

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (JDPEDC)
MINUTES OF MEETING
Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at Noon, First Guaranty Bank**

The meeting was opened and the following attendance was noted:

Name	Standing for	Present	Absent
Creed Romano, CEO/President	Jeff Davis Parish	X	
Mike Heinen	J.D. Tourist Commission		X
Beau Hearod	Jennings		X
Tony Hulsey, Vice-Chairman	Jennings	X	
Joel Oustalet	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	
Dione Sabelhaus	JD Tourist Commission		X
Jamie Lee	JD Tourist Commission		X
Linda LeBlanc	JD Chamber of Commerce	X	
Mayor Henry Guinn, Advisory	City of Jennings		X
Charlie Butler	Advisory Board Member	X	
Zach Hager, Guest	One Acadiana	X	
Alex Guillory, Guest	Blue Wing Engineering	X	
Jim Bourgeois, Guest	Entergy	X	
Senator Jerry Theunissen, Guest	Advisory Board Member	X	
Judy Petry	Farmrail	X	
Leah Harford, Facilitator	Jeff Davis Parish	X	

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

Prayer and Pledge: *Joel Oustalet* said the prayer and *Marilyn Watkins* led the pledge.

Approval of Agenda: *A motion was made by Joel Oustalet, seconded by Marilyn Watkins, and passed unanimously* to approve *the agenda of August 11, 2021.*

Approval of Minutes: *A motion was made by Marilyn Watkins, seconded by Tony Hulsey, and passed unanimously* to approve *the minutes of July 2021.*

Approval of Financials: *Greg Marcantel* presented the May 2021 financials. *A motion was made by Marilyn Watkins, seconded by Tony Hulsey, and passed unanimously* to table approval of *the financials ending May 2021.*

2020 Financial Audit Report: Chad Crochet, CPA from J. Aaron Cooper, CPA, LLC delivered the Annual Financial Statements Audit Report with no current year audit findings and no prior year findings of management status.

Public Comments: N/A

Old Business: Alex Guillory updated the board on the water/sewer project at T.O. Allen. General discussion was held regarding other projects Alex had heard of regarding water, i.e. Hwy 82/Rockefeller project.

New Business:

Creed Romano reported that his team has submitted two new sites in JDP (Lake Arthur and Jennings) to LED for certification. He advised that he would be on a call Thursday 8/12/2021 and would have more information regarding the next steps at the September board meeting.

Creed Romano discussed that an article was written regarding centralized tax collection/constitutional amendment that did not represent all of the facts. He is going to submit a draft concerning the facts that were mentioned in said article to the board for approval that would then be circulated to the local business owners so that all facts would be discussed before the upcoming vote in October.

Creed Romano also reported that Old River Trucking Company has purchased land on the north frontage road. He stated that they are closing two other locations and plan on bringing their sales and service center here to Jennings. Ronnie Petree stated that he has spoken with the company CEO and plans are to move forward sometime in 2022.

General discussion was held regarding the current COVID-19 spike and how to keep the employees at the Gator Chateau as well as the ED office safe and healthy.

Motion to Adjourn: *The meeting was adjourned.*

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 held on August 11, 2021.

Creed Romano, CEO/President