Build Baton Rouge Board of Commissioners

Date: Tuesday, June 23, 2026
Place: 725 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Time: 9:30 A.M.

Minutes

Attending Board Members: Charles Landry, Chair; Bobby Hamilton, Secretary; Cristel Slaughter, Treasurer (each a "Commissioner")

Excused Board Members: Will Campbell, Vice Chair

Also attending: Deidre Robert, President and CEO; Marlee Pittman Miller, Vice President and COO; Kendra Hendricks, Senior Development Coordinator; Dexter Alexander, Community Real Estate Coordinator; Joshua Jefferson, Land Bank & Real Estate Counsel; Kendra Henricks, Senior Development Coordinator; Tricia Prewitt, Administrative Officer; Kincaid Jackson, Kean Miller; Vanessa Graham, VGraham; Kelly Toups, VGraham; Shane Hooper; Kyren Johnson, Intern; Erin Stephens, Intern; Carman Thornton, Intern; Roderick Spurlock, Intern; Parry Matt Thomas; Kelly Leduff; Tom Bosley; Jasmine Thomas; Ms. Scott; Alex Wilford; Will McCarthy

Attending via Zoom: Members of the public

Meeting Called by: Charles Landry
Type of Meeting: Build East Baton Rouge (Build EBR) Board of Commissioners – Regular Meeting
Note Taker: Tricia Prewitt

- **Action Item**
  a. Mr. Landry called the meeting to order at 9:39 am.
  b. Mr. Landry confirmed receipt of proof of notice of meeting and the posting of public notice.
  c. Mr. Landry confirmed the number of Board Commissioners present and the constitution of a majority.
  d. The Board Reviewed the minutes from the May 21, 2026, Regular Meeting. Mr. Landry entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Hamilton made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Landry seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

- **Discussion Item: Introduction of New Board Commissioner**
  a. Mr. Landry welcomed Dr. Christel Slaughter as a new Commissioner, highlighting her experience in systems management, organizational design, and leadership roles in local and national organizations. Ms. Slaughter expressed appreciation for the opportunity and indicated her interest

in contributing to the organization's strategic efforts. Ms. Slaughter is a two-year appointment, filling in an open term. Most terms are 5 years.

- **Action Item: The Elections of Officers for the 2026 Build East Baton Rouge Board of Commissioners**
  a. Mr. Landry made a motion to approve the following officer slate for a two-year term ending June 30, 2028:
     - Chair: Charles Landry (term through June 30, 2028)
     - Chair-Elect/Vice Chair: Will Campbell
     - Secretary: Bobby Hamilton
     - Treasurer: Christel Slaughter
  b. There was no public comment. Mr. Hamilton seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Hamilton, yes, Ms. Slaughter, yes, Mr. Landry, yes (Mr. Campbell was absent). The motion passed unanimously.

- **Action Item: Review and Approve Build East Baton Rouge Strategic Plan**
  a. Ms. Robert presented updates on outreach efforts related to the strategic plan, including getting very positive feedback from the public and community partners. The Board stated that they were in favor of the plan. Public Comment included infrastructure concerns not related to the plan, as well as blight remediation improvements, also not related to the plan.
  b. Mr. Landry entertained a motion to approve the Build East Baton Rouge Strategic Plan. Mr. Hamilton made a motion; Ms. Slaughter seconded the motion; the motion was approved unanimously.

- **Discussion Item: Financial Review**
  a. Ms. Graham presented the profit-loss actual vs. budget, program statement of activity, and cashflow projections for the period ending May 31, 2026. Ms. Graham reported that revenue and income are in line with expectations. Ms. Graham reviewed the grants in play at this time. Mr. Landry inquired about funds expected from the Exxon Mobile Project. Ms. Robert stated that the city parish had not yet received the funds. Ms. Robert stated that the agency was waiting for the mayor's office for their replacement for one of the Board Members. There were no concerns and no public comments.

- **Action Item: Mid-Year Budget Adjustment**
  a. Ms. Robert proposed the mid-year budget adjustment due to some changes that had to be realized because of the reduction in funding by the mayor's office, which created a $200,000 spend gap in what was approved. Ms. Robert outlined grants and a tightening of the operational budget and made the request to go into our reserve. After some discussion, Ms. Slaughter made a motion to approve the amended budget and authorize reserve use of approximately $184,633; Mr. Hamilton seconded. The motion carried unanimously. There was no public comment.

- **Discussion Item: Program Policies and Procedures**
  a. Ms. Miller opened the discussion on program policies and procedures including the programs in development focus on accelerating title clearing, streamlining property sales, and supporting redevelopment opportunities. Ms. Miller gave an outline on Clear to Build, Build a Lot, Payment in

Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program, and the Facade Improvement Program and then opened it up for discussion. The Board discussion focused on title challenges and legal considerations, financial risks of property acquisition, and the importance of transparency and community engagement. No vote was taken; further refinement and board input will continue. Public comments included input on a tire removal program used in other states.

- **Discussion Item: Presentation of site planning report by consultants (Shada and Plank/Choctaw)**
  a. Ms. Robert reported that the authority applied and won a grant from the Delta Regional Authority to do site planning work on two of our catalytic sites. With those dollars, we were able to go out and retain consultants, Shane Hooper from Paragon Consultants, as well as Jay Goday and Associations, who are a local firm, to work with us and the community to tell us what we can do with these sites. The first piece of this and the most important piece is we took it to the community with several town hall meetings with our You Said, We Heard campaign. We met with stakeholders, individuals, and small groups to really hear from the community. Shane Hooper is here today to present the site planning report to the commissioners for review and discussion.
  b. Shane Hooper presented the site planning report for the Shada Site and the Plank Road & Choctaw Site, which included market-rate housing, small-scale grocery/retail, community amenities, mixed-use development, affordable housing, retail and green spaces, with a strong emphasis on strong community engagement, alignment with economic development opportunities, and an emphasis on feasibility and long-term sustainability.
  c. The Board expressed strong support and excitement for both projects.

- **Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(1) Annual President and CEO Evaluation of Deidre D. Robert**
- **Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 33:4720.151(G)(12) Discussion of confidential negotiations regarding the potential lease of certain Authority-owned immovable property**
- **Executive Session pursuant to La. R.S. 33:4720.151(G)(12): Discussion of confidential negotiations regarding a potential PILOT Program sale/lease-back transaction involving certain immovable property proposed to be acquired by and leased by the Authority**
  a. A motion to go into executive session was made by Mr. Hamilton and seconded by Ms. Slaughter.
  b. Following the executive session, Mr. Landry stated that no votes were taken during the executive session.
  c. A resolution was presented to approve application for grant funding under the FHWA Recreational Trails Program. A motion was made by Mr. Hamilton and seconded by Ms. Slaughter. The motion passed. There was no public comment.

- **Action Item: Adjournment**
  a. Mr. Hamilton made a motion to adjourn; Ms. Slaughter seconded. The meeting was adjourned.