: Resolution Confirming the Final Legal Description of Shada (*Kincaid Jackson*)**
 - a. After a review led by Mr. Jackson, the Board did not have any questions. Mr. Braxton entertained a motion to approve the resolution confirming the final legal description of Shada. Mr. Landry made a motion to approve, Mr. Hamilton seconded; the motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ **New Business: (Discussion) Electric Depot/Red Stick Social request to explore renegotiation of lease agreement (May be discussed in Executive Session)**
 - a. Due to a calendar misunderstanding, the discussion was tabled.
- ❖ **Old Business**
 - a. There was no old business
- ❖ **Action Item: Public Comment**
 - a. There was no public comment
- ❖ **Action Item: Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss negotiations between the authority and prospective seller(s), purchaser(s), lessor(s), or lessee(s) of immovable property owned by the Authority pursuant to LA. R.S. 4720.151(G)(12)**
 - a. The Board did not adjourn to Executive Session
- ❖ **Action Item: Adjournment**
 - a. Mr. Braxton entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Landry made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Hamilton seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 a.m.