

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Bayou Vermilion District  
Held by ZOOM at Vermilionville, 300 Fisher Road Lafayette Louisiana  
4:30 pm, November 17, 2021

**Call to Order** was given by President Eaton. The meeting was called at 4:34 pm. The BVD meeting is on ZOOM due to COVID-19. Adhering to Governor's Proclamation, following mandate and guidance.

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:** Given by the Secretary: Commissioners Calvin Leger, David Eaton, Karen Hail, Phyllis Mouton, Mark Wiltz, and Holden Hoggatt were present on ZOOM. Commissioners Don McConnell and Claire Darby were absent. There was a quorum.

**Guest(s):** Guests: Ryan Goude Locke, BVD attorney; RPF, C, 13372573714, Jackie Vargas, S, and Deborah Simeral. Staff: CEO Cheramie, Brady McKellar, Millicent Norbert, Brenda Lalonde, Chris Benoit, and Kim Fournet.

**Approval of Minutes:** President Eaton asked if there were any questions, changes, or issues with the minutes as written from the October 27, 2021, meeting. There were none.

**MOTION:** (M. Wiltz/C. Leger) to accept minutes as written. All were in favor. Motion carried

**Public Comment(s):** There were no public comments at this time.

**President's Report:**

President Eaton reported that the permit process for tree removal was ongoing.

**CEO Report:**

Copies of CEO Cheramie's report and coordinators reports (on file) were e-mailed to the commissioners.

A. Stuller Family Foundation Grant.

The Stuller Family Foundation is still interested in helping BVD develop a canoe/kayak launch at the North Property. BVD will need to submit a current proposal.

B. Reorganization

The process is going smoothly.

C. Francophone Affairs

BVD, CODOFIL, other entities are working to have more Francophone-centered events.

D. Regularly Scheduled Community Paddle.

CEO Cheramie is working with the BVPA and Pack and Paddle to organize a regular canoe paddle down the Vermilion on a monthly basis.

E. Budget

CEO Cheramie discussed the budget reports he sent the commissioners.

LCG received two applicants for the vacancy of Jason Sullivan. They are Wayne Colvin and Glynn Shelly Maturin, II. The appointment will be at the December 1, 2021, meeting.

**Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee:** The committee did not meet. They will meet in December.

**Finance:** The committee met November 15, 2021. Commissioner Hail summarized her minutes. The revenues have increased this year as compared to last year. Vermilionville expenses went down from last year. BVD overall fiscal situation is improving but we are not where we want to be. The commissioners are taking the 2022 proposed budget under advisement. Ms. Hail is asking for the breakdown of the bond money, issued in 2016. The final payment for the Water Quality Lab will leave approximately \$19,200, in the Capital Fund Account.

Commissioner Leger would like to amend the By-Laws to state the budget must be submitted to the board by October 1, and no changes made by staff or accountant after that. President Eaton stated that this issue will be taken up at an Executive Committee Meeting.

**Bayou Operations and Development:** The committee met November 1, 2021. Commissioner Darby was not the board meeting.

**Vermilionville Operations:** The committee did not meet this month.

**Introduction of Tentative Budget for Consideration and Discussion.**

The budget was presented to the board. Executive summary is Vermilionville is still at a deficit, working to improve. For 2022, the expected revenues of \$750,00, and the expenses should be a wash.

**New Business**

A. CEO Job and Management Goals

**MOTION:** (C. Leger/H. Hoggatt) to terminate CEO, with 2 months' pay, and for BVD to go into different direction.

Attorney Ryan Goudelocke noted that Commissioner Leger might be out of order. With all due respect, the agenda was not clear in its advertising. The CEO Job and Management Goals should have been separate items.

**MOTION:** (C. Leger/K. Hail) to introduce to the agenda, CEO Job and Employment.

Public Comment: Deborah Simeral, misleading on the agenda, hope board thinks about actions concerning open meeting laws and agendas. Commissioners comments: CEO Job on agenda is good enough notice. The board is not receiving financial documents that are understandable nor in a timely fashion. This was sufficient notice. The board are stewards of organization. Mr. Goudelocke respects the opinions stated but concerned for the board, adverse consequences of this vote could be substantially negative and could possibly reverse this action. Mr. Goudelocke remarks are "so noted". CEO Cheramie disagrees with process. The budget is presented as always. The budget is a work in progress. The vote was 6 yes, 1 abstain, and 2 absent. The motion failed, lack of unanimous vote.

**Adjournment:** **MOTION:** (H. Hoggatt/K. Hail) Motion to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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David Eaton, President

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Calvin Leger, Secretary