

VISIT BATON ROUGE
BOARD MINUTES
September 8, 2026

A Special Joint Meeting of the Visit Baton Rouge Board of Directors and the VBR-232 Lafayette PBC Board was held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at the Visit Baton Rouge Office located at 359 Third Street. The following are the minutes of the Visit Baton Rouge Board of Directors meeting:

Present Board Members:

Rowdy Gaudet
Gary Patureau
Gary Jupiter
Karen Soniat
Robyn Merrick
Claude Reynaud
Jeremy Fontenot
Stephen Hightower
Janice DeLerno

Absent Board Members:

Marty Engquist

Attendees Present but not participating in formal actions:

Jill Kidder, Staff
Lisa Clary, Staff
Danielle Prejean, Staff
Stacy Simon, Staff
Laura Cating, Staff
Emily Mastrantonio, Staff
Geraldine Bordelon, Staff
Lauralyn Maranto, Staff
Scott Michelet, PBC Board Chairman
Mary Stein, PBC Board Member
Henry Olinde, Legal Counsel
Chuck Elkins, Legal Counsel
Trippe Hawthorne, Legal Counsel
Lisa Nice, Architect

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

Discussion/action was held in connection with the construction bids proposed and selection of the alternates in order to adopt a resolution awarding the public works contract for the new headquarters for Visit Baton Rouge 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 Stephen Hightower, to adopt the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VISIT BATON ROUGE
CONCERNING AWARD OF PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT PURSUANT TO
LOUISIANA PUBLIC BID LAW**

The following Resolution was offered by Claude Reynaud and seconded by Stephen Hightower
September 8, 2026

WHEREAS, Visit Baton Rouge ("VBR"), as a Louisiana public entity, caused public notice to be duly advertised soliciting bids for the public works project known as New Headquarters for Visit Baton Rouge (the "Project") in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law, La. R.S. 38:2211 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received and publicly opened on September 1, 2026, at the time and place stated in the advertisement for bids; and

WHEREAS, after review and evaluation of all bids and bidder responsibility and responsiveness criteria, the Board of Directors of VBR has determined that Build Commercial Construction, LLC (Louisiana Contractor License No. 70230) submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid, consisting of a Base Bid of \$5,239,000.00 and the following available Alternates: Alternate No. 1 (\$91,300.00), Alternate No. 2 (\$50,273.00), and Alternate No. 3 (\$528,333.00), and that said Contractor's Base Bid was within the preconstruction estimate of \$5,456,353.00 established by the design professional of record; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of VBR finds it to be in the best interest of VBR to award the contract for the Project to Build Commercial Construction, LLC as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of VBR that the contract for New Headquarters for Visit Baton Rouge is hereby awarded to Build Commercial Construction, LLC as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for a Base Bid of \$5,239,000.00, plus the following selected Alternates:

☒ Alternate No. 1 (\$91,300.00)

☒ Alternate No. 2 (\$50,273.00)

☐ Alternate No. 3 (\$528,333.00)

for a total contract price of \$ 5,380,573.

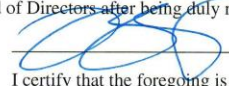
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Jill Kidder, President & CEO, is authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of VBR, the construction contract with Build Commercial Construction, LLC and all documents necessary to complete the award, including the Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, and contingency change orders within approved budget authority, and to accept and approve the performance and payment bonds and certificates of insurance required to be submitted by Build Commercial Construction, LLC, upon Build Commercial Construction,

LLC's timely submission of all required bonds, insurance, and other post-award documents in accordance with the contract documents and Louisiana law.

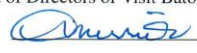
A quorum of the Board of Directors being present, the foregoing Resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Janice Delerno	✓			
Gary Jupiter Jr.	✓			
Karen Soniat Ph.D.	✓			
Claude Reynaud Jr.	✓			
Rowdy Gaudet (Chairman)	✓			
Marty Engquist				✓
Gary Patureau	✓			
Stephen Hightower (Vice Chairman)	✓			
Robyn Merrick (Secretary/Treasurer)	✓			
Jeremy Fontenot	✓			

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 8th day of September, 2026.

 Rowdy Gaudet, Chairman

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of Visit Baton Rouge on September 8, 2026.

 Robyn Merrick, Secretary/Treasurer

Motion Carried

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Gary Patureau, seconded by Stephen Hightower.