

Houma Restoration District
Board Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2024

Commissioners Present:

Noah Lirette	Jason Underwood – absent	Bryan Bunn
Daniel Babin – absent	Tom Hassell	Sondra Corbitt
Nick Hebert	Kevin Faulk – absent	Clarence Williams

Others Present:

Kevin Champagne	Kohen Guidry	Angela Hidalgo
Brighton Schmill	Connie Bourg	Ryan Herring
Victoria Bergeron	Chris Pulaski	Derick Bercegeay
Ann Picou		

A meeting of the Houma Restoration District Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Noah Lirette at 11:05 a.m. on March 5, 2024, at the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government Towers, 8026 Main Street, Houma, LA.

Tom Hassell led the prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Sondra Corbitt performed roll call and a quorum was present.

Under Public, Mr. Alex Ostheimer addressed the board regarding kayak safety and nuisance abatement and condemnation hearings.

A motion was offered by Sondra Corbitt, seconded by Tom Hassell to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Financials were presented for the month of January. A motion was made by Brian Bunn, seconded by Tom Hassell. Motion carried.

New Business: Attorney General's Advisory Opinion will be sought regarding Noah Lirette's position as Chairman of the HRD while also serving as Chief Administrative Officer for TPCG, and what actions he is permitted to take in that capacity. A resolution was presented to authorize counsel to submit this opinion. A motion was made by Nick Hebert, seconded by Tom Hassell to approve the resolution. Motion carried.

ADG Bayou Walk Lighting Proposal: Noah Lirette presented the proposal for lighting the bayou walk downtown, \$12,500.00 for engineering services from ADG Engineering. A motion was made by Clarence Williams, seconded by Brian Bunn, to approve subject to legal review. Motion carried.

Weyl's Sign Lighting: Noah Lirette updated the board on the electrical assessment of this sign and recommended that HRD pursue a sign company to continue this work.

Money Market Account: Nick Hebert provided the public with an update on rates.

Bayou Arts CEA: Derick Bercegeay presented the cooperative endeavor agreement between the HRD and Bayou Arts Council to provide for the funding associated with the state appropriations. A motion was made by Brian Bunn, seconded by Sondra Corbitt, to approve the agreement with changes as discussed. Motion carried.

Façade Grant: Creation of a façade grant is underway with legal. Brian Bunn moved the agreement with a 50% cost share up to the limit of \$50k, seconded by Tom Hassell, along with other changes discussed. Motion carried.

LA Office of Tourism Plaque Grant Opportunity: Sondra Corbitt contacted the Office of Tourism regarding the grant opportunity. A motion was made by Brain Bunn, seconded by Nick Hebert to authorize Noah Lirette to sign the grant application, to be used for the Weyls Jewelry sign. Motion carried.

Noah Lirette updated the board regarding the boundary of HRD from Morgan Street to Polk Street in the upcoming legislation. A motion was made to add this item to the agenda and open this item up for public comment by Clarence Williams, seconded by Sondra Corbitt, unanimously approved. Motion carried. No public comment. Brian Bunn, seconded by Nick Hebert, to close public comment.

Noah Lirette contacted Rep. Jessica Domangue who agreed to amend the HRD authorizing legislation to move the boundary from Morgan Street. It was discussed to move it to Alex Williams Lane on the Main Street side, and Brooklyn Avenue on the Park Ave. side, gaining two more blocks in the HRD. After much discussion, this item will be considered at a future meeting.

Tom Hassell is meeting with Norris & Boudreaux regarding sidewalk repairs, focusing on the central location, Courthouse Square, and then moving further out. He will obtain a proposal and bring it back to the board.

Old Business: HRD Website/Resource Hub Development: Motion made by Brian Bunn, seconded by Sondra Corbitt, to table this item until the next meeting. Motion carried.

District Parking Meters: Brian Bunn updated the board on the revenues and expenditures of operating the parking meters. This item will be removed from the agenda.

Officer Reports: Noah Lirette reported on the success of the Bayou Terrebonne Boucherie. TPCG will be assisting in cleaning up Bayou Terrebonne. GIS Engineering has been tasked with engineering for dredging of Bayou Terrebonne. An agenda item will be on the agenda for this topic.

Nick Hebert, EDA Grant application is being worked on by the Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce perhaps to be used for underground power for downtown.

Noah Lirette updated on the Police Jury Conference, and the new DOTD department head discussion on the LA Highway 24 resolution.

A motion was made by Nick Hebert, seconded by Sondra Corbitt, to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 p.m. Motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 2, Motion made by Brian Bunn, seconded by Sondra Corbitt, to table this item until next meeting. Motion carried. Motion made by Brian Bunn, seconded by Sondra Corbitt, to table this item until the next meeting. Motion carried. 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at the 2nd Floor Conference Room, 8026 Main Street, Houma, LA.

Noah Lirette, Chairman

Sondra Corbitt, Secretary