

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Bayou Vermilion District  
Held at Vermilionville, 300 Fisher Road Lafayette Louisiana  
4:30 pm, April 24, 2019

**Call to Order** was given by President Keefer. The meeting was called at 4:33 pm.  
**Roll Call:** Given by the Secretary; Natalie Keefer, Ray Landry, Thomas Michot, Catherine Comeaux and Rodney Richard were present. Commissioners Benjamin Richard and Kristie Cornell were absent. There was a quorum.

Commissioner Don McConnell joined the meeting at 4:35 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:** **MOTION:** (C. Comeaux/T. Michot) Motion to accept the amended minutes from the March 27, 2019 regular meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Introduction of Guest(s):** Guest: Donald Segrera with Tech Vermilion Fresh Water District Staff: CEO Cheramie, Maegan Smith, Anne Mahoney, Emile Ancelet, Shawntell Lewis, Brady McKellar, Millicent Norbert, Greg Guidroz, Curtis Willingham and Kim Fournet.

**Public Comment(s):** Don Segrera with Tech Vermilion Fresh Water District gave a presentation to the board. The TVFWD millage is up for a renewal vote on May 4, 2019, the millage was started in 1970 and has been renewed every 10 years. Mr. Segrera handed out brochures and discussed how important and necessary TVFWD is, especially to the parishes of Lafayette, Iberia, St. Martin and Vermilion. The Tech Vermilion Fresh Water District and the Bayou Vermilion District staff work well with each other.

Commissioner John Broussard and Dr. Marissa Petrou joined the meeting at 4:52.

**President's Report:** President Keefer introduced Dr. Marissa Petrou, she is the Vermilionville Foundation Board liaison to the BVD board. President Keefer will make her report during the committee reports.

**CEO's Report:** Copies of CEO Cheramie's report and coordinators reports (on file) were e-mailed. CEO reviewed his report. CEO and Curtis Willingham are requested in court the last week of July for the Southside Park lawsuit. Curtis Willingham and Dr. Cheramie regularly check the progress of Rotary Point, which is close to two-thirds complete. The French intern is working out well. CEO Cheramie will be out for vacation July 11-23. The March numbers are a little down but April is going strong. Anne Mahoney discussed the importance of the new mission statement and getting documentation from stakeholders for Vermilionville's accreditation. CEO asked the board to remember the May 4<sup>th</sup> election and to exercise their right to vote.

**Marketing/Public Relations:** The committee did not meet.

**Finance/Capital:** The committee did not meet.

**Operations/Bayou/Maintenance:** The committee did meet and Commissioner B. Richard has the report.

**Environmental:** The committee did not meet. Commissioner Michot briefly discussed Emile Ancelet's report.

**Programming/Education/Grants:** The committee did not meet but Melanie Harrington and Brady McKellar met to plan for next year's projects.

**Curatorial/Acquisitions:** The committee did not meet. **MOTION:** (C. Comeaux/D. McConnell) to approve the Mission Statement as presented to the board. Discussion followed. Anne Mahoney explained that there are many differently stated mission statements on the BVD website and the AAM requested clarification. The new mission statement mentions natural resources which will help the Water Quality and Environmental Departments access more grants. The new mission statements also acknowledges all the cultures represented at Vermilionville. President called for a vote. Commissioners C. Comeaux, D. McConnell, R. Richard, J. Broussard and T. Michot voted yea. Commissioner R. Landry voted no. The motion passed.

**Master Plan:** The committee will meet May 8, 2019.

**Budget:** The financial analysis comparison for the month ending March 2019 was available for the commissioners' review. CEO covered the month of March earlier.

**New Business:** Commissioner J. Broussard informed the board that he and Commissioner R. Richard met a few times to discuss the future use of the current Water Shed (which is modeled after slave quarters) after the new lab is built. The commissioners would like to see it used for a display of Creole artifacts. Creole, Inc. would maintain the display. Anne Mahoney reminded the board that the Curatorial Department had requested that building for the storage of Vermilionville artifacts. Commissioner R. Richard described the building "as a prime piece of real estate". Commissioner J. Broussard asked the board to consider this proposal and understand it would be well received in the community.

**Adjournment:** **MOTION:** (D. McConnell/T. Michot) Motion to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried.

/s/ Benjamin Richard  
~~Natalie Keefer, President~~  
Benjamin Richard, Vice President

/s/ Catherine Comeaux  
Catherine Comeaux, Secretary