

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (JDPEDC)
MINUTES OF MEETING
Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at Noon, First Guaranty Bank**

The regular meeting of the Jeff Davis Economic Development Commission was called to order and the following attendance was noted.

Name	Standing for	Present	Absent
Creed Romano, CEO/President	Jeff Davis Economic Development	X	
Mike Heinen	J.D. Tourist Commission		X
Beau Hearod	Jennings	X	
Tony Hulsey, Vice-Chairman	Jennings	X	
Judy Petry	JD Tourist Commission	X	
Ronnie Petree, Chairman	Welsh	X	
Jay Theunissen, Secretary/Treasurer	Jennings		X
Marilyn Watkins	JD Tourist Commission	X	
Rick Arceneaux	Attorney		X
Greg Marcantel	CPA	X	
Mayor Henry Guinn, Advisory	City of Jennings	X	
Charlie Butler	Advisory Board Member		X
Senator Jerry Theunissen	EDC Advisory Board	X	
Shane Fontenot	EDC Advisory Board	X	
Jim Wright	EDC Advisory Board		X
Zach Hager, Guest	One Acadiana		X
Alex Guillory, Guest	Blue Wing Engineering	X	
Jim Bourgeois, Guest	Entergy		X
Woody Daigle, Guest	Sen John Kennedy Office	X	
Linda LeBlanc, Facilitator	Jeff Davis Economic Development	X	

Call to Order: Chairman Ronnie Petree called the meeting to order.

Prayer and Pledge: Tony Hulsey led the prayer and Judy Petry led the pledge of allegiance.

Ms. Sarah Clark Werner, CPA of the firm Langley, Williams & Company, LLC was present and provided a compilation report in accordance with the Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services Committee of the American Institute of Certified Public Accounts. Ms. Werner reported the standard financial audit was not required due to Jeff Davis Economic Development having less than \$250,000 in revenue. Ms. Werner reviewed the compilation report and stated Jeff Davis Economic Development financial report was found favorable.

Approval of Compilation Report: A motion was made by Tony Hulsey, seconded by Judy Petry and passed unanimously to approve the compilation report performed by Langley, Williams & Company, LLC.

Approval of Minutes: *A motion was made by Marilyn Watkins, seconded by Tony Hulsey and passed unanimously* to approve the May, June, and July 2022 minutes as presented.

Approval of Financials: *A motion was made by Beau Heard, seconded by Judy Petry and passed unanimously* to approve the April, May, and June 2022 financial reports.

Public Comments: None

Old Business: Creed Romano reported on the continuation of trying to increase the number of certified sites within the parish by working with LED and regional partners.

New Business:

Mr. Romano gave thanks to Mayor Guinn for moving forward for the construction of the oil derrick replacement and other needed repairs from hurricane damages. Mr. Romano also reported he had met with individuals on the installation of EV chargers at the park and had to work through financial clarifications that the project would not be funded by the Tourist Commission nor Economic Development. DEQ confirmed their department would handle the project costs. Mr. Romano thanked everyone for the support in the certification of Jeff Davis Parish and the action plan is now on the Economic Development website. LED will be hosting a Rural Revitalization Roadshow at the Jennings City Hall.

Discussion was held pertaining to the availability of water needed for new industry at the Lacassine Park and the possibility of using pond water located within the park. Also reaching out to private water companies was suggested.

Creed Romano and Ronnie Petree discussed getting a group together to visit the Golden Triangle in the Starkville, Mississippi area. Ronnie Petree also suggested planning a tour of Lacassine Park with the School Board and Police Jury. Creed Romano stated One Acadiana is planning a tour of Jeff Davis Parish in December for their staff. Creed stated Bayou Rum has announced they are the official rum of the New Orleans Saints.

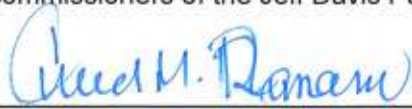
Ronnie Petree explained the importance of making contacts while attending the Washington Mardi Gras in the first part of 2023. More information will be given at future meetings.

Creed Romano reported the office had been having issues with the delay of obtaining credit cards and also having purchases denied from the credit card company with a local bank. He had spoken to a representative of the bank and was informed the matters would be taken care of.

An invitation was extended to the Board for the highway dedication event in memory of Marion Fox on Friday, August 12th at the Regatta Restaurant in Lake Arthur.

Motion to Adjourn: *A motion was made by Beau Heard, seconded by Tony Hulsey and passed unanimously* to adjourn.

I, Creed Romano, certify that the above and foregoing constitute the minutes of the meeting of the commissioners of the Jeff Davis Parish Economic Development Commission on August 10, 2022.



Creed Romano, CEO/President