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STATE OF LOUISIANA  
BOARD OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
BEING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2025  
AT THE LASALLE BUILDING  
617 North Third Street, FLOOR 1, LABELLE ROOM  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

REPORTED BY: KELLY J. DOMIANO, C.C.R.

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COURT REPORTERS OF LOUISIANA - A VERITEXT COMPANY  
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1	I N D E X	1	HAROLD CALLAIS, II
2	PAGE	2	RIDGE MIGUEZ
3	CAPTION	3	REPRESENTATIVE JULIE EMERSON (ABSENT)
4	APPEARANCES	3-4	4 STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:
5	PROCEEDINGS	5	5 ROBIN PORTER
6	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	59	6 DEBORAH SIMMONS
7			7 FRANK FAVALORO
8			8 KRISTIN CHENG JOHNSON
9			9 HUD USIE
10			10 TRAVIS ROSENBERG
11			11 JOYCE METOYER
12			12 STEPHANIE LE GRANGE
13			13 MICHAELA ADEGBE
14			14 CHRISTINA SMITH
15			15 JOLEASIA CAMPBELL
16			16 PETER JOHNSON
17			17 RODNEY BARNES
18			18 SHAWN WELCOME
19			19 SPEAKERS FROM THE PUBLIC:
20			20 BRAUN PRETORIUS, REGIONAL MANUFACTURING DIRECTOR,
21			21 CABOT CORPORATION
22			22 ADAM KEYES, SENIOR REGIONAL MANAGER OF GOVERNMENT
23			23 AFFAIRS, VALERO REFINING NEW ORLEANS, LLC
24			24 REPORTED BY: KELLY J. DOMIANO, CCR
25			25
Page 2		Page 4	
1	APPEARANCES:	1	P R O C E E D I N G S
2	BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	2	CHAIRMAN JONES:
3	CHAIRMAN JERALD JONES	3	Good morning. It's good to see you.
4	REPRESENTATIVE DARYL A. DESHOTEL	4	Happy Belated Easter, but welcome to the
5	STUART A. MOSS	5	April 23, 2025 meeting of the Board of
6	RYAN ROBERTS, DESIGNEE FOR KYLE D. RUCKERT,	6	Commerce and Industry.
7	DESIGNEE FOR GOVERNOR	7	Ms. Simmons, would you call the roll to
8	DEPUTY SECRETARY ANNE VILLA, DESIGNEE FOR	8	ensure we have a quorum.
9	SECRETARY SUSAN BONNETT BOURGEOIS	9	MS. SIMMONS:
10	MICHAEL J. TANNER (ABSENT)	10	Good morning, everyone.
11	LETICIA A. "LETTI" LOWE-ARDOIN (ABSENT)	11	Stuart Moss?
12	MAYOR DAVID H. TOUPS	12	MR. MOSS:
13	NAHEEM "GEORGE" NASSAR, JR.	13	Present.
14	JOHN D. AUSTIN	14	MS. SIMMONS:
15	BARRY M. MELE	15	Mayor David Toups?
16	CHARLES "ROBBY" MILLER, JR.	16	MAYOR TOUPS:
17	DAVID B. DOSS (ABSENT)	17	Present.
18	SENATOR FRANKLIN FOIL (ABSENT)	18	MS. SIMMONS:
19	RONALD W. REMEDIES (ABSENT)	19	David Amoss?
20	KYLE P. POLOZOLA (ABSENT)	20	MR. AMOSS:
21	DAVID M. AMOSS	21	Present.
22	SCOTT A. NIEMEYER (ABSENT)	22	MS. SIMMONS:
23	SENATOR BETH MIZELL	23	John Austin?
24	ERWIN G. THOMPSON, III (ABSENT)	24	MR. AUSTIN:
25	WESLEY BLAKE WHEELIS	25	Here.
Page 3		Page 5	

<p>1 MS. SIMMONS: 2 Barry Mele? 3 MR. MELE: 4 Here. 5 MS. SIMMONS: 6 Scott Niemeyer? 7 (No response.) 8 MS. SIMMONS: 9 Representative Darryl Deshotel? 10 (No response.) 11 MS. SIMMONS: 12 Senator Franklin Foil? 13 (No response.) 14 MS. SIMMONS: 15 Kyle Polozola? 16 (No response.) 17 MS. SIMMONS: 18 Jerald Jones? 19 CHAIRMAN JONES: 20 Present. 21 MS. SIMMONS: 22 Ronald Remedies? 23 (No response.) 24 MS. SIMMONS: 25 Senator Beth Mizell?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p>	<p>1 Here. 2 MS. SIMMONS: 3 Wesley Blake Wheelis? 4 MR. WHEELIS: 5 Here. 6 MS. SIMMONS: 7 Letti Ardoin? 8 (No response.) 9 MS. SIMMONS: 10 Charles "Robby" Miller? 11 MR. MILLER: 12 Here. 13 MS. SIMMONS: 14 Ryan Roberts for Kyle Ruckert? 15 MR. ROBERTS: 16 Present. 17 MS. SIMMONS: 18 We have a quorum. 19 CHAIRMAN JONES: 20 Thank you, ma'am. I believe all of you 21 had a chance to review the minutes from the 22 February 26, 2024 meeting -- I assume that 23 means 2025 on the agenda. 24 We have a motion to -- from Mr. Miller to 25 approve those minutes. Second from Mr. Moss.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p>
<p>1 SENATOR MIZELL: 2 Here. 3 MS. SIMMONS: 4 Representative Julie Emerson? 5 (No response.) 6 MS. SIMMONS: 7 Michael Tanner? 8 (No response.) 9 MS. SIMMONS: 10 Anne Villa for Secretary Bourgeois? 11 DEPUTY SECRETARY VILLA: 12 Present. 13 MS. SIMMONS: 14 George Nassar? 15 MR. NASSAR: 16 Present. 17 MS. SIMMONS: 18 Erwin Thompson, III? 19 (No response.) 20 MS. SIMMONS: 21 Harold Calais? 22 (No response.) 23 MS. SIMMONS: 24 Ridge Miguez? 25 MR. MIGUEZ:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p>	<p>1 Any questions or comments from the Board? 2 Hearing none, any comments from the 3 public? 4 There being none, all in favor, say aye. 5 ALL: 6 Aye. 7 CHAIRMAN JONES: 8 Any opposed? 9 There being none, that motion carries. 10 Good morning, Ms. Adegbe, how are you? 11 MS. ADEGBE: 12 Good morning. Well. Yourself? 13 CHAIRMAN JONES: 14 I'm doing well. Thank you. Please lead 15 us through the Quality Jobs Program. 16 MS. ADEGBE: 17 I have one application requesting 18 deferral: 20220538, Aquaspersions North 19 America, LTD. 20 CHAIRMAN JONES: 21 All right. We recommend a motion for 22 deferral for Aquaspersions North America. 23 Motion from Senator Mizell. Second from 24 Mr. Nassar. Questions or comments from the 25 Board?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p>

<p>1 Hearing none, any comments from the 2 public? 3 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye. 4 ALL: 5 Aye. 6 CHAIRMAN JONES: 7 Any opposition? 8 There is none, the motion carries. That 9 matter is deferred to the next meeting. 10 MS. ADEGBE: 11 There are four new applications: 12 20220424 for Delta Treatments Systems, LLC, 13 Livingston Parish; 20240153, Hood Industries, 14 Inc., Washington Parish; 20220541, Pelican 15 Energy Consultants, St. Tammany Parish; 16 20220484, Prolec GE USA, Caddo Parish. 17 CHAIRMAN JONES: 18 Do we have a motion to approve these? 19 From Mr. Moss. Second from Senator Mizell. 20 Any questions or comments from the board? 21 I'm sorry. Senator Mizell? 22 SENATOR MIZELL: 23 Thank you. I just want to say, as a 24 representative of Washington Parish, Hood 25 Industries represents exactly what we need</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p>	<p>1 There being none, all in favor, say aye. 2 ALL: 3 Aye. 4 CHAIRMAN JONES: 5 Any opposition? 6 There is none, the motion carries. 7 MS. ADEGBE: 8 This concludes Quality Jobs. Thank you. 9 CHAIRMAN JONES: 10 Thank you, ma'am. 11 MR. ROSENBERG: 12 Good morning. 13 CHAIRMAN JONES: 14 Good morning, Mr. Rosenberg. How are 15 you? 16 MR. ROSENBERG: 17 I'm doing well. 18 CHAIRMAN JONES: 19 Good. Thank you. Please walk us through 20 the Restoration Tax Abatement Program, please. 21 MR. ROSENBERG: 22 There are two new applications: 20230405 23 for James Rolf in Jefferson Parish and 24 20240043 for VRE 3535 Magazine, LLC in Orleans 25 Parish.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p>
<p>1 coming to rural Louisiana, and I believe I 2 couldn't say enough in favor of their request. 3 Thank you. 4 CHAIRMAN JONES: 5 Excellent. Thank you, Senator. 6 Any other comments or questions from the 7 Board? 8 Hearing none, any comments from the 9 public? 10 There being none, all in favor, say aye. 11 ALL: 12 Aye. 13 CHAIRMAN JONES: 14 Any opposition? 15 There is none, the motion carries. 16 MS. ADEGBE: 17 There is one renewal application: 18 20190517, Prokeep, Inc., Orleans Parish. 19 CHAIRMAN JONES: 20 Do we have a motion to approve this one 21 renewal? From Mayor Toups. Second from 22 Mr. Miller. Any questions or comments from 23 the Board? 24 Hearing none, any comments from the 25 public?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p>	<p>1 CHAIRMAN JONES: 2 Okay. And as you all know, the locals 3 have already signed off on these by nature of 4 the program. So we would entertain a motion 5 to approve. 6 MR. NASSAR: 7 So moved. 8 CHAIRMAN JONES: 9 We have a motion from Mr. Nassar. We 10 have second from Mr. Mele. Any questions or 11 comments from the Board? 12 Hearing none, any comments from the 13 public? 14 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye. 15 ALL: 16 Aye. 17 CHAIRMAN JONES: 18 Any opposition? 19 There is none, the motion carries. 20 MR. ROSENBERG: 21 There is one Renewal Application: 22 20180063 for Cane River Pecan Properties, LLC 23 in Iberia Parish. 24 CHAIRMAN JONES: 25 All right. Do we have a motion to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p>

<p>1 approve this renewal? Motion from Mayor 2 Toups. Second from Mr. Miguez. Any questions 3 or comments from the Board? 4 Hearing none, any comments from the 5 public? 6 There is none, all in favor, say aye. 7 ALL: 8 Aye. 9 CHAIRMAN JONES: 10 Any opposition? 11 There is none, the motion carries. 12 MR. ROSENBERG: 13 This concludes the RTA Agenda. 14 CHAIRMAN JONES: 15 Okay. Thank you, Mr. Rosenberg. You 16 have a great day. 17 MR. ROSENBERG: 18 You as well. 19 CHAIRMAN JONES: 20 Thank you. 21 MS. METOYER: 22 Good morning. 23 CHAIRMAN JONES: 24 Good morning, Ms. Metoyer. How are you? 25 MS. METOYER:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p>	<p>1 All right. We'll note Mr. Miguez's 2 recusal, which means he will neither comment 3 on or vote on that matter, but he can vote on 4 all other matters. 5 And do I have a second? I have a motion. 6 Do I have a second? From Mr. Amoss. Any 7 questions or comments from the Board? 8 Any comments from the public? 9 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye. 10 ALL: 11 Aye. 12 CHAIRMAN JONES: 13 Any opposition? 14 There is none, the motion carries. 15 MS. METOYER: 16 There are six Contract Terminations in 17 accordance with Section 717.D of Enterprise 18 Zone Program Rules, a business may submit a 19 request to terminate their Enterprise Zone 20 Contract if, one, the contracts have been in 21 effect for at least 30 months; two, the 22 businesses have met all of their requirements 23 of the program, which includes timely filing 24 of all program forms, documents, and 25 appropriate fees.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p>
<p>1 I'm good. 2 CHAIRMAN JONES: 3 Good. 4 MS. METOYER: 5 We have five new applications for EZ: 6 20160852, Halliburton Energy Services, 7 Incorporated, Lafayette Parish; 20200354, 8 Ochsner Clinic Foundation, Lafayette; 9 20220515, Performance Contractors, 10 Incorporated, East Baton Rouge; 20170251, 11 Union Tank Car Company, Evangeline; and 12 20200197, Women's Hospital Foundation, East 13 Baton Rouge Parish. 14 CHAIRMAN JONES: 15 Do we have a motion to approve these 16 Enterprise Zone Applications? Motion from Mr. 17 Nassar. 18 MR. MIGUEZ: 19 Mr. Chairman, I need to recuse myself 20 from Union Tank and Performance Contractors. 21 CHAIRMAN JONES: 22 From which one? 23 MR. MIGUEZ: 24 Union Tank and Performance Contractors. 25 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p>	<p>1 The following contracts were previously 2 approved by the Board of Commerce and Industry 3 and the contract holders listed below have 4 submitted a request to terminate their 5 Enterprise Zone contract. The contract team 6 understands Board decision is final and 7 contracts cannot be reinstated or reactivated: 8 20190009, McElroy Metal Mill, 9 Incorporated, Bossier Parish. The existing 10 contract is 11/13/20 to 11/12/2025. The 11 requested term date is 11/13/2023; 12 20200085, Ochsner Clinic Foundation, 13 Jefferson Parish. The existing contract is 14 3/2/2020 to 3/1/2025. The requested term date 15 is 3/1/2023; 16 20180138, QSL Management, LLC, Jefferson 17 Parish. The existing contract is 7/13/20 to 18 7/12/2025. The requested term date is 19 7/12/2023; 20 20210074, Siegen Retail, LLC, East Baton 21 Rouge Parish. The existing contract is 22 2/13/21 to 2/12/2026. The requested term date 23 is 12/31/2023; 24 20160995, Summa Lodging, LLC, East Baton 25 Rouge Parish. The existing contract is 1/1/21</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p>

<p>1 to 12/31/2025. The requested term date 2 12/31/2023; 3 And 20210398, Rail Logix Railport, LLC, 4 Iberville Parish. The existing contract is 5 10/1/21 through 9/30/26 and the requested term 6 date is 6/30/2024. 7 CHAIRMAN JONES: 8 Do we have a motion? Excuse me, do we 9 have a motion to approve these contract 10 termination requests? Motion from Mr. Mele. 11 Second from Mr. Austin. Do we have any 12 questions or comments from the Board? 13 Hearing none, any comments from the 14 public? 15 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye. 16 ALL: 17 Aye. 18 CHAIRMAN JONES: 19 Any opposition? 20 There being none, the motion carries. 21 MS. METOYER: 22 That concludes EZ. 23 CHAIRMAN JONES: 24 Thank you, ma'am. 25 MS. JOHNSON:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p>	<p>1 Great. Point of a personal privilege, 2 I'll be recusing myself from 20230224-A, Koch 3 Methanol, St. James, LLC; otherwise, I will 4 still continue to facilitate the meeting. 5 Do we have a motion to approve? A motion 6 from Mayor Toups. Second from Mr. Nassar. 7 Any questions or comments from the board? 8 MR. MIGUEZ: 9 Mr. Chairman, I need to recuse myself 10 from Louisiana Sugar Cane. 11 CHAIRMAN JONES: 12 Okay. Mr. Miguez on the Louisiana Sugar 13 Cane Cooperative matter. 14 Any other comments from the Board? Yes, 15 Mr. Nassar? 16 MR. NASSAR: 17 Chairman Jones, I'd like to thank Koch 18 Methanol for the work that y'all have done in 19 St. James Parish, not only with the schools 20 but with the Community, and y'all have been an 21 excellent community partner. And I want to 22 thank you. 23 CHAIRMAN JONES: 24 Any other comments from the Board? 25 Questions?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p>
<p>1 Good morning. 2 CHAIRMAN JONES: 3 Good morning. How are y'all? 4 MS. JOHNSON: 5 Great. 6 CHAIRMAN JONES: 7 Great. Who's going to begin with Post EO 8 2018 Rules? 9 MS. JOHNSON: 10 I'll begin. 11 CHAIRMAN JONES: 12 Great. 13 MS. JOHNSON: 14 We have seven Post EO 2018 Rules ITEP 15 Applications: 20220056-B, Ash Industries, 16 Inc., Lafayette Parish; 20230224-A Koch 17 Methanol, St. James, LLC in St. James Parish; 18 20220235-B, LACC, LLC US, Calcasieu Parish; 19 20220453-B, Lotte Chemical Louisiana, LLC, 20 Calcasieu Parish; 20220117-B, Louisiana Sugar 21 Cane Cooperative, Inc., St. Martin Parish; 22 20200490, Processors, LLC, St. Martin Parish; 23 and 20230484, Shintech Louisiana in Iberville 24 Parish. 25 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p>	<p>1 Any comments from the public? 2 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye. 3 ALL: 4 Aye. 5 CHAIRMAN JONES: 6 Any opposition? 7 There is none, the motion carries. 8 MS. JOHNSON: 9 Next, we have six 2024 Emergency Rules 10 Applications. We do have one request for a 11 deferral from a company for 20240345, HRM 12 Concrete, LLC in East Baton Rouge Parish. 13 CHAIRMAN JONES: 14 Do we have a motion? A motion from Mr. 15 Miller. We have a second? Are we deferring, 16 is that what you said? 17 MS. JOHNSON: 18 Yes. 19 CHAIRMAN JONES: 20 We have a motion to defer HRM Concrete. 21 Motion from Mr. Miller. Second from Mayor 22 Toups. Any questions or comments from the 23 Board? 24 Hearing none, any comments from the 25 public?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p>

<p>1 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye.</p> <p>2 ALL:</p> <p>3 Aye.</p> <p>4 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>5 Any opposition?</p> <p>6 There is none, the motion carries. That</p> <p>7 matter is deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>8 MS. JOHNSON:</p> <p>9 Next, we have 20240181, Advanced Sinter</p> <p>10 Metal Technologies, Inc. in St. Tammany</p> <p>11 Parish; 20240096, Carpenter &amp; Paterson, Inc.</p> <p>12 in Jefferson Parish; 20240038, Linde, Inc.,</p> <p>13 Ascension Parish; 20250099, PALA Interstate,</p> <p>14 LLC in Livingston Parish; and 20240260,</p> <p>15 Shintech Louisiana, LLC, Iberville Parish.</p> <p>16 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>17 We have a motion from Mr. Miller to</p> <p>18 approve. Do we have a second? Second from</p> <p>19 Mr. Nassar to approve these applications. Any</p> <p>20 questions or comments from the Board?</p> <p>21 Hearing none, any comments from the</p> <p>22 public?</p> <p>23 There being none, all in favor, say aye.</p> <p>24 ALL:</p> <p>25 Aye.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p>	<p>1 Any opposition?</p> <p>2 There is none, the motion carries.</p> <p>3 MS. JOHNSON:</p> <p>4 Next, we have Timely Renewals under the</p> <p>5 2018 Rules: 20170492-A, Louisiana Sugar Cane</p> <p>6 Cooperative, Inc., St. Martin Parish;</p> <p>7 20170377, Pala Interstate, LLC, Livingston</p> <p>8 Parish; and 20180470 Stuller, Inc., Lafayette</p> <p>9 Parish.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>11 Do we have a motion to approve these</p> <p>12 renewals? A motion from Senator Mizell.</p> <p>13 Second from Mr. Mele. Any questions or</p> <p>14 comments from the board?</p> <p>15 MR. MIGUEZ:</p> <p>16 Mr. Chairman, I need to recuse myself</p> <p>17 from Louisiana Sugar Cane.</p> <p>18 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>19 All right, Mr. Miguez.</p> <p>20 Any other comments from the Board?</p> <p>21 Hearing none, any comments from the</p> <p>22 public?</p> <p>23 There being none, all in favor, say aye.</p> <p>24 ALL:</p> <p>25 Aye.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p>
<p>1 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>2 Any opposition?</p> <p>3 There is none, the motion carries.</p> <p>4 MS. JOHNSON:</p> <p>5 Next, we have a late renewal under the 20</p> <p>6 -- I'm sorry -- 2017 Rules. It's 20161675,</p> <p>7 Guin Machine, Inc. in Bienville Parish. Their</p> <p>8 initial contract expired 12/31/2022. And</p> <p>9 their late renewal request date was 2/6/2023.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>11 Okay. And just to remind the Board,</p> <p>12 under the 2020 -- excuse me, the 2017 Rules,</p> <p>13 there is a mandatory penalty for late renewal</p> <p>14 of one year under these circumstances, so I</p> <p>15 would entertain a motion. We have a motion</p> <p>16 from Mr. Nassar to approve the renewal but</p> <p>17 with the one-year penalty. Second from</p> <p>18 Mr. Moss.</p> <p>19 Any questions or comments from the Board?</p> <p>20 Hearing none, any comments from the</p> <p>21 public?</p> <p>22 There being none, all in favor, say aye.</p> <p>23 ALL:</p> <p>24 Aye.</p> <p>25 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p>	<p>1 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>2 Any opposition?</p> <p>3 There is none, the motion carries.</p> <p>4 MS. JOHNSON:</p> <p>5 Next, we have a late renewal under the</p> <p>6 2018 Rules, but the company has requested a</p> <p>7 deferral. And that's 20180498, K&amp;B Machine</p> <p>8 Works, LLC in Terrebonne Parish.</p> <p>9 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>10 All right. We have a motion to defer</p> <p>11 this matter. Motion from Mayor Toups. Second</p> <p>12 from Mr. Nassar. Any questions or comments</p> <p>13 from the Board?</p> <p>14 Hearing none, any comments from the</p> <p>15 public?</p> <p>16 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye.</p> <p>17 ALL:</p> <p>18 Aye.</p> <p>19 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>20 Any opposition?</p> <p>21 There is none, the motion carries. That</p> <p>22 will be deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>23 MS. JOHNSON:</p> <p>24 Next, we have 11 Cancellation of Contract</p> <p>25 Requests: Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, LLC,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p>

<p>1 Contracts 20150934, 20150934-A, 20150934-B, 2 20150934-C, 20160815, 20160816, and 20160817 3 in Caddo Parish. The company requests 4 cancellation. 5 And we have International Paper Company, 6 20160901, 20160903, 20160904, and 20160905 in 7 Natchitoches Parish. LED requests 8 cancellation upon notification of the facility 9 shutting down permanently. 10 CHAIRMAN JONES: 11 Do we have a motion to approve these 12 cancellations? Motion from Mr. Amoss. Second 13 from Senator Mizell. 14 I'm going to make a comment just as a 15 reminder, the reason LED must exists and must 16 thrive is because this happens. Dr. Reddy's 17 and its predecessor companies have been in 18 Caddo Parish for 30 years, 40 years maybe. 19 International Paper has been in Natchitoches 20 for a similar period of time. 21 These companies they come and they build 22 as part of our economy, as part of our 23 culture, but corporate decisions get made. 24 And the reason LED must do its work every day 25 is because we have got to keep the backfill.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p>	<p>1 effect, the new ITEP Rules that went into 2 effect on March the 20th of this year. And 3 just as a reminder, those companies who have 4 contracts approved under the 2017 and 2018 5 Rules had jobs and payroll compliance 6 requirements. 7 Under the Rules that we passed pursuant 8 to Governor Landry's Executive Order, we have 9 given those companies the opportunity to opt 10 out of that, those jobs and payroll compliance 11 requirements. And so what you're seeing on 12 your agenda now is -- the next item on the 13 agenda are the first companies who are taking 14 advantage of that opportunity. And just as a 15 level set for people that are going, well, 16 what's this all about, what this does is a 17 strong feeling by the Governor and has 18 communicated through his Executive Order as 19 well as the members of the Rules Committee, 20 that the jobs and payroll compliance were 21 particularly onerous. And that's one reason 22 that he, Governor Edwards (sic), decided that 23 he was not wanting -- did not want that part 24 of the ITEP part going forward -- excuse me, 25 Governor -- forgive me.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p>
<p>1 Any time somebody shuts down on the front end, 2 we've got to have somebody coming in from the 3 back. So thank you for everything that LED 4 does, but this is a good reminder that this 5 can happen. 6 So do we have a motion to approve? We 7 already have the motion. Second to approve. 8 Any other comments? 9 Hearing none, any comments from the 10 public? 11 There being none, all in favor of 12 canceling these contracts, say aye. 13 ALL: 14 Aye. 15 CHAIRMAN JONES: 16 Any opposition? 17 There is none, the motion carries. 18 MS. JOHNSON: 19 Okay. So next, under the new 2025 Rules 20 -- 21 CHAIRMAN JONES: 22 Okay. Let me step in here, Ms. Johnson. 23 For the Board and for the public, this is a 24 brand new matter on the agenda. This is a 25 spinoff of the new rules that went into</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p>	<p>1 But anyway, so we got rid of jobs and 2 payroll, but we wanted to put companies that 3 had entered under the ITEP program under the 4 previous rules on a level playing field so 5 they would not have those kind of 6 requirements. So what we're having the 7 opportunity now is to vote on those opt out -- 8 to exercise those opt-out opportunities. 9 And instead of reading all of these 10 through, Ms. Johnson, I'm going to entertain a 11 motion, that the Board and the public has them 12 on their agenda, I'm going to entertain a 13 motion to approve them in globo. Before we go 14 forward, if anybody wants to deal with any 15 particular one of these, let me know now, and 16 we can pull it out and deal with it 17 individually. But otherwise, we will vote on 18 these in globo. 19 So we have a motion from Mr. Miller to 20 approve in globo. We have a second from 21 Mr. Moss. Any questions or comments? 22 Yes, sir, Mr. Amoss? 23 MR. AMOSS: 24 Mr. Chairman, it seemed like you were 25 implying that this is a continuing process so</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p>



<p>1 other companies can --  2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  3 Yes.  4 MR. AMOSS:  5 -- make this request.  6 CHAIRMAN JONES:  7 Yes.  8 MR. AMOSS:  9 Is there a deadline for that?  10 CHAIRMAN JONES:  11 No.  12 MR. AMOSS:  13 Okay.  14 CHAIRMAN JONES:  15 No, there is not. Obviously, and this is  16 more for the public, for those who have  17 companies in their area that are under the  18 2017 and 2018 Rules, if you want to take  19 advantage of this, sooner is better than  20 later. Because if you don't opt out, then  21 there will still be compliance.  22 MS. JOHNSON:  23 Right. So it's from, perspective from  24 the approval of the requests.  25 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p>	<p>1 MR. MELE:  2 Mele Printing.  3 CHAIRMAN JONES:  4 I'm sorry?  5 MR. MELE:  6 Mele Printing.  7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  8 Got it. Okay. Mr. Mele is recusing  9 himself from that.  10 Any other questions or comments from the  11 Board?  12 Any comments from the public?  13 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye.  14 ALL:  15 Aye.  16 CHAIRMAN JONES:  17 Any opposition?  18 There is none, the motion carries.  19 MS. JOHNSON:  20 Next, we have one Special Request from  21 Cabot Corporation for Contract 20200327.  22 Cabot Corporation is requesting to amend  23 Section 4.02(D) and Section 6.01(B)(1) of  24 their existing Exhibit A agreement for  25 Contract 20200327 by an additional year in</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p>
<p>1 Right. Yes.  2 MS. JOHNSON:  3 So there's no deadline, but they would  4 still be obligated to file their jobs, payroll  5 compliance filings until the year in which  6 they opt out.  7 CHAIRMAN JONES:  8 And if they fail to meet them, then there  9 will be compliance exposure.  10 MS. JOHNSON:  11 Yes, sir.  12 MR. AMOSS:  13 Thank you.  14 CHAIRMAN JONES:  15 Very good question.  16 MR. AMOSS:  17 Thank you.  18 CHAIRMAN JONES:  19 Yes, sir?  20 MR. MELE:  21 For anybody that is keeping track, if we  22 want to do this in globo approval, there's one  23 I have to recuse myself from.  24 CHAIRMAN JONES:  25 Okay. Which one?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p>	<p>1 order to extend the grace period to become  2 fully operational.  3 CHAIRMAN JONES:  4 Do we have anybody here from Cabot  5 Corporation?  6 MR. PRETORIUS:  7 Good morning, Mr. Chairman.  8 CHAIRMAN JONES:  9 Please state your name and your position  10 with the company, please.  11 MR. PRETORIUS:  12 My name is Braun Pretorius. I'm the  13 Regional Manufacturing Director for Cabot  14 Corporation.  15 CHAIRMAN JONES:  16 Great. Tell us what's going on.  17 MR. PRETORIUS:  18 So, Mr. Chair, we entered into the  19 contract for our ITE in 2021. Subsequently,  20 2021, we had to deal with some (indiscernible)  21 during COVID. Even though we started the  22 project and execution was well underway, it  23 did hold us back quite a bit. And, you know,  24 we struggled to distinct the timeline on our  25 project.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p>

<p>1 And we're absolutely fully committed to 2 continuing this investment within the 3 Evangeline Parish. We've made significant 4 progress. Currently, as we speak, we have 5 400, at least 400 contractors on our site in 6 the process of executing this air pollution 7 control and energy center project, which is 8 great for the local economy. It's great for 9 us as a business to continue operating an 10 effective operation while taking care of our 11 people and our environment. 12 So what we are requesting is just an 13 extension to get ourselves fully operational. 14 The grace period ends, I believe, at the end 15 of June, and we need a little bit of 16 additional time just to complete this project 17 and get it fully operational. 18 CHAIRMAN JONES: 19 Couple of questions. About how much 20 longer do you have left on construction, do 21 you think? 22 MR. PRETORIUS: 23 The intention is to have it complete by 24 the end of this calendar year. 25 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p>	<p>1 I'm sorry. Let's get a motion, then we 2 can ask all the questions. Okay. Motion from 3 Mr. Nassar to approve. Second from Mr. Amoss. 4 Now, Mr. Mele? 5 MR. MELE: 6 So if you're asking for a year extension, 7 is a year going to be enough? As you put 8 on -- it was shut down or something for, as 9 you said, a year. A year doesn't necessarily 10 mean get ramped up in a year. Do you have any 11 kind of -- 12 MR. PRETORIUS: 13 Yes, sir. 14 MR. MELE: 15 -- just -- 16 MR. PRETORIUS: 17 No, I appreciate that question and it's 18 very valid. I think for us, this is an 19 addition to our existing operation. So we 20 will have a short period of outage to connect 21 the two, but one-year extension would be more 22 than adequate for us to get this completed. I 23 appreciate that though. It is a very valid 24 comment. 25 MR. MELE:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p>
<p>1 Okay. So we're talking about a few 2 months extension? 3 MR. PRETORIUS: 4 A few months. We just want to make sure 5 we stick to the timeline, that's the Special 6 Request. I know that we will not make the end 7 of June date, and that's just why we are just 8 asking for the one here. 9 CHAIRMAN JONES: 10 And just a source of information for 11 everyone here, your total capital expenditure? 12 MR. PRETORIUS: 13 It's in excess of \$100 million. 14 CHAIRMAN JONES: 15 Okay. And when you're fully operational, 16 how many employees do you think you will have? 17 MR. PRETORIUS: 18 We'll have an additional 15 full-time 19 employees. 20 CHAIRMAN JONES: 21 Great. Okay. All right. Very good. Do 22 we have a motion to -- 23 MR. MELE: 24 I have a -- 25 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p>	<p>1 You're welcome. 2 CHAIRMAN JONES: 3 Any other questions? All right. Very 4 good. We have a motion and a second. Any 5 comments from the public? 6 MR. MIGUEZ: 7 Mr. Chairman, I need to recuse myself. 8 CHAIRMAN JONES: 9 Okay. Mr. Miguez is recusing himself in 10 this matter. 11 Any other comments? 12 Hearing none, any comments from the 13 public? 14 Hearing none, all in favor, say aye. 15 ALL: 16 Aye. 17 CHAIRMAN JONES: 18 Any opposition? 19 There is none, the motion carries. 20 MR. PRETORIUS: 21 Thank you all. 22 CHAIRMAN JONES: 23 Thank you. 24 MS. JOHNSON: 25 Finally, we have one contract that was</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p>

<p>1 noncompliant under the 2018 Rules. It's</p> <p>2 20180370, Valero Refining New Orleans in St.</p> <p>3 Charles Parish. It's noncompliant for</p> <p>4 reporting periods 2022 and 2023. They were</p> <p>5 supposed to create nine new jobs with \$1.2</p> <p>6 million in new payroll. Their actual new jobs</p> <p>7 and new payroll were both zero in 2022 and</p> <p>8 2023.</p> <p>9 The Parish, the Sheriff, and the School</p> <p>10 Board all requested that the Board take no</p> <p>11 action. The letter states: We strongly urge</p> <p>12 the members of the Louisiana Board of Commerce</p> <p>13 and Industry to take no action and not</p> <p>14 penalize the company.</p> <p>15 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>16 All right. Do I have a motion? I have a</p> <p>17 motion from Mr. Nassar to approve without</p> <p>18 penalty. We have a second from Mayor Toups.</p> <p>19 Any questions or comments?</p> <p>20 I tell you, I would like -- is someone</p> <p>21 from Valero here? I thought I saw -- yeah.</p> <p>22 Please state your name and position with</p> <p>23 the company.</p> <p>24 MR. KEYES:</p> <p>25 Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Members. Adam</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p>	<p>1 We've had some significant roll offs.</p> <p>2 Our tax liability in the Parish has continued</p> <p>3 to grow. And salaries have, as I said,</p> <p>4 continued to grow during the time in question</p> <p>5 as well.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>7 Okay. Good. So multiple factors, but</p> <p>8 the use of contractors, obviously, doesn't</p> <p>9 count into the jobs.</p> <p>10 MR. KEYES:</p> <p>11 Sure, just as a data point.</p> <p>12 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>13 There's a -- it's -- and I'm just,</p> <p>14 because there's so much discussion about this</p> <p>15 and has been over the years, but jobs,</p> <p>16 counting jobs sounds real easy until you get</p> <p>17 into a project and you realize how -- I mean,</p> <p>18 if your security is contracted out to a third</p> <p>19 party like most people do or you may have five</p> <p>20 people or ten people working security, but</p> <p>21 that doesn't count as a job --</p> <p>22 MR. KEYES:</p> <p>23 Right.</p> <p>24 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>25 -- under our program. And so, you know,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p>
<p>1 Keyes. I am Senior Regional Manager of</p> <p>2 Government Affairs for Valero.</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>4 Just give us an idea of what's happened</p> <p>5 that's kept the lights on. Obviously, the</p> <p>6 locals are very much in favor of the project.</p> <p>7 And, obviously, you already have a motion to</p> <p>8 approve without penalty, but just give the</p> <p>9 Board some clarity as to what's going on.</p> <p>10 MR. KEYES:</p> <p>11 Sure. So this goes to some of the</p> <p>12 comments about the new opt-out option. As we</p> <p>13 count jobs in the refinery, we hire on a</p> <p>14 rolling basis. We have about 550 employees at</p> <p>15 the refinery at any given time, about 350</p> <p>16 contractors. Our salary base has increased</p> <p>17 throughout the entirety of the contract.</p> <p>18 We continue to hire between 30 and 45</p> <p>19 employees a year. And during COVID, we saw</p> <p>20 some attrition, we saw retirements. And so</p> <p>21 that's some of the counting. And it was</p> <p>22 really apples and oranges from the old Rules</p> <p>23 being pulled in from other job programs. And</p> <p>24 so in counting is where we ran into our</p> <p>25 issues.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p>	<p>1 we see story after story after story like</p> <p>2 that. It's a little more complex then perhaps</p> <p>3 it should be.</p> <p>4 MR. KEYES:</p> <p>5 Right. And I would say --</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>7 And I thought your story would be a good</p> <p>8 way to help the Board recognize and understand</p> <p>9 the complexity of the issue.</p> <p>10 MR. KEYES:</p> <p>11 Sure. And just for a little further</p> <p>12 detail, so we went from five specific units to</p> <p>13 six. And so you have to have people to staff</p> <p>14 that sixth unit. And so we, you know, have</p> <p>15 the argument that we have created the jobs.</p> <p>16 You know, people are operating the new unit</p> <p>17 that is subject to the ITEP.</p> <p>18 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>19 It's not running by itself.</p> <p>20 MR. KEYES:</p> <p>21 It is not.</p> <p>22 CHAIRMAN JONES:</p> <p>23 Okay. Good. Thank you very much. I</p> <p>24 appreciate that.</p> <p>25 MR. KEYES:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p>

<p>1 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  2 CHAIRMAN JONES:  3 All right. Any other comments or  4 questions?  5 Hearing none, any comments from the  6 public?  7 There being none, all in favor, say aye.  8 ALL:  9 Aye.  10 CHAIRMAN JONES:  11 Any opposition?  12 There is none, the motion carries.  13 MR. KEYES:  14 Thank you.  15 MS. JOHNSON:  16 That concludes the ITEP portion of the  17 agenda.  18 CHAIRMAN JONES:  19 Very good. Do we have any other business  20 from the Board? I see none. Ms. Anne Villa  21 is sitting in for Secretary Bourgeois. So  22 tell us what else is going on in LED.  23 MS. VILLA:  24 Good morning. First off, before I get  25 into all the great things that are happening</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p>	<p>1 The planned Plaquemines expansion, for those  2 of you who may have missed it, consists of 24  3 trains and would represent an approximately  4 \$18 billion additional investment in the  5 State. And that would bring Venture Global's  6 total investment in current and planned U.S.  7 projects to over \$75 billion across the U.S.  8 So on March 24th, closer to home in  9 Ascension Parish, first time ever, the  10 Secretary and elected officials, along with  11 the Governor and the President of the United  12 States, President Trump announced that at the  13 White House with Hyundai representatives that  14 Hyundai Motor Group was going to make a  15 ground-breaking investment of \$5.8 billion new  16 manufacturing facility in Louisiana. This is  17 the first of its kind, and it marks Hyundai's  18 inaugural North America steel facility, which  19 is establishing a fully-integrated Made in  20 America supply chain to support its automotive  21 manufacturing operations that are already here  22 in the U.S.  23 So Jerry mentioned in the beginning, not  24 the beginning, but towards the end talking  25 about the projects that Dr. Reddy's and also</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p>
<p>1 within the Department, I want to thank all the  2 companies, the applicants today that appeared  3 in front of the Board, appreciate the  4 continued investment that you have and that  5 you continue to make in Louisiana. We're very  6 grateful for that and thankful for the Board  7 members, the time that you give up in your  8 schedules, which I know are very hectic, to  9 appear today and to be a part of the review of  10 these projects that are bringing jobs and  11 capital investments in to our State.  12 So I am sitting in for Secretary  13 Bourgeois this morning, and she's obviously  14 representing the Department. The Legislature  15 is in. Representative Mizell and  16 Representative Deshotel, thank you so much for  17 coming today. We appreciate that.  18 So just to kind of go through some  19 announcements that we've had in case you've  20 missed them. But in early March, Venture  21 Global announced their major ground fill  22 expansion in Plaquemines south of New Orleans,  23 and that is a Joint Venture. And the Governor  24 was joined with the Secretary and the  25 Secretary of Energy and Secretary of Interior.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p>	<p>1 International Paper, but economic development  2 is a process that we do every day. We  3 cultivate seeds that are planted long ago.  4 So about ten years ago, Ascension Parish  5 developed their RiverPlex MegaPark on the  6 Westbank, and that's where this facility will  7 be located. And then later on in April, CF  8 Industries also announced that they were going  9 to be having a final investment decision made  10 for their world's largest producer of ammonia.  11 And its partners will announce -- did announce  12 that they were going to do a \$4 billion  13 investment in the low carbon ammonia facility.  14 So seeds that were planted long ago take  15 a little bit to cultivate in economic  16 development. It's very patient what we do in  17 our jobs every day because it does take some  18 time. Also in our backyard, later in the week  19 of March 24th, ExxonMobil announced its plans  20 to invest more than a hundred million dollars  21 in facility upgrades to produce high purity  22 isopropyl alcohol, which is a critical  23 material in conductor chip manufacturing in  24 the U.S. As you know, that facility is right  25 there. It's their Baton Rouge complex and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p>

<p>1 it's the Legacy Chemical Plant that we have.</p> <p>2 On April 9th, Mid South Extrusions, which</p> <p>3 is a family-owned flexible film and bag</p> <p>4 manufacturing company, announced its 12 and a</p> <p>5 half million dollar expansion into their</p> <p>6 production capacity with the addition of two</p> <p>7 new state of the art polyethylene extrusion</p> <p>8 lines. And it will create 12 jobs. This is</p> <p>9 the second expansion that the company has</p> <p>10 announced. They announced an expansion in</p> <p>11 September of last year.</p> <p>12 Also, we've been working, as you know, on</p> <p>13 our strategic plan that we've been working on</p> <p>14 since we passed our legendary restructuring</p> <p>15 Bill of LED that Senator Mizell had last year.</p> <p>16 And we've been working with our Louisiana</p> <p>17 Economic Development Partner Advisory Board,</p> <p>18 and they met and approved LED's strategic plan</p> <p>19 in late March. And that's a comprehensive</p> <p>20 statewide strategic plan. We have not had one</p> <p>21 in over 16 years. And it was really outdated</p> <p>22 during the diagnostic review to gain an</p> <p>23 outside in understanding of state</p> <p>24 competitiveness. We had extensive stakeholder</p> <p>25 engagement opportunities throughout the State.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p>	<p>1 out migration, particularly among our</p> <p>2 well-educated with over 40 percent of the</p> <p>3 people leaving having a Bachelor's degree or</p> <p>4 higher. We really needed to address this.</p> <p>5 And then our GDP per capita has declined</p> <p>6 over the past 15 years. The jobs and</p> <p>7 population have grown very slowly. So we</p> <p>8 identified our pillars of prosperity in the</p> <p>9 strategic plan being the ease of doing</p> <p>10 business, our high wage employment, our</p> <p>11 thriving regions, growth and innovation, and</p> <p>12 our global impact. And the priority sectors</p> <p>13 that we derived from this strategic plan are</p> <p>14 energy and process industries, warehousing and</p> <p>15 logistics, agribusiness, aerospace and</p> <p>16 defense, professional services, technology,</p> <p>17 and life sciences.</p> <p>18 The two foundational priority</p> <p>19 initiatives, which will underpin in support of</p> <p>20 the execution of our plan, is the Governor's</p> <p>21 whole of government economic strike force, a</p> <p>22 formalized collaboration between cabinet level</p> <p>23 agencies with members owning initiatives that</p> <p>24 contribute to economic development. This was</p> <p>25 very, very key in our successful win of the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p>
<p>1 We held eight regional workshops, 20</p> <p>2 interviews with state departments and</p> <p>3 institutional leaders.</p> <p>4 We interviewed 50-plus elected officials</p> <p>5 that were engaged in small group meetings that</p> <p>6 we held across the state. And there were 250</p> <p>7 key stakeholder engagements occurred</p> <p>8 throughout this process. So we really took it</p> <p>9 as an opportunity to engage with everyone as</p> <p>10 we forged forward with our vision, which is to</p> <p>11 build the most revised innovative and growing</p> <p>12 economy in the southeast that elevates all of</p> <p>13 Louisiana.</p> <p>14 So throughout the strategic plan process,</p> <p>15 we did recognize what our competitive</p> <p>16 positioning was in Louisiana, which is our</p> <p>17 ongoing advantages and our asset sectors like</p> <p>18 energy, manufacturing, and process industries,</p> <p>19 our leadership in STEM production, new</p> <p>20 business formation, and favorable cost of</p> <p>21 doing business. We're the U.S. leader in</p> <p>22 exports and high specialization in venture</p> <p>23 capital investments, and growth sectors, but</p> <p>24 we also recognized our key challenges that we</p> <p>25 needed to address, which was our high domestic</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p>	<p>1 Meta project in December, as well as the</p> <p>2 Hyundai project. We really took a different</p> <p>3 approach to economic development during the</p> <p>4 past 15, 16 months, and it truly has proven to</p> <p>5 be successful.</p> <p>6 So we're also going to launch a Louisiana</p> <p>7 Opportunity Campaign, which is a holistic</p> <p>8 communication strategy targeting businesses</p> <p>9 and high potential talent to relocate to or to</p> <p>10 remain in Louisiana. And so with all of that,</p> <p>11 we've got our Bills that are in the</p> <p>12 Legislature. And, Senator Mizell, thank you</p> <p>13 again for Senate Bill 161, which is what we're</p> <p>14 calling the Reorganization 2.0 which builds</p> <p>15 upon Act 590, which was known as positioning</p> <p>16 Louisiana to win. And the components of it</p> <p>17 were to inform our best practices and promote</p> <p>18 government efficiency, while expanding upon</p> <p>19 recent statewide success.</p> <p>20 So within that, we're going to have the</p> <p>21 creation of the Louisiana Economic Development</p> <p>22 Innovation Fund. And also, it's going to give</p> <p>23 us the ability to purchase and sell land. And</p> <p>24 it has agencies streamlining it. Those are</p> <p>25 some of the key highlights from that.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p>

<p>1 Our next Legislative action that we have 2 is the creation of our High Impact Job 3 Creation Program, which representative Emerson 4 is carrying that House Bill 507. And for 5 almost 30 years, the State of Louisiana has 6 incentivized job creation with the Quality 7 Jobs Program. Since FY'16, the Program has 8 seen participation from companies creating 9 over 22,000 new jobs.</p> <p>10 What the program has not done has really 11 driven towards that high wage opportunity for 12 our residents. And to remain competitive and 13 provide a pathway of ever-growing wages, LED 14 has developed this High Impact Job creation 15 Program. The Program provides a reimbursable 16 grant to a company based on new jobs created 17 that pay above the parish average wage in the 18 parish that the project is located. New jobs 19 paying 125 percent of the parish average 20 receive an 18 percent grant. New jobs paying 21 above 150 percent of the parish average 22 receives a 22 percent grant.</p> <p>23 The Program will also provide for a lower 24 threshold of eligibility in most distressed 25 parishes. New jobs paying 110 percent of the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p>	<p>1 strategic plan. And it's going to ensure 2 program sustainability and growth through 3 public private partnerships.</p> <p>4 As you know, if you've seen what we've 5 had as our site, we've only had like one mega 6 site that we've had within the State that was 7 invested over 20 years ago. So this will 8 allow us the ability to work with sites that 9 we know that are out there, that we can have 10 some improvements with, and leverage some 11 private investments as well.</p> <p>12 We also have a couple other Bills, Senate 13 Bill 232 with Senator Bass, which is our 14 Motion Picture Production Incentive Program. 15 And then we also have the Major Events 16 Incentive Program that was brought back to 17 LED. We're making some improvements on that 18 one, and Senator Harris is carrying that.</p> <p>19 So there's lots that has been going on 20 since we last met and we hope to have a lot 21 more to report out positively in June when we 22 meet again. And then for those of you, I'm 23 going to probably embarrass Christina Smith, 24 but she's our new Executive Director of 25 Operations for LED. And with the Bill that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p>
<p>1 parish average wage in the distressed region 2 will be eligible for an 8 percent benefit. 3 The Program's Rule will define what is 4 distressed. But based on some of the other 5 States's models that we've seen, it may be 6 defined as the bottom 25 percent of weekly 7 wages as an example.</p> <p>8 And then, Representative Deshotel, thank 9 you. House Bill 433 is the LED site 10 development. This proposed Legislation 11 establishes a site investment in 12 infrastructure fund, improvement fund that 13 will receive an initial deposit, hopefully, of 14 \$150 million from the State General Fund. And 15 each subsequent year, the Fund will receive 16 10 percent of State recurring General Fund 17 Revenue not exceeding \$50 million, as 18 recognized by the Revenue Estimating 19 Conference.</p> <p>20 So the principles of this program is to 21 leverage funding to build upon existing assets 22 with regional impact, to increase existing 23 inventory of market ready sites, to invest in 24 sites that support demonstrated market demand 25 aligned with priority sectors within the LED</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p>	<p>1 was done last year, there was positions that 2 were eliminated that were appointed positions, 3 and so Christina is kind of filling this new 4 position that we have at LED as we restructure 5 internally, continue to restructure 6 internally, we have created this position. 7 And this position is responsible for our 8 program administration, as well as our 9 compliance and reporting. So each of you will 10 get to know Christina, I'm sure, throughout 11 your interactions with LED.</p> <p>12 I do want to take one privilege though to 13 really appreciate and send a thanks. There's 14 a lot that goes into supporting the systems 15 that support the programs that come in front 16 of the Board. Yeoman's work was done with our 17 program administrators of ITEP and our IT team 18 at LED the past six months trying to get 19 everything ready with our emergency rules that 20 our legal team also assisted greatly on and 21 putting all that in place, so that when the 22 rules became effective, we can just turn on 23 the switch so to speak and the system was 24 there to support the companies and their 25 interactions with the Department. So I just</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p>

<p>1 wanted to thank everyone. There's a lot of 2 work that goes behind that. You don't really 3 realize with our legal team, our 4 administration team, and our IT team, so I 5 just want to publicly thank them for all of 6 their work that they've been doing for the 7 past six months to a year really. Thank you. 8 CHAIRMAN JONES: 9 Thank you, Ms. Villa. And I want to 10 second, especially her last comments, that the 11 staff and a lot of new Board members, they sit 12 through these Board meetings and they go, you 13 know, all we're doing is voting, but most of 14 the time we're voting yes, what are we really 15 doing here. The reality is, is that if the 16 companies are doing their job and staff is 17 doing its job, then we don't have much to do. 18 The only time that we really do have something 19 to do is when there's a blip, there's an 20 issue, something has happened. And we are 21 here to break those ties. 22 And so when you may feel like your 23 presence here is not needed, it is absolutely 24 needed because we never know from meeting to 25 meeting when those blips will happen. And we</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p>	<p>1 we -- 2 MAYOR TOUPS: 3 I'd like to take a moment of personal 4 privilege, if you'll allow me to do that. 5 CHAIRMAN JONES: 6 Go ahead. 7 MAYOR TOUPS: 8 My community of Addis, Louisiana is 9 getting a lot of national exposure right now. 10 One of our community members, John Foster 11 Benoit is on American Idol currently, and he 12 is in the top 14 vying to go in the top 12. 13 So he's not only representing Addis and West 14 Baton Rouge, he's representing the whole State 15 of Louisiana. So I'm trying to get everybody 16 to push for John Foster. He's doing really, 17 really well. 18 He was a valedictorian at Brusly High 19 School last year. He's at LSU. He's hoping 20 to become an oncologist, and he wants to 21 become a singing oncologist. So hope to keep 22 him in the State of Louisiana, but he's doing 23 a great job. 24 CHAIRMAN JONES: 25 Vote early and often.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p>
<p>1 will need your wisdom and your experience to 2 help guide us through those. But for the most 3 part, these are programs that work the way 4 they're supposed to go. And as I say, as long 5 as the companies do what they're supposed to 6 do and our staff does what it's supposed to 7 do, it should be seamless and it should be 8 proforma, but we will continue to keep 9 working. 10 And, Anne, to you and to Secretary 11 Bourgeois, and I can't see Ms. Smith, but 12 welcome Christina to the team, I have been 13 sitting on this Board, this is my 16th or 17th 14 year, but I have, I can say without fear of 15 contradiction, I have never seen LED as active 16 and intensely doing what it is they're 17 supposed to do, I have never seen anything 18 like this before. And it tickles me that 19 there's an energy and a desire to succeed that 20 I'm just -- Louisiana needed this. 21 Thank you to Governor Landry for his 22 appointment of Secretary Bourgeois and to her 23 leadership in making this happen, and then all 24 of you who are players in that as well. Thank 25 you. Thank you. Any other comments before</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p>	<p>1 MAYOR TOUPS: 2 Early and often starting Sunday night, 3 number 13. 4 CHAIRMAN JONES: 5 No shame was plugged there. Anything 6 else for the good of the order? 7 If not, I'll entertain a motion to 8 adjourn. Motion from Mayor Touns. Second 9 from Senator Mizell. 10 All in favor, say aye. 11 ALL: 12 Aye. 13 CHAIRMAN JONES: 14 See y'all two months from now. 15 (WHEREUPON, THE MEETING ADJOURNED.) 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p>

1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 I, KELLY J. DOMIANO, a Certified Court  
3 Reporter, Certificate #23035, in good standing with  
4 the State of Louisiana, as the officer before whom  
5 this meeting was taken, do hereby certify that the  
6 foregoing 57 pages;

7 That this testimony was reported by me in  
8 stenographic machine shorthand by Computer-Aided  
9 Transcription, transcribed by me or under my  
10 personal direction and supervision, and is a true  
11 and correct transcript to the best of my ability  
12 and understanding;

13 That the transcript has been prepared in  
14 compliance with transcript format guidelines  
15 required by statute or by rules of the Board, that  
16 I have acted in compliance with the prohibition on  
17 contractual relationships, as defined by Louisiana  
18 Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules  
19 and advisory opinions of the Board; that I am not  
20 of counsel nor related to any person participating  
21 in this cause and am in no way interested in the  
22 outcome of this event.

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1 This certification is valid only for a  
2 transcript accompanied by my handwritten or digital  
3 signature and the image of my State-authorized seal  
4 on this page.

5 Signed:

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[roberts - six]

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[sixth - term]

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