

RIVER PARISHES

TOURIST COMMISSION

MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting

February 17, 2021, 10 am

1811 West Airline Hwy, LaPlace, LA

Commission: Garrett Monti (Chairman), Elizabeth Joseph (Vice-Chair), Camella Landry (Secretary/Treasurer), Tracy Smith, Ricardo Smith, Paul Aucoin, Robert Taylor, Kevin Patel

- I. Call to Order / Roll Call (10:02am)
GM TS EJ (joined @ 10:08am) PA CL RT (6-0)
- II. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance (10:03am) Prayer: CL Pledge: GM
- III. Agenda – *Action* (10:04am)
ADOPTED M: PA 2: RT
GM TS PA CL RT (5-0-3)
- IV. Public Comment START: 10:04am END: 10:04am
NO PUBLIC COMMENTS
- V. Minutes (10:05am)
 - January 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes– *Action*
 - Adopting the minutes of the January 2022 meeting.
ADOPTED M: CL 2: PA
GM TS PA CL RT (5-0-3)
- VI. Financial (10:05am)
 - January 2022 Monthly Financials – *Action*
 - Adopting the monthly financials for January 2022.
ADOPTED M: TS 2: PA
GM TS EJ PA CL RT (6-0-2)

*10:08am EJ entered the meeting

- 2020-2021 Audit Presentation (10:11am)
 - 10:16am: EJ: Are we current with most up to date way to manage our financials?
Auditor: You are in good shape with internal accounting

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VII. Approvals (10:17am)

- Resolution 2022-02 – Approving the authorization of the Executive Director to sign the Professional Services Agreement Renewal w Deveney Communication, LLC to provide creative (advertising, marketing) services. – **Action**

APPROVED M: PA 2: EJ
GM TS EJ PA CL RT (6-0-2)

- (10:21am) Resolution 2022-03 – Approving the authorization of the Executive Director to complete and submit Louisiana Transportation Alternatives Program (LTAP) application and any documents necessary for grant funds relative to Project No: LASTA; Project Name: Rebuild of Locomotive SP 745. – **Action**

- TS: Last we spoke St. John the Baptist Parish (SJPB) might be a potential partner, what is the status of this?
- JR: They are having some time constraints with the council
- GM: Because of Hurricane Ida, SJPB has additional working parts to sift through right now.
- TS: Will we then become a permanent partner for them?
- JR: At this time, yes.
- LASTA: SJPB have heavy lifting to do post Ida, they have already granted two extensions to allow them to have more time. There isn't added to time to wait, we need a 501(c) quickly to partner with us.
- PA: Will we meet the deadline.
- LASTA: Yes, if signed today.
- GM: We are honored to work with you to bring this attraction to Louisiana's River Parishes. Can this partnership be dissolved should another government body step up to join you?
- LASTA: Yes

APPROVED M: EJ 2: TS
GM TS EJ PA CL RT (6-0-2)

- (10:33am) Resolution 2022-04 – A resolution making certifications the River Parishes Convention, Tourist and Visitors Commission (Commission) is required to make in compliance with the Louisiana Transportation Alternatives Program (LTAP) application. – **Action**

- TS: Will the reports and accounting be signed and maintained by JR?
- JR: Yes, Bourgeois and Bennett (their accounting) will be providing this information to me to oversee
- GM: The document needs to read Executive Director (ED) to maintain and oversee accounting, should the ED role change hands over the course of the project

APPROVED M: PA 2: RT
GM TS EJ PA CL RT (6-0-2)

- (10:38am) Resolution 2022-05 – A resolution appointing the Responsible Charge and Financial Contact for Federal-Aid Projects relative to the Louisiana Transportation Alternatives Program (LATAP); Project No. LASTA; Project Name: Rebuild of Locomotive SP 745. – **Action**

APPROVED M: EJ 2: PA
GM TS EJ PA CL RT (6-0-2)

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VIII. Executive Director's Report (10:43am)

- Operations
- Bonfire Country Season Update
- River Region Cruise Terminal Monthly Update
- Sales Report / St John Center
- Marketing & Public Relations Report
- Conferences
- Community Engagement

I. Executive Session (10:58am)

-Enter into Executive Session: M: EJ 2: PA
GM TS EJ PA CL RT (6-0-2)

- Prospective Litigation
 - Discussing the strategy relative to the demand letter received from Ms. Joanne Vero's Attorney.

-Exit Executive Session: M: EJ 2: PA
GM TS EJ PA CL RT (6-0-2)

-Resume regular meeting (11:13am): M: EJ 2: TS
GM TS EJ PA CL RT (6-0-2)

II. Chairman's Report

- Next Board Meeting – March 17, 2022

III. Adjourn

APPROVED M: EJ 2: PA
GM TS EJ PA CL RT (6-0-2)