

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Bayou Vermilion District
Held at Vermilionville, 300 Fisher Road Lafayette Louisiana
4:30 pm, October 23, 2019

Call to Order was given by President Keefer. The meeting was called at 4:31 pm.
Roll Call: Given by the Secretary; Natalie Keefer, Thomas Michot, Ray Landry, Don McConnell, Robert Minyard, Calvin Leger and Jennifer Badon Farr were present. Commissioners Kristie Cornell was absent. There was a quorum.

Oath of Office was taken by new commissioners Robert Minyard, Calvin Leger and Jennifer Badon Farr.

Approval of Minutes: **MOTION:** (R. Landry/D. McConnell) Motion to accept the minutes from the September 25, 2019 regular meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Introduction of Guest(s): Staff: CEO Cherie, Wesley Davis, Brady McKellar, Shawntell Lewis, Melissa Bastien, Lauren Odom, Maegan Smith, Emile Ancelet, Millicent Norbert, Anne Mahoney, Greg Guidroz, Marissa Petrou, Curtis Willingham, and Kim Fournet.

Public Comment(s): There were no public comments.

President's Report: President Keefer will make comment during committee reports.

Commissioner Catherine Comeaux joined the meeting at 4:32.

CEO's Report: Copies of CEO Cherie's report and coordinators reports (on file) were e-mailed. CEO Cherie welcomed the new commissioners. CEO reviewed his report, explaining to the new members in a condensed version how BVD/Vermilionville operate. BVD's funding through Ad Valorem tax collections. Vermilionville's goal for accreditation. The upcoming vote on the amended 2019 budget and the proposed 2020 budget. The Community Outreach position is being eliminated and no raises for 2020 to help improve the budget. CEO discussed the protocol for grant request through Vermilionville Living History Museum Foundation (VLHMF). BVD's responsibility to remove trash from the river and Water Quality's goal to improve the water quality of the river. Fecal matter is still the biggest pollution problem. Every time it rains heavily, the runoff into the river contains fecal matter. Sewer systems need to be maintained. CEO invited the new commissioners to take a trip on the river with Bayou Ops foreman Tom Melancon. The lowest bid for the Water Quality Lab was Garden City.

Marketing/Public Relations: The committee did not meet. Shawntell Lewis handed out Fourth Quarter Newsletter. Boo Bayou event was a huge success.

Finance/Capital: The committee did not meet but will meet soon to review the budgets.

Operations/Bayou/Maintenance: The committee did not meet.

Environmental: The committee did not meet. Commissioner Michot explained to the new commissioners what environmental department does at BVD.

Programming/Education/Grants: The committee did not meet.

Curatorial/Acquisitions: The committee did meet. Anne Mahoney had a slide show presentation of what the Curatorial/Acquisitions department needs as far as climate controlled storage for artifacts. The current water shed building would be renovated to accommodate this request. Ms. Mahoney was asking the board to approve approximately \$20,000, to make the renovations. Commissioner Leger commented that the building was prime real estate and should possibly be used for more than storage.

Commissioner Don McConnell left the meeting at 5:58.

Commissioners Leger and Minyard asked to table this request to give them time to assess the need and other options available. Ms. Mahoney will send the new commissioners more information about her plans for their understanding.

Master Plan: The committee did not meet.

Budget: The financial analysis comparison for the month ending September 2019 and September 2018 was available for the commissioners' review. The financials are also emailed to the commissioners. The budget was reviewed in CEO's report. There were no questions.

New Business: The 30th Anniversary is being planned for April 1, 2020. Vermilionville is seeking funding for this event. Marissa Petrou informed the board that President Michael Martin of the Foundation Board would like VLHMF to join with BVD to have an interim committee to address employee concerns. CEO Cheramie has already interviewed someone for this position and is including it in the 2020 budget. President Keefer appointed Commissioner Catherine Comeaux as President Pro Tempore until board elections.

Adjournment: MOTION: (T. Michot/R. Landry) Motion to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

/s/ Catherine Comeaux

Catherine Comeaux, President Pro Tempore