



JEDCO Executive Committee

June 29, 2023 @ 8:30 A.M.

JEDCO Administration Building - Boardroom

700 Churchill Parkway, Avondale, LA 70094

MINUTES

Call to Order: 8:30 a.m.

Attendance: Chairman Larry Katz, Mickal Adler, Lloyd Clark, Mike Fahrenholt, Josline Frank, Tom Gennaro, Mayra Pineda, Stephen Robinson, Gene Sausse

Staff: Jerry Bologna, Lacey Bordelon, Janet Galati, Kelsey Scram, Penny Weeks, Kate Wendel

Absences: Jim Martin, Teri Tucker

Attorney: Colin Cisco, Jefferson Parish

Guests: Kevin Willis – Taylor & Willis CPAs

I. Call to Order – Chairman Larry Katz

- **Approval of Board absences for today, June 29, 2023** – Tom Gennaro motioned, seconded by Gene Sausse, to excuse the above-named absences. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of minutes for May 25, 2023** – Stephen Robinson motioned, seconded by Mike Fahrenholt, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no public comments.

III. Unfinished and New Business

- **Resolution approving a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Parish of Jefferson for supplemental economic development and related services, and providing for related matters – Lacey Bordelon**
Under the proposed CEA, the term of the agreement is set at one year beginning with the date that the CEA is executed by all parties and authorizes \$90,000 to support JEDCO's agreement with GNO, Inc. The CEA includes an updated list of economic development deliverables focused on business development, enhancing the business environment, marketing, and other activities. The deliverables, which

will be carried out by GNO, Inc., incorporate many of JEDCO's priorities for the calendar year, many of which are EDGE 2025 initiatives, such as working closely with JEDCO and Louisiana Economic Development to certify business sites within Churchill Park, attracting new business to Jefferson Parish that are within the EDGE's targeted sectors, vetting and prioritizing catalytic projects for funding by federal stimulus dollars, supporting regional public transit, advancing the New Orleans to Baton Rouge passenger rail initiative, supporting JEDCO's efforts to establish a food and beverage incubator in Jefferson Parish, and more.

Josline Frank motioned, seconded by Stephen Robinson, to approve the resolution authorizing the CEA between Jefferson Parish and JEDCO. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Resolution approving a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with Greater New Orleans, Inc. for economic development and related services, and provided for related matters – Lacey Bordelon**

Under the proposed new CEA between JEDCO and GNO, Inc., the term of the agreement is for one year and total payment to GNO, Inc. for the deliverables is \$90,000 which will be provided to JEDCO by Jefferson Parish via JEDCO's CEA with the Parish. The JEDCO/GNO, Inc. CEA includes an updated list of economic development deliverables focused on business development, enhancing the business environment, marketing, and other activities. The deliverables incorporate many of JEDCO's priorities for the calendar year which include EDGE 2025 initiatives.

Mickal Adler motioned, seconded by Lloyd Clark, to approve the resolution authorizing the CEA between JEDCO and GNO, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Resolution approving and authorizing the execution of an amendment to the consulting services contract with PRIME Business Advisory Solutions for accounting services – Lacey Bordelon**

The PRIME consultant team has recommended that JEDCO create a full-time Senior Accountant position, a full-time Operations Coordinator, and a part-time CFO position to fulfill JEDCO's accounting needs. JEDCO's executive team intends to finalize the new job descriptions and begin advertising and interviewing candidates for the Operations Coordinator and Senior Accountant positions. The JEDCO executive team would like to retain a PRIME consultant in the part-time CFO position. Until the Senior Accountant and Operations Coordinator positions are filled, JEDCO will need the continued services of PRIME consultants to manage JEDCO's day-to-day accounting functions. PRIME has proposed an amendment to the contract that would enable PRIME's accounting services to continue through December 31, 2023, and allow for the phasing in and training of the permanent hires in the Senior Accountant and Operations Coordinator positions, along with the phasing out of PRIME consultants with similar roles. The part-time CFO role will be filled by a PRIME

consultant that has worked with JEDCO from the start of the engagement. The total cost of the proposed amendment is \$160,520. The amendment would be effective beginning on July 1, 2023.

Mickal Adler motioned, seconded by Mayra Pineda, to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Approval of JEDCO 2023 First Amended Budget – Lacey Bordelon**
Mayra Pineda motioned, seconded by Josline Frank, to approve the 2023 First Amended Budget as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Monthly Financial Report

- **May 2023 – Lacey Bordelon**
Lloyd Clark motioned, seconded by Tom Gennaro, to approve the report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

V. President and CEO Report – Jerry Bologna

- The Westbank Port Development Task Force Committee is scheduled to meet in July to review and adopt recommendations regarding the Industrial Zoning study. Prior to the Task Force Committee meeting, there will be a small group meeting with Councilman Bonano to try and come to a middle ground on some of the recommendations.
- Jerry and Chairman Katz participated in the World Trade Center Trade Mission to Ireland. The visit included meetings with key government officials and business leaders, site visits to local facilities and research institutions.
- On June 22, Ochsner announced a 10-yr partnership with MD Anderson. The physicians will be certified by MD Anderson and will follow MD Anderson treatment protocols. The doctors will collaborate on patient care and drug trials.
- The purchase of Avondale Global Gateway by the Port of South Louisiana will go before the Bond Commission in August.

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

There were no other updates or comments.

VII. Adjournment – Mickal Adler motioned, seconded by Mayra Pineda, to adjourn the meeting.



Mayra Pineda
JEDCO Vice Chairwoman
Minutes for June 29, 2023