

VBR-232 Lafayette, Inc. (Public Benefit Corporation)

June 9, 2026

A scheduled Special Board Meeting of VBR-232 Lafayette, Inc. was held jointly with Visit Baton Rouge Board of Directors on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 359 Third Street at 12:00 pm.

Present:

Scott Michelet
Mary Stein
Claude Reynaud
Marty Engquist
Gary Jupiter

Present but not participating in formal action:

Rowdy Gaudet, VBR Board Member
Robyn Merrick, VBR Board Member
Gary Patureau, VBR Board Member
Karen Soniat, VBR Board Member
Jill Kidder, Staff
Lauralyn Maranto, Staff
Danielle Prejean, Staff
Stacy Simon, Staff
Laura Cating, Staff
Lisa Clary, Staff
Trippe Hawthorne, Kean Miller
Angie Adolph, Kean Miller
Ianne Salvosa, The Advocate
Lisa Nice, GFP Architecture & Design

Scott Michelet called the meeting to order and opened the meeting for public comment.

Jill Kidder and Trippe Hawthorne, with Kean Miller, presented a brief overview regarding the bid process and status of the construction bids for 232 Lafayette Street.

After a brief discussion, the Board of Directors of Visit Baton Rouge adopted 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.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.