



JEDCO Executive Committee
January 30, 2025 @ 8:30 A.M.
JEDCO Administration Building
700 Churchill Parkway, Avondale, LA 70094

MINUTES

Call to Order: 8:30 a.m.

Attended: Chairwoman Josline Frank, Mickal Adler, Billy Douglass, Brian Heiden, Jim Martin, Stephen Robinson, Gene Sausse, Lynda Nugent Smith

Absent: Joe Ewell, Mayra Pineda, Joe Riccobono, Bob Stevens

Staff: Jerry Bologna, Lacey Bordelon, Janet Galati, Scott Rojas, Neil Schnider, Dianne Scalfani, Kelsey Scram, Penny Weeks, Kate Wendel, Jennifer Wollfarth

Attorney: Reed Smith – Jefferson Parish

Guest: Cate Creed – Adams and Reese

I. Call to Order – Chairwoman, Josline Frank

- **Approval of Board absences for today, January 30, 2025** – Gene Sausse motioned, seconded by Lynda Nugent Smith, to excuse Joe Riccobono and Bob Stevens. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of minutes for December 19, 2024** – Jim Martin motioned, seconded by Billy Douglass, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no public comments.

III. Unfinished and New Business

- **Approval of an amendment to the 2025 budget for the Entrepreneurial & Innovation department – Lacey Bordelon**

As a result of the adoption of the Jefferson EDGE 2025 recommended actions, JEDCO assumed an expanded scope of work which required the creation of additional staff positions, one of which was a position focused on building and strengthening the parish's entrepreneurial community. JEDCO created the position in August 2024 as the Director of Entrepreneurship and Innovation which

was filled by Dianne Sclafani who has years of professional experience helping entrepreneurs and small businesses secure funding and thrive.

With its Director of Entrepreneurship and Innovation in place, JEDCO is prepared to ramp up its entrepreneurial support by creating and executing valuable programming to start-ups, especially start-ups in the food and beverage industry. As JEDCO moves forward with the design and engineering of the Food & Beverage Incubator, immediate expenses are anticipated.

JEDCO's 2025 proposed budget was approved to include program expenditures for the Department of Entrepreneurship and Innovation in the amount of \$107,197. The first amended budget will increase the budgeted amount by \$41,564, for a total amount of \$148,761.

Jim Martin motioned, seconded by Mickal Adler, to approve the amendment to JEDCO's 2025 budget related to the Department of Entrepreneurship and Innovation. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Approval of an unbudgeted item in the amount of \$7,500 to contract with Next Move Group, LLC for the purpose of performing research and a salary study of 20 similarly sized organizations; and authorizing JEDCO's President and CEO to execute contract – Jerry Bologna**

To assist JEDCO in benchmarking salaries against those of its competitors and retaining staff, JEDCO seeks to contract with Next Move Group, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$7,500 to perform research and salary study. Next Move Group, LLC will provide a survey and research salary comps for other organizations in similar-sized communities. Comps will be provided both for Louisiana communities and communities outside of Louisiana.

Lynda Nugent Smith motioned, seconded by Billy Douglass, to approve the contract. The motion passed unanimously.

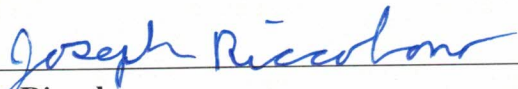
IV. President and CEO Report – Jerry Bologna

- JEDCO received 17 proposals for the development of the new website. The review committee selected 4 proposals to conduct interviews. Anticipate bringing a contract to the Board for approval in February.
- Commissioners were invited to attend the following events:
 - February 11 – Bicentennial (press conference – morning/Carnival Kickoff evening)
 - February 13 – UBE Groundbreaking (10am, Tchoupitoulas Plantation)
 - February 13 – RNGD Ribbon Cutting (4pm, RNGD JP Headquarters)
 - February 14 – Primary Workspace Ribbon Cutting (10 am, 519 Huey P. Long, Gretna)
 - February 18 – Perrone & Sons Ribbon Cutting (10am, 1604 Justin Rd, Metairie)

V. Other Updates or Comments from the JEDCO Board of Commissioners

There were no updates or comments from the Commissioners.

VI. Adjournment – Gene Sausse motioned, seconded by Stephen Robinson, to adjourn the meeting.



Joe Riccobono
JEDCO Secretary