

VISIT BATON ROUGE

BOARD MINUTES

June 9, 2026

A Special Joint Meeting of the Visit Baton Rouge Board of Directors and the VBR-232 Lafayette PBC Board was held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at the Visit Baton Rouge Office located at 359 Third Street. The following is the minutes of the Visit Baton Rouge Board of Directors meeting:

Present Board Members:

Rowdy Gaudet
Gary Patureau
Gary Jupiter
Karen Soniat
Marty Engquist
Robyn Merrick
Claude Reynaud

Absent Board Members:

Jeremy Fontenot
Stephen Hightower
Janice DeLerno

Attendees Present but not participating in formal actions:

Jill Kidder, Staff
Lisa Clary, Staff
Danielle Prejean, Staff
Stacy Simon, Staff
Laura Cating, Staff
Lauralyn Maranto, Staff
Trippe Hawthorne, Legal Counsel
Lisa Nice, Architect
Angie Adolph, Legal Counsel
Ianne Salvosa, Business Reporter, Advocate

Rowdy Gaudet called the meeting to order and opened the meeting for public comment.

Discussion was held in connection with the adoption of a resolution regarding the public works contract for New Headquarters for Visit Baton Rouge, VBR-232 Lafayette, Inc., including consideration of either (i) rejecting all bids because no bidder submitted a bid within the established threshold of the preconstruction estimate for the work, pursuant to Louisiana Public Bid Law, or (ii) awarding the public works contract to the lowest responsive and responsible

bidder, pursuant to Louisiana Public Bid Law, and authorizing execution of all necessary documents to finalize the contract award.

A motion was made by Claude Reynaud, seconded by Gary Patureau to adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND RATIFYING THE INCLUSION OF ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED BIDS, AND REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR THE NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR VISIT BATON ROUGE, VBR-232 LAFAYETTE, INC., FOR JUST CAUSE PURSUANT TO LA. R.S. 38:2214(B)(2)

WHEREAS, bids for the New Headquarters for Visit Baton Rouge, VBR-232 Lafayette, Inc., were received on June 4, 2026, including two bids submitted electronically and two bids submitted in person, as reflected on the bid tabulation sheet;

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed and considered the bid tabulation sheet, which includes the two electronically submitted bids, and finds it appropriate to approve and ratify the inclusion of those bids for purposes of bid evaluation and record;

WHEREAS, the Design Professional of Record and the President & CEO have recommended rejection of all bids, as all bids received exceeded the established project budget and preconstruction estimate of \$5,006,501.00;

WHEREAS, pursuant to La. R.S. 38:2214(B)(2), an owner has just cause to reject all bids upon the failure of any bidder to submit a bid within the established threshold of the preconstruction estimate for the work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Visit Baton Rouge and VBR-232 Lafayette, Inc. (PBC):

1. The Board hereby approves and ratifies the inclusion of the two electronically submitted bids on the bid tabulation sheet for the New Headquarters project.
2. The Board, having considered the recommendation of the Design Professional of Record and the President & CEO, hereby rejects all bids received for the New Headquarters project for just cause pursuant to La. R.S. 38:2214(B)(2), as no bidder submitted a bid within the established threshold of the preconstruction estimate for the work.

This Resolution shall become effective immediately. The foregoing Resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Janice Delerno				X
Gary Jupiter, Jr.	X			
Karen Soniat, Ph.D.	X			
Claude Reynaud, Jr.	X			
Rowdy Gaudet, Chairman	X			

Marty Engquist	X			
Gary Patureau	X			
Stephen Hightower, Vice Chairman				X
Robyn Merrick, Secretary/Treasurer	X			
Jeremy Fontenot				X

Adopted by the Board of Directors of Visit Baton Rouge at a special meeting of the said Board of Directors after being duly noticed on the 9th day of June, 2026.

/s/ Rowdy Gaudet
 Rowdy Gaudet, Chairman

Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Rowdy Gaudet, seconded by Marty Engquist.