

## **Minutes of the February 1, 2021**

### **Legal and Regular Meeting of the Southside Economic Development District Board of Commissioners**

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Southside Economic Development District was held on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, at the SEDD headquarters, 1711 Arizona Avenue in Monroe, Louisiana.

The meeting Began at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Brown, Mr. Watson III, Mr. Campbell, Attorney McConnell, Mr. Mitchell.

The roll was called, and quorum declared by Chairman Campbell.

Chairman gave a warm welcome to all special guest that attended the meeting, especially to the two City Council Members that were present.

Invited Guest as follows: Mr. Marshall Hill from the Department of Transportation, Mr. Cedric Hemphill of Land III Architecture, Mrs. Kenya Dawson of the Monroe City Council, and Mr. Corday Marshall of the Monroe City Council.

Other Guest as follows: Mr. Clifton Lewis, Real Estate Investor.

The Chairman turned the meeting over to the Executive Director's Report.

The Executive Director, Mr. Charles Theus, asked the Board of Commissioners to amend the agenda to allow the Board to fill the vacancy of the Vice President of the Board.

The Executive Director gave the commissioners a proposal entitled "ATAP Bookkeeping Services". The Board asked that Mr. Theus try to get three local proposals within the Parish.

Mr. Theus introduced Mr. Marshall Hill and asked him to speak on the refurbishing the bridge over Interstate 165. Mr. Theus asked that Mr. Hill explain what is expected in order to start working on the bridge, from the perspective of the Department of Transportation.

**Mr. Hill stated the following:**

He would need to figure out the closing of lane, or lanes, on Interstate 165 in order to perform work on the bridge.

The Department of Transportation would have to issue the specific closure times of the lane(s) to the Board for the contractors to follow.

The DOTD would send an inspector to Monroe to examine the bridge prior to any work starting, or any permit given.

Lead paint and the need to either abate the paint or cover the structure.

The permit would need to be in the name of The City of Monroe since they own the bridge, and SEDD would have to pursue a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement or and Intergovernmental Agreement.

Mr. Hill concluded, and Mr. Theus introduced Mr. Cedric Hemphill to the Board of Commissioners.

**Mr. Hemphill explained the following:**

The 2018 Estimate his firm submitted on the bridge and how he came to the numbers contained within the report.

Per his report, Mr. Hemphill stated the numbers that came about from him measuring the bridge.

During these calculations, his findings stated that the numbers would have to be updated and more information would have to be attained by the DOTD for further examination.

**Public Comment:**

Councilman Dawson Suggested we investigate donations for the paint, and other items, to help defray the cost of the bridge refurbishing.

Councilman Marshall gave a report that stated he spoke to the manufacturing company; Mr. Marshall stated the potential manufacturer will give Mr. Theus a proposal.

Mr. Theus gave a report on the potential manufacturer and stated the talks have been favorable.

**Committees Report:**

**Education Committee:**

Commissioner Harrington Watson III suggested SEDD meet in the various Districts and explain the who and what SEDD is to the community.

**Physical Values Committee:**

Mr. Brown of the Physical Committee expressed the need to get a Contractor to examine and get their opinion concerning the footbridge over Interstate 165.

**Technology Committee & Economic Values Committee:**

The Chairman stated he was attending meetings with the Council Members, as well as personnel set up in the community for Neighborhood Watch.

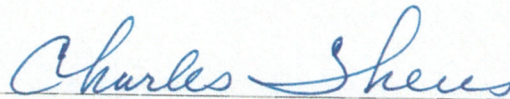
- Jasmyne McConnell was asked of her interest in a committee assignment.

**Other Business:**

None.

Prayer by guest, Clifton Lewis.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting, motion passed.



Charles Theus

Executive Director