

VISIT BATON ROUGE

BOARD MINUTES

February, 2025

A scheduled Board of Director's meeting of Visit Baton Rouge was held on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at the Visit Baton Rouge Office located at 359 Third Street.

Present:

Gary Jupiter
Stephen Hightower
Mary Stein
Kim Ginn
Janice DeLerno
Robyn Merrick
Marty Engquist
Gary Patureau
Claude Reynaud

Absent:

Rowdy Gaudet

Present but not participating in formal actions:

Jill Kidder, Staff
Lauralyn Maranto, Staff
Danielle Prejean, Staff
Geraldine Bordelon, Staff
Jason Suitt, Staff
Emily Mastrantonio, Staff
Lori Lasseigne, Staff
Fatima Gautier, Staff
Chuck Elkins, Legal Counsel

Gary Jupiter called the meeting to order and opened the meeting for public comment.

On a motion by Kim Ginn, seconded by Gary Patureau to approve January 28, 2025, minutes as presented.

Motion carried.

In regard to the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire, a motion was made by Gary Patureau, seconded by Marty Engquist to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VISIT BATON ROUGE (“VBR”)
CONCERNING APPROVAL OF VBR’S 2024 LOUISIANA COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE
FEBRUARY 27, 2025**

WHEREAS, as part of its 2024 financial audit, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor has requested VBR to prepare the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire (the “Questionnaire”) attached to this resolution as Exhibit “A”.

WHEREAS, the Questionnaire requests that certain VBR officers certify to VBR’s auditors and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor certain facts about VBR, its legal status, and its compliance with various legal and contractual requirements.

WHEREAS, the Questionnaire has been prepared and reviewed by VBR professional staff, and will be signed by the VBR President & CEO and the VBR Secretary/Treasurer certifying such Questionnaire as true and correct to the best of such officers’ knowledge and belief.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that based in large part upon its high opinion of the professionalism, reputation for truthfulness, and the unquestioned integrity of the staff and officers of VBR, the Board of Directors of Visit Baton Rouge unanimously and without reservation states, that to the best of its knowledge and belief, that the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire and the data and information disclosed therein are true and correct in all material respects as of the date of this resolution.

Motion carried.

Chuck Elkins presented a brief discussion authorizing Jill to enter into a CEA with SportsBR to assist SportsBR in obtaining and expending the funds allocated by the Legislature.

A motion was made by Mary Stein, seconded by Marty Engquist, to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VISIT BATON ROUGE
CONCERNING AN COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR AGREEMENT WITH SPORTSBR, INC.
February 27, 2025**

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Visit Baton Rouge (“VBR”) is charged with assisting in the economic development of East Baton Rouge Parish through the promotion of travel and tourism.

WHEREAS, SportsBR, Inc., a Louisiana not-for-profit corporation (“SportsBR”), is engaged in the promotion of amateur sporting events in East Baton Rouge Parish, with the mission of assisting in the economic development of the Parish through the uniting of Sports and Community.

WHEREAS, for many years SportsBR and VBR have been partners in promoting sports tourism events in East Baton Rouge in furtherance of the mission of both organizations.

NOW THEREFORE, the following resolutions are offered:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of VBR that Jill C. Kidder, President & CEO is hereby authorized and directed on behalf of VBR to negotiate, execute, deliver and cause to be performed a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (the “CEA”) with SportsBR, regarding VBR (i) assisting SportsBR in securing an allocation of funds in the amount of One Hundred Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$100,000.00) from the State of Louisiana due SportsBR for its use in the 2024-25 fiscal year pursuant to La. R.S. §47:322.9 (the “State Funding”); and (ii) managing the expenditure of such State Funding on behalf of SportsBR and VBR consistent with the mission of both organizations and the terms and conditions of the State Funding. Such CEA shall contain such terms and conditions that Ms. Kidder, in her sole discretion, deem reasonable, appropriate, and in the best interest of VBR.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Jill C. Kidder, President/CEO, is directed and empowered in the name of and on behalf of VBR to take all actions determined by her to be in the best interest of VBR and necessary or convenient for the accomplishment of the previous resolution, including without limitation to execute and deliver any certificate, instrument, or other document related to such agreement.

Motion carried. Gary Jupiter abstained.

Fatima Gautier is a Certified Trainer with the Louisiana Board of Ethics and presented the annual training on the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics La. R.S. 42:1170.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.