

MINUTES

SOUTH CENTRAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Thursday, January 14, 2010

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, January 14, 2010, at LaPlace, Louisiana.

Chairman D. Hymel called the meeting to order and requested P. Gordon lead the forum in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present or represented by proxy were W. Reed, R. Animashaun, T. Arabie representing C. Randolph, E. Faucheaux representing C. Caillouet, R. Champagne, T. Vial representing V. J. St. Pierre, W. Bendetto, B. Boe representing P. McTopy, A. Tregre, D. Hymel, M. Guillot, H. Bourgeois, M. Claudet, L. Charles, P. Gordon representing A. Williams, T. Cloutier, M. Marmande, Jr., and A. Badeaux. Members absent were M. Triche, C. James, M. Atzenhoffer, J. Bouziga, B. Raymond, Sr., J. Boucvalt, K. Brass, R. Scott, and D. Pothier. Staff members present were K. Belanger, J. Boudreaux, M. Wich, and E. Bergeron. Guests in attendance were: Dan Toepfer and Miranda Pellegrin of Bourgeois-Bennett, Darius Bonton, Carley Flemming, Jacob Loesky, and Jim Gioffron of Buchart-Horn, Randy Noel, Chairman of the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council, and State Representative Nicky Monica.

Chairman Hymel requested each guest introduce their self. K. Belanger introduced the SCPDC staff members present.

First item on the agenda was the acceptance of minutes of September 17, 2009 regular meeting. It was motioned by T. Vial, seconded by W. Reed to accept minutes of the September 17, 2009 regular meeting. Motion passed.

Next on the agenda was the acceptance of Management Committee Minutes of January 5, 2010. K. Belanger briefed the members on the amended changes made to the Management Committee minutes. It was motioned by R. Champagne, seconded by T. Vial to accept minutes of the Management Committee.

B. Boe entered meeting at this time.

The third item on the agenda was the Election of 2010 Officers. Chairman Hymel requested to step down from his duties as Chairman. He opened the Chairman nominations. It was motioned by M. Claudet, seconded by T. Vial to nominated R. Champagne as Chairman. There being no other nominations, it was motioned by H. Bourgeois, seconded by M. Marmande to close Chairman nominations. By unanimous vote, R. Champagne was elected as Chairman of SCPDC for 2010. Motion passed.

Chairman Hymel opened nominations for Vice-Chairman. It was motioned by M. Claudet, seconded by R. Champagne to nominate D. Hymel as Vice-Chairman. There being no other nominations, it was motioned by M. Claudet, seconded by H. Bourgeois to close Vice-Chairman nominations. By unanimous vote, D. Hymel was elected as Vice-Chairman of SCPDC for 2010. Motion passed.

Next was the election of Secretary-Treasurer. A. Badeaux suggested separating the duties of Secretary and Treasurer. K. Belanger explained with the expansion of board members the Management Committee was not expanded. However, by expanding the Management Committee to four members the By-Laws and the Articles of Incorporation will have to be amended. It was agreed upon by all to table the discussion of said suggestion until the next meeting.

Chairman Hymel opened nominations for Secretary-Treasurer. K. Belanger relayed a message from M. Atzenhoffer that he would be more than happy to continue as Secretary-Treasurer. It was motioned by T. Vial, seconded by B. Boe to nominate M. Claudet as Secretary-Treasurer. There being no other nominations, it was motioned by R. Champagne, seconded by all to close Secretary-Treasurer nominations. By unanimous vote, M. Claudet was elected as Secretary-Treasurer of SCPDC for 2010. Motion passed.

K. Belanger reviewed the Financial Statement ending November 30, 2009. It was motioned by B. Boe, seconded by W. Reed to accept the Financial Statement ending November 30, 2009. Motion passed.

Next on the agenda was the ratification of Trent Olivier to the RLF/RFC Boards. K. Belanger spoke of the banker's luncheon SCPDC's Economic Development Department would be hosting on January 19, 2010. The goal of the luncheon was to inform local bankers as to what the RLF/RFC programs are about and to generate new interest in these programs. It was motioned by B. Boe, seconded by P. Gordon to ratify Trent Oliver to the RLF/RFC Boards. Motion passed.

Chairman Hymel requested to deviate from the agenda and move on to item ten, the Building Enforcement Overview. M. Wich gave a PowerPoint presentation on the building code process. He demonstrated how SCPDC has exceeded the original goals set forth when beginning the building code process. M. Wich spoke of the training SCPDC's inspectors have undertaken and are continuing to pursue. He informed the Board how permit fees have since been reduced and continues to lessen. Also, he spoke of the initial problems SCPDC's Building Code Department has encountered since its inception, how those issues have been resolved, and the remaining issues at hand.

M. Wich introduced R. Noel, Chairman of the LSUCCC. R. Noel spoke on how well the Regional Code Council program is working and continues to work. He praised SCPDC on how being a model for what the state had envisioned and for having exceeded the state's expectations. Discussion ensued.

Item six on the agenda was a resolution authorizing the CEO to enter into a contract with legal counsel for protection of intellectual properties. K. Belanger briefed the Board on the strides SCPDC's IT team were making with the mypermitsnow.org program. SCPDC has sought the advice of a patent attorney. Discussion ensued.

It was motioned by T. Vial, seconded by B. Boe to authorize the CEO to enter into a contract with legal counsel for protection of intellectual properties. Motion passed.

Dan Toepfer of Bourgeois-Bennett gave an overview of the FY2009 Annual Audit. He assured the Board there were no significant findings.

It was motioned by M. Claudet, seconded by H. Bourgeois to accept the FY2009 Annual Audit. Motion passed.

Acceptance of 2009 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) was next on the agenda. It was motioned by B. Boe, seconded by T. Vial to accept the 2009 CEDs. Motion passed.

The Board agreed to table item nine, policy changes, until the next meeting.

Next, Darius Bonton of Buchart-Horn gave an update on the North/South Corridor. He informed the Board that DOTD and the Consultant Team have completed the scoping process required to restart the project with the expanded boundary and additional alternative. The Notice to Proceed was issued November of 2009. September 2011 is the projected date for the final EIS and November 2011 for the ROD Development. Discussion ensued.

It was motioned by M. Claudet, seconded by M. Marmande to authorize the filing of an application with the LaDOTD for a grant under Section 3037 of TEA-21 and/or Section 5316 of SAFETEA-Lu, Job Access and Reverse Commute Competitive Grants. Motion passed.

It was motioned by M. Claudet, seconded by R. Champagne to authorize the filing of a project application with LaDOTD for grants through the US DOT FTA, as authorized under Federal Transit Laws, as codified, 49 USC Section 5317, New Freedom Program and executing a contract with the LaDOTD upon project approval. Motion passed.

K. Belanger informed the Board that the DRA grant notices has yet to go out. Upon receiving the notices, SCPDC will forward the information to the parishes.

Chairman Hymel offered each member to read at their leisure the Activity Agency Report included in the meeting packet.

Chairman Hymel introduced State Representative Nicky Monica who welcomed the Board to St. John the Baptist Parish and thanked them for their service.

Buchart-Horn was the Corporate Sponsor for the meeting. Jacob Loesky and Carley Flemming of Buchart-Horn gave an overview of the services provided by Buchart-Horn and projects they are working on within the Region.

Under Other Business, A. Badeaux requested an update on the EPA Air Quality Standards. He also recommended to the Board to consider amending the check signature requirements for checks under \$1,000.

The next meeting date will be set for March 18, 2010 in Terrebonne Parish.

There being no other business to discuss, it was moved by M. Claudet, seconded by L. Charles 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 September 17, 2009.

Richard Champagne, Chairman
South Central Planning & Development Commission

Michel Claudet, Secretary/Treasurer
South Central Planning & Development Commission

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