

**JEFF DAVIS PARISH
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (JDPEDC)
MINUTES OF MEETING
DATE: 2/13/20**

The meeting was opened, and the following attendance was noted:

Name	Representing	Present	Absent
Mike Heinen	J.D. Tourist Commission		X
Beau Hearod	Jennings	X	
Tony Hulsey, Vice-Chairman	Jennings	X	
Joel Oustalet	J.D. Tourist Commission	X	
Ronnie Petree, Chairman	Welsh	X	
Jay Theunissen, Secretary/Treasurer	Jennings	X	
Marilyn Watkins	J.D. Tourist Commission		X
Rick Arceneaux	Attorney		X
Mayor Henry Guinn	City of Jennings	X	
Marion Fox	President/CEO	X	
Tracie Fontenot	EDC Office	X	

Guest Present: Senator Jerry Theunissen, Mayor Henry Guinn and Zach Hager with One Acadiana.

Call to Order ~ ***Chairman Petree called*** the meeting to order at 8:03am.

Approval of Agenda: ***A motion was made by Tony Hulsey, seconded by Joel Oustalet and passed unanimously*** to approve the agenda of February 13, 2020.

Prayer and Pledge: ***Chairman Petree*** said the prayer and ***Joel Oustalet led*** the pledge.

Approval of Minutes: ***A motion was made by Joel Oustalet, seconded by Beau Hearod and passed unanimously*** to approve ***the minutes of December 16, 2019.***

Approval of Financials: ***A motion was made by Tony Hulsey, seconded by Jay Theunissen and passed unanimously*** to approve ***the financials ending December 31, 2019.***

Public Comments: Mayor Guinn mentioned that the Jeff Davis Landfill did approve funding Jeff Davis Economic Development. The only request is a quarterly update of Economic Development.

Old Business: Chairman Petree mentioned that the Industrial Board hasn't met. Rail Logix continues to lay down track at the park. Marion Fox mentioned that the cleaning car company is close, and they will be located at the west end of the park behind Zagis. Westlake Chemical let Rail Logix know that they need a thousand cars total by October. They will continue building track. Fox offered for anyone to contact her and she would take them out to the site.

Lacassine Operating Company Still building and have train cars on the rails. They wanted fifty jobs to start now they are wanting eighty total employees. They are the largest Catalyst plant in the world. Catalyst is plastic pellets that go in everything, cell phones, dashboards, bumper and many other things. Porocel and Quanta are located in the park. It's perfectly clean they don't need any air permits or water permits. All the plastic pallets are transferred by pneumatic hose either to the rail cars or the trucks, no air get in.

Bayou Rum ~ Jeff Murphy spoke at the economic development luncheon. He spoke about the hindrances with the government and what they're doing, how they can grow.

Certified Site ~ T.O. Allen property located along highway 90 in Lacassine. Zach with One Acadiana updated the board. One Acadiana contracted with CSRS, so we are working on a site use plan for the north track, that's 560 acres. In the next few weeks CSRS is going to deliver basically two potential site layouts. At that point we will get with Marion and the other stakeholders review the site layouts than give feedback to CSRS. We will come back with the final land use plan for that North track so that we can be more intelligent when we are trying to attract business when we get the opportunities given that most of the RFPs we get aren't for an entire 560 acres. We will know the best place to put businesses to really maximize the use of the property. One Acadiana, LED, the property owners, Jeff Davis Economic Development and Entergy agreed to split the cost of having the site plan.

Census ~ Chairman Petree spoke about how important it is for Jeff Davis Parish to participate in the 2020 Census. The impact for our community with the census helps with funding for schools, highways, hospitals and hopefully keep more people in the state and we don't want to lose another representative, not saying that we would at this time, but we're close. Marion Fox spoke with Donald Woods about the 2020 Census and she will chair it.

New Business: Election of Officers ~ A motion was made by Tony Hulseby to keep the Officers as is, Ronnie Petree Chairman, Tony Hulseby Vice Chairman and Jay Theunissen Secretary/Treasurer, ***seconded by Joel Oustalet and passed unanimously*** to keep the Officers as they are currently.

Marion went over the Drew CBEA Quarterly Report that Dr. Groft put together. The quarterly report includes data on housing, gaming, new businesses and more of the region as a whole and by parish. Under Tax Collections transportation is up 2,000 percent year-over-year. Rail Logix started in 2018.

Washington Mardi Gras was really good this year, we were able to meet with the officials we wanted to meet with while we were there. We were able to get one on one with our Federal delegation.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Tony Hulseby, seconded by Beau Hearod and passed unanimously to adjourn.

I, Marion Fox, certify that the above and foregoing constitute the minutes of the first meeting of the commissioners of the Jeff Davis Parish Economic Development Commission held on February 13, 2020.

MARION FOX, PRESIDENT/CEO