

## **MINUTES**

### **SOUTH CENTRAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

**Thursday, May 1, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for South Central Planning and Development Commission was called to order at approximately 10:45 a.m. on Thursday, May 1, 2008, at Sugarland Country Club, Raceland, Louisiana.

Chairman D. Hymel called the meeting to order and requested roll call. Members present or represented by proxy were T. Vial representing V.J. St. Pierre, P. Gordon representing K. Ghirardi, K. Kreamer representing C. Caillouet, W. Reed, C. Randolph, A. Tregre, D. Hymel, K. Brass, and M. Claudet. Members absent were M. Triche, C. James, R. Animashaun, M. Atzenhoffer, R. Champagne, J. Bouziga, B. Raymond, Sr., D. Vial, W. Hubbard, H. Bourgeois, R. Scott, and A. Williams. Staff members present were K. Belanger, J. Boudreaux, and E. Bergeron. Guests in attendance were: A. Taylor of C.F. Bean, P. Ehlers, Economic Development Representative for the U.S. Department of Commerce, A. Perry and A. Celestine of Louisiana Economic Development.

Chairman Hymel introduced and welcomed guests to the meeting.

It was moved by T. Vial, seconded by C. Randolph to approve the minutes of January 31, 2008. Motion carried.

Chairman Hymel introduced the second item on the agenda for discussion: the Ratification of Management Committee Minutes of April 11, 2008. K. Belanger briefed the board on topics discussed at said meeting. Several topics were discussed: FY 08 financials, expansion of the Building Division, North/South Hurricane Evacuation Route, verbiage within the Personnel Manual with regards to the Death Leave, additional parishes interested in joining the commission, hiring of an Economic Development Administrator, the evaluation of K. Belanger, and suggestions to help give a better representation of the populations that are represented within the Commission. Discussion ensued.

It was motioned by M. Claudet, seconded by T. Vial to ratify the minutes of April 11, 2008 Management Committee meeting with the change of the wording of "adjust" Mr. Belanger's salary to "recommend." Motion carried.

The third item for discussion was the review and approval of the Financial Statement ending March 31, 2008. K. Belanger gave a brief overview of the financial statements. It was motioned by C. Randolph, seconded by M. Claudet to approve the Financial Statement ending March 31, 2008. Motion carried.

Review and approval of the FY 2008 Budget Adjustments was the fourth item on the agenda for discussion. K. Belanger gave a brief overview of the proposed FY 08 Budget Adjustments. It was motioned by P. Gordon, seconded by W. Reed to approve the FY 2008 Budget Adjustments. Motion carried.

The fifth item for discussion was the resolution of support for the North/South Interstate Corridor. K. Belanger briefed the Committee on a meeting which he and M. Atzenhoffer both attended two weeks prior with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in reference to the Houma-Thibodaux to LA 3127 Connection. M. Atzenhoffer has requested a resolution be passed to support the procurement of the North/South Interstate Access Highway to be constructed between U.S. Highway 90 and the Grammercy Bridge Corridor rather than the East-West Alternative. It was motioned by K. Creamer, seconded by C. Randolph to pass the resolution supporting the North/South Interstate Access Highway. Motion carried.

A resolution to surplus equipment no longer being used was the sixth item on the agenda for discussion. K. Belanger informed the committee of the two items in which to surplus: a Canon B&W copier in good condition and an APC Power Supply which is broken. He offered both items for donation to any public entities. It was motioned by T. Vial, seconded by P. Gordon to pass the resolution declaring equipment as surplus property. Motion carried.

Chairman Hymel introduced the Agency Activity Report, the seventh item on the agenda for discussion. K. Belanger offered to briefly overview the Agency Activity Report for everyone. It was suggested that each individual read it at their own accord.

Guest Speaker, Ancil Taylor of C.F. Bean, was introduced to the Committee. He gave a PowerPoint presentation on Wetlands Restoration Projects. His presentation was very informative as well as interesting. A. Perry commented the same procedures in which CF Bean are implementing were used in the Morgan City area and what once was marsh is now a camp ground with abundant plant life – it was quite successful!

Under Other Business, a copy of a letter from Michael Hecht of L.E.D. addressed to SCP&DC in reference to the Louisiana Business Recovery Grant and Loan Program was given to each Board Member. The letter stated the stipulations in which SCP&DC agrees to in order to participate in Phase II of the BRGL program. Ms. A. Celestine of L.E.D. was introduced to the Committee. She was able to help answer a few of the Committee's questions. Discussion ensued.

It was moved by T. Vial, seconded by W. Reed to approve all conditions required by L.E.D. for SCP&DC to become an intermediary for Phase II of the BRGL. Motion carried.

K. Belanger proudly informed the Committee on the gracious people which work for SCP&DC. During the Lenten Season some SCP&DC's employees challenged one another in a "Big Loser" competition. The monies collected were donated to MacDonell United Methodist Children's Services. Everyone was a winner!

A special SCP&DC meeting will be held Thursday, June 12, 2008 to discuss the issue of K. Belanger's evaluation and salary increase as well as the FY 2009 proposed budget.

There being no other business to discuss, it was moved by T. Vial, seconded by K. Brass to adjourn. Motion carried.

As duly authorized officers of South Central Planning and Development Commission, Board of Commissioners, we do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is the official version of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on May 1, 2008.

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Dale J. Hymel, Chairman  
South Central Planning & Development Commission

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Mark Atzenhoffer, Secretary/Treasurer  
South Central Planning & Development Commission