

DRAFT, subject to revisions and/or amendments

**LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Meeting
Jackson Barracks – Building 56
Thursday, July 06, 2006**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Norman Francis, chairman of the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA), called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. in Building 56 at Jackson Barracks in New Orleans, Louisiana. It is noted for the record that notices to the public and news media of the time and place of the meeting had been given in compliance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law.

II. PRAYER

Ms. Linda Johnson led the board in prayer.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Norman Francis led the board in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. ROLL CALL

Ms. Robyn Cockerham called the roll.

Board Members Present:

Dr. Norman Francis, Chairman
Sen. Diana Bajoie
Rev. Harry Blake
Mr. Boysie Bollinger
Ms. Kim Boyle
Ms. Donna Brazile
Mr. Tim Coulon
Mr. Rene Cross
Ms. Donna Fraiche
Mr. Tom Henning
Sen. Don Hines

Board Members Present:

Ms. Linda Johnson
Mr. John T. Landry
Mrs. Laura Leach
Mr. Walter Leger, Jr.
Dr. Calvin Mackie
Mr. Chet Morrison
Mr. Sean Reilly
Mr. Virgil Robinson
Mr. John E. Smith
Mr. David Voelker

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Walter Isaacson, Vice Chairman
Ms. Dale Atkins
Mr. James Davison
Rep. Yvonne Dorsey
Ms. Sibal Holt
Ms. Mary Matalin
Rep. Joe Salter
Dr. Mary Ella Sanders
Mr. Matt Stuller
Ms. Susan Taylor
Mr. Rod West
Mr. Mike Woods

Staff Members Present:

Mr. Andy Kopplin, LRA Executive Director
Mr. Dave Bowman
Mr. Miles Bruder
Ms. Robyn Cockerham
Mr. Hal Cohen
Mr. Pat Forbes
Mr. Ramsey Green
Ms. Ann Guissing
Mr. Jeff Hebert
Ms. Catherine Heitman
Ms. Kim Jupiter
Ms. Robin Keegan
Ms. Melissa Landry
Mr. Paul Rainwater
Ms. Christina Stephens
Mr. Kris Van Orsdel
Ms. Alesia Wilkins

Witnesses Present (in order of appearance):

Maj. Gen. Bennett Landreneau
Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Col. Doug Mouton
Mr. Stephen Bingler
Ms. Stacey Stewart
Mr. Ray Gindroz
Mr. Mike Williams
Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu
Mr. Kevin Davis
Judge David Gorbaty

Mr. Danny Bourgeois

V. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETING

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2006, LRA Board meeting. There being no comments or corrections, upon motion duly made by Mrs. Laura Leach and seconded by Mr. Tim Coulon, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Approval of the minutes and ratification of actions taken at the June 15, 2006, meeting of the LRA Board.

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting of the LRA Board held on June 15, 2006, as presented at this meeting, are hereby approved and all actions taken by the board presented at such meeting, as set forth in such minutes, are hereby in all respects approved as actions of the LRA Board.

Voting: Bollinger, Boyle, Coulon, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Henning, Hines, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Robinson, Smith, and Voelker.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF LRA BOARD RULES

Dr. Norman Francis recognized Mr. Andy Kopplin for a review of the LRA Board rules. Mr. Kopplin explained that due to the LRA being established by statute, that the operative rules of procedure needed to be perfected and approved by the board. He noted the work of Ms. Alesia Wilkins on the document. The floor was opened to questions and comments.

Ms. Linda Johnson sought clarification on Section 101, specifically, the procedure for staggered terms. Ms. Wilkins responded that the Governor would be responsible for making the appointments and would make the decision regarding which members would be staggered within the term.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Tim Coulon and seconded by Mr. John Landry the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Approve the LRA Board Rules

RESOLVED, that the rules of the LRA Board distributed at the June 15, 2006, Board meeting, are hereby approved.

Voting: Bollinger, Boyle, Coulon, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Henning, Hines, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Robinson, Smith, and Voelker.

VII. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

A. Chairman of the Board Report

Dr. Norman Francis began his report by welcoming Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco and thanking her for her continued support and work. He then thanked Major General Bennett Landreneau for hosting the LRA at Jackson Barracks. Dr. Francis noted the importance of the rebuilding of Jackson Barracks. He thanked the press for communicating the work and goals of the LRA. Dr. Francis noted the importance of each Louisiana citizen knowing the impact of what the Board does and how it affects him/her. He concluded his remarks by noting the hours of work that the board members spend discussing issues and thanked them for their dedication.

VIII. TASK FORCE REPORTS – DISCUSSIONS AND REPORTS

A. Long Term Community Planning Task Force

Dr. Norman Francis called upon Ms. Donna Fraiche to lead the discussion concerning the Long Term Community Planning Task Force.

I. Jackson Barracks Planning Briefing

Ms. Fraiche noted the impact that Hurricanes Katrina and Rita had on Jackson Barracks. She introduced Maj. Gen. Bennett Landreneau. She publicly recognized and thanked Maj. Gen. Landreneau and the Louisiana National Guard for their contributions to recovery efforts. Ms. Fraiche recognized Maj. Gen. Landreneau to introduce Gov. Blanco.

Maj. Gen. Landreneau thanked Ms. Fraiche and welcomed the members of the LRA to Jackson Barracks. He noted the excitement and honor of the Louisiana National Guard in hosting the LRA. Maj. Gen. Landreneau gave a brief history of the Jackson Barracks facilities. He stressed the desire to rebuild the Barracks “safer, stronger, and smarter.” Maj. Gen. Landreneau concluded his remarks by introducing Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco.

1. Remarks by Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco

The text of Governor Blanco’s remarks is as follows:

Thank you General Landreneau. It is my pleasure to be here on this historic property. I want to thank you and the LRA Board for bringing us together today. This base is a long-standing tradition in Louisiana. As former Speaker of the House and National Guard, General Hunt Downer likes to remind me that there are buildings here that date before the Civil War. This is truly property that is a Louisiana treasure. We cannot give it up lightly. And so, we are not going to give it up.

The Barracks have long been the home and headquarters of the National Guard and our military department. I am proud today that we are going to continue this tradition.

Last time we met, I had the privilege of reporting some good news. I reported that Louisiana’s final \$4.2 billion in housing funding was approved by Congress. I also reported on a very successful legislative session. Four LRA members are members of the legislature: Senate President Dr. Don

Hines, Senate President Pro-tem Diana Bajoie, House Speaker Joe Salter, and House Speaker Pro-tem Yvonne Dorsey. These LRA members have been doing double-duty all this time. The legislature came together under their leadership to pass the housing program, strengthen emergency preparedness, clean up the environment, streamline government, invest in alternative fuel sources, increase workforce training and to give teachers a much needed pay raise. I think that you will hear more detail from LRA member Sean Reilly's report. The list continues. We did a lot of very important and powerful things.

Before sharing the good news about Jackson Barracks, I want to address one more item on today's agenda. You will hear an update on the Outer Continental Shelf revenue sharing from Rene Cross. For the first time in years, we are seeing progress on this issue at the national level. Shame on us if we cannot see progress when we had a demonstration project called a hurricane that proved everything that we said was going to happen. Katrina and Rita together forced even the most reticent politician to begrudgingly acknowledge the importance of Louisiana's wetlands. In order to protect our coast, we must have comprehensive coastal restoration and hurricane protection plans. We also need this protection to allow us to support future oil drilling. Our fair share of OCS oil and gas revenues will give us the dedicated revenue that we absolutely have to have to strengthen our securities.

I hope that you all know that I have vetoed the upcoming lease sales. I fully expect the federal government to haul me into court over this. I would prefer that they just give us the money and we will go away. I appreciate the LRA's support of these efforts. I want you to know that we are going to fight this battle in court and in the court of public opinion. It is an easy decision: when you are right, you fight and you fight until you win. That is what we are about.

I want you to know that my office is working very closely with Congressmen Jindal and Melancon in the House on their OCS legislation. I applaud them both on their bill passing the House. I am also working with Senators Landrieu and Vitter. We are going to pursue all paths. This is a full court press.

I have spoken with the oil and gas industry. I want to say it one more time very clearly: this is not about the oil and gas industry. As a matter of fact, I have asked them to be a part of our voice in asking for a fair share of OCS revenues. They are doing that by and large. We want to support the oil and gas in offshore Louisiana as well as onshore Louisiana. However, we cannot do it without this vital help. We have to restore Louisiana's wetlands. We have to build our barrier islands back up. We have to do a lot of hurricane protection investment. We would like nothing better than to be able to take care of ourselves. This would be the tool, the vehicle, to allow us to do that. I am going to push for it. I am wishing that our members of Congress have the most success. I think that what we have done is give them a powerful tool to convince other members of Congress that this is the time to respond to Louisiana's request. I think that there have been members of Congress begging for this for at least twenty years if not longer.

Now to the business at hand, today I have more good news to report. Let me offer my congratulations to Mayor Nagin, the community leaders and the City Council of New Orleans. I thank you for reaching an agreement on a single neighborhood planning process. And, I am delighted that the Rockefeller Foundation money enabled this agreement. I want to thank my friend and LRA board member David Voelker for his hard work in moving the community planning process forward. David, I look forward to hearing your presentation.

I know that this was a real challenging effort. A lot of people operate out of concern. This information should assure people that we want everyone to be included in the planning process. It is extremely important that citizens, who are going to be the people that make the final decision, come to the table and work with us. I am convinced that when given access to the right kind of information and to well-trained community planners, the people of New Orleans will be able to make the tough decisions that they have to make for themselves. People are not afraid. They want though, to safely rebuild their neighborhood. They are not afraid to face reality. They just need the right kind of information so that they can make the right kind of decision for themselves. This is what we are going to do: make sure that they have the right kind of information.

Today, we are here to unveil the master plan for Jackson Barracks. This plan represents the great progress that is possible with community planning. It incorporates innovative thinking and the cutting edge technology that will allow us to rebuild this property safely. I salute General Landreneau and the National Guard for your commitment to rebuild this historic property. I am here to assure you that the state shares your commitment to rebuild. We are devoting significant resources to the effort.

Jackson Barracks has long been an anchor bridging Orleans and St. Bernard Parish. Investment here in this property will provide a catalyst, as we believe, to the surrounding communities. I think that it is going to spark new life into the areas most devastated by Katrina. But it's going to do it in the right way. Bringing Jackson Barracks back brings a real strong signal that Arabi is coming back; Chalmette is coming back; Holy Cross is coming back; and let me be clear, the Ninth Ward is coming back.

It can come back but it has to come back under new rules, but it can come back. Bringing our communities back does not mean rebuilding just the same as it was before even though many people would like that. We want to feel like we are in a state of normal. We are going to be in a new normal. It's not going to look like the old normal, but it can be better. It means rebuilding safer, stronger and smarter than ever before. It means demonstrating that we can live effectively and safely with our surroundings. I am convinced that is what people want. They want to live in their normal surroundings but they want to know how to do it safely. It means integrating a full range of services into our neighborhoods. Jackson Barracks is our opportunity to demonstrate how to rebuild and how to rebuild right.

Col. Doug Mouton is here to share with us the exciting news about the master plan of Jackson Barracks. The Barracks will be rebuilt with critical infrastructure located above the flood line. The first floor will be provided to weather a flood. The Guard's construction will meet or exceed all of FEMA's advisory flood elevations. The master plan will incorporate adaptive architecture that will enable us to safely restore historic structures. This is an important model to follow especially in this area of town. We have so many historic structures that we would like to preserve for future generations and they are here and all over these communities. The master plan will better integrate Jackson Barracks into our communities. It allows us to set the ground work for the kind of futures we hope to build. It will serve as an economic anchor to the surrounding community. Nearly 4,000 National Guard soldiers and their families regularly work, live and train at the Barracks.

Bringing back the Barracks will also bring back the cash flow and customer base that local businesses need to survive. Let me give you one example, there is a family-owned Chevron station that sits just outside Jackson Barracks on St. Claude Ave. This is a family business that was passed

from father to son. They are one of the few nearby businesses that have actually opened their doors. They rely on Jackson Barracks for business. Opening the Barracks means that business is going to return for this service station. And, as life resumes, it is going to help so many local small businesses in the Ninth Ward and other areas in this region and St. Bernard Parish to return.

I am committed to rebuilding neighborhoods that will offer a full integration of services. This will help us to create new opportunities for our people.

The master plan for Jackson Barracks incorporates all of these ideas. Plans are underway for an array of services to be delivered to the local community. It will allow some controlled public access use. Exciting possibilities for this area include: a New Orleans Fire Department truck located on the Barracks; discussions are ongoing for a community health center; exploring opportunities for a community library and media center. These are things that were never located on the Barracks and that the community really needed. We are going to try to create vitality. There may even be an opportunity to open a school on the Barracks for children from the surrounding community and children of the military. We are going to rebuild in a way that increases access to services for all families. We need to continue hearing from the community as our planning progresses.

The Barracks have always provided security and served as an economic anchor. It now will create an even greater nexus between this community and the state. It is going to meet the needs of today to build a better future. We are going to do this right.

Dr. Francis thanked the Governor for her remarks.

2. Presentation of Jackson Barracks Master Plan

Dr. Francis recognized Col. Doug Mouton for the presentation of the Jackson Barracks Master Plan. Col. Mouton's Powerpoint presentation showcased the reconstruction plan of the Barracks. In addition to the slideshow, a handout was presented to the Board which contained the identical information (Attachment A).

3. Presentation of Nexus Concept

Dr. Francis recognized Mr. Stephen Bingler of Concordia Community Planners and Architects. Mr. Bingler presented a Powerpoint presentation (Attachment B) that explained the nexus concept which is being incorporated into the Jackson Barracks Master Plan. This is a concept that focuses on buildings being utilized to co-locate community facilities. It stresses the ideas of smart growth and schools as centers of communities. This slideshow presented examples of communities that have embraced this concept and have since established non-traditional schools. Mr. Bingler stressed the success rate as well as the economic benefits of such programs.

Mr. Walter Leger, Jr. expressed his support of the nexus concept.

Dr. Francis thanked Col. Mouton and Mr. Bingler for their presentations and noted his support of the programs as well.

Ms. Linda Johnson expressed her support for the nexus concept. She also spoke of the success of a similar program in Plaquemines Parish.

Ms. Fraiche explained to the Board that the Jackson Barracks Master Plan included community input. She noted the benefits of the community planners working with the military planners to develop the building plan.

II. Planning Process Update – Unveiling and Release of Pattern Books

Ms. Fraiche introduced Ms. Stacey Stewart with the Fannie Mae Foundation and Mr. Ray Gindroz with the Urban Design Associates. Ms. Fraiche then preliminarily introduced the *Louisiana Speaks: Pattern Book*.

Dr. Francis noted the Ms. Stewart's connection to Louisiana. Ms. Stewart thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with them and congratulated them for the work done thus far. She gave a brief discussion of the Fannie Mae Foundation's hurricane response. Ms. Stewart thanked the Fannie Mae Foundation's partners in the planning process. She concluded her remarks by noting the dedication of the Fannie Mae Foundation to the rebuilding of Louisiana.

Mr. Ray Gindroz presented an in-depth look and explanation of the *Pattern Book*. He explained the research that went into the development as well as the uses for the *Pattern Book*.

Mr. John Landry noted his support of the Erath model. He reminded the board of the displeasure of Erath citizens toward the planning process and how those concerns had subsided due to community involvement.

Dr. Francis thanked the presenters. He noted the importance of financial costs awareness. Ms. Stewart responded that houses constructed from good design and at affordable rates are the most desirable. She noted that these types of houses are very achievable.

III. New Orleans Planning Process Update

Dr. Francis thanked Mr. David Voelker for all of the hard work and effort that he had put into the New Orleans Planning process. He then recognized Mr. Voelker for an update report from that group. Mr. Voelker noted that the group had come to an agreement on a process that will allow systematic planning. The goal is to create a master plan that incorporates all 73-plus neighborhoods of the city. Mr. Voelker noted that the New Orleans City Council and mayor were instrumental in making negotiations possible. He also credited Gov. Blanco and Dr. Francis for their steadfast belief in equality. Mr. Voelker concluded his report by noting that the group had a minimum of issues left to work through.

Sen. Diane Bajoie noted her concern over a newspaper article that reported that the mayor, City Council and Bring New Orleans Back Committee were not working cohesively. Mr. Voelker

assured her that all parties are working cohesively. He continued by stating that all plans were being considered and combined. No planning ideas are being rejected without a proper analysis. Sen. Bajoie noted that the planning process is not to formulate a plan, but rather the planning process is ongoing.

Mr. Sean Reilly questioned whether the funds were sufficient. Mr. Voelker responded that the funding issues are still questionable. He continued by noting the importance of communicating the ideas of the planning process.

Dr. Francis thanked Mr. Voelker for his work. He noted that once a plan was in place, funding would follow.

Dr. Calvin Mackie inquired whether the current web portal could serve as a source of information to include the citizens of New Orleans in the recovery efforts. Mr. Voelker noted that it could be but that he did not have the information on the technical aspect of the project.

IX. LUNCH

Dr. Norman Francis recessed the meeting at 12:25 p.m. for lunch. He reconvened the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

X. TASK FORCES - DISCUSSIONS AND REPORTS (CONTINUED)

A. Economic and Workforce Development/Infrastructure Task Forces

Dr. Norman Francis recognized Mr. Andy Kopplin for a report and update from the Economic and Workforce Development Task force. Mr. Kopplin took the place of Mr. Matt Stuller who was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Kopplin presented a Powerpoint presentation (Attachment C) that reviewed the programs associated with the Action Plan Number 2. This review included both a summary of function as well as financial costs. Mr. Kopplin introduced Mr. Mike Williams of the Louisiana Department of Economic Development.

Dr. Francis sought clarification on how the funds allocated to the Long Term Recovery Loan Program would be utilized. Mr. Williams responded that the funds would be used to pay the first-year interest on long-term recovery loans as well as to establish prime interest rates for the borrowers. He noted that the \$95 million sought would leverage close to \$500 million worth of loans.

Mr. Boysie Bollinger questioned the magnitude of those needing loans. He further questioned how large the loans would be. Mr. Williams noted that the real need is for longer-term loans to replace machinery. He noted that the maximum loan amount is \$1.5 million. Mr. Bollinger inquired whether any of the loans would be applicable for GO Zone bonds. Mr. Williams responded that the loans would not be GO Zone applicable since they were too small. He also explained that the Department of Economic Development is now able to guarantee small-issue bonds.

Mr. Kopplin noted that small businesses are having trouble doing day-to-day business due to recovery issues. He continued that these funds were designed to be an attempt to bring the universal cost of business down.

Mr. Walter Leger, Jr. noted complimentary statements for the bridge loan program and inquired whether the program being funded was similar to that program. Mr. Williams responded that the loans that had been funded thus far were for transitional loans. He noted that the original thought was that business would recover sooner. However, due to continued difficulties these funds are being sought to establish long-term loans that would not have to be repaid as quickly as could be used as operational capital.

Dr. Francis inquired whether those funds were from the original funding. Mr. Kopplin responded that the original \$40 million did fund those loans. He continued that of the original 407 loans: 270 have been repaid, four were called, and the rest were extended.

Dr. Francis introduced and recognized Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu for an explanation of the Tourism Marketing Program funds in the resolution. Lt. Gov. Landrieu thanked the LRA for the opportunity to make the case for assistance to the Louisiana Tourism program. He gave a brief history of the work to secure these funds. Lt. Gov. Landrieu stressed the importance of the tourism industry in Louisiana and noted that pre-Katrina there were 126,000 jobs involved in tourism. He continued by reminding the board of the positive economic impact that large attractions such as the Essence Festival have for the city of New Orleans and the state of Louisiana. Lt. Gov. Landrieu concluded his remarks by stating that the overall desire is to put tax money back into the state to show the nation that Louisiana could take care of itself after such devastation.

Dr. Francis and Rev. Harry Blake both noted the desire of those affiliated with Essence to come back to New Orleans.

Ms. Laura Leach sought clarification on the role of the funding. Lt. Gov. Landrieu explained that the money would be used to market Louisiana. He continued that tourists that respond to the marketing and travel to Louisiana frequent small businesses.

Mr. Tim Coulon asked the Lt. Gov. to explain the branding of the Superdome. Lt. Gov. Landrieu explained that the Superdome, Convention Center, Louisiana Office of Tourism, New Orleans Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the New Orleans Tourist and Convention Bureau have combined resources and are working together to refocus the image of Louisiana. He explained that the "Fall in Love All over Again" campaign for both New Orleans and the state utilize the same talent and were jointly produced. Lt. Gov. Landrieu noted that the desire is to speak with one voice for the state and the city of New Orleans during negotiations with Essence in the process of bringing that attraction back to New Orleans.

Ms. Donna Brazile questioned how the money would be maximized since national media campaigns become quite costly. Lt. Gov. Landrieu noted that \$28.5 million is a much smaller figure than the \$700 million that was originally thought to be needed. He noted the need to utilize free media especially during the anniversary.

Mr. Sean Reilly explained to the board that Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Secretary Angèle Davis has put together an accountability panel to measure every dollar spent by the tourism program. He continued his explanation by stating that the panel will measure the results in terms of people entering the state per dollar spent on the marketing program. Mr. Reilly noted that the panel is made up of experts and governmental people from around the nation. He concluded his remarks by commending Lt. Gov. Landrieu and Secretary Davis for bringing the panel together.

Mr. Kopplin commented that although the marketing campaign is vital, the funding will also go to assist in appealing to niche markets. He noted the recent conference of the American Library Association as an example of this type of niche. Mr. Kopplin explained to the board that Ms. Catherine Heitman and the associates working with Ketchum would be in contact with the board members to relay talking points. He stressed the importance of the current opportunities and status of affairs reaching as many people as possible during speaking engagements/interviews. Mr. Kopplin also thanked the board members for the public relations they continue to do.

Mr. Coulon explained to the board that the reopening of the Superdome would be accompanied by national attention. He contributed this to the panel that Lt. Gov. Landrieu has formed.

Dr. Francis reminded the board members that when they get an invitation to speak, they should contact Mr. Kopplin or LRA staff to make sure that they have the most recent information about the current status of affairs.

Mr. Kopplin continued his Powerpoint presentation by reviewing the Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program as well as the Technical Assistance to Small Firms Program.

Sen. Bajoie inquired whether the Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program was an alternative to the bridge loans. Mr. Kopplin noted that it indeed was an alternative to the bridge loan program. He continued that once the board approved the measure, it would have to go to the legislature and then to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for approval. Mr. Kopplin noted that the program will be hands-on and will serve hundreds very effectively rather than thousands.

Dr. Francis questioned the timeline of actions surrounding the action plan. Mr. Kopplin responded that HUD has been working with the LRA and has remained knowledgeable on the status of the action plan. He noted that there should be a quick turnaround. Lt. Gov. Landrieu noted that the Tourism Marketing Program can be started as soon as HUD approves the action plan. He noted that the advisory board is already in place as well as a competitive process to obtain the best proposals.

Sen. Bajoie inquired whether the New Orleans Multicultural Tourism Network was working in conjunction with the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. Lt. Gov. Landrieu responded that they were. He explained that all of the tourism organizations are hurting for income.

Ms. Donna Fraiche inquired how the ranking of funding needs were formulated. Lt. Gov. Landrieu responded that none of the monies are designed to give businesses operational funds. Rather, they

are specific marketing dollars targeted to niches that have very high returns on investment. Each grant will only be awarded once it has been reviewed.

Ms. Linda Johnson inquired whether the Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program contained different pools of funds and whether they must go to tourism-related business. Mr. Kopplin explained that many of the tourism businesses are actually small businesses and that they may qualify; however, a small business does not have to be in the tourism industry to qualify for the Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program. He further explained that the Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program differs from the Long Term Recovery Loan Program by being “a hands-on entrepreneurship assistance program.” Mr. Kopplin noted that the program was designed after a successful program in New York City after 9/11.

Dr. Francis inquired whether a small business had to have two or more employees. Mr. Kopplin confirmed this fact.

Mr. Kopplin introduced the resolution.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Sean Reilly and seconded by Mr. David Voelker, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Approve CDBG funding of \$95 million for a Long Term Recovery Loan Program, \$28.5 million for a Tourism Marketing Program, \$38 million for a Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program, and \$9.5 million for a Technical Assistance to Small Firms Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board recommends to the Governor and the Louisiana Legislature the use of dollars provided through the Supplemental Appropriations to the Community Development Block Grant program for up to \$95 million for a Long Term Recovery Loan Program, \$28.5 million for a Tourism Marketing Program, \$38 million for a Small Firm Recovery Loan and Grant Program, and \$9.5 million for a Technical Assistance to Small Firms Program.

Voting: Bajoie, Blake, Bollinger, Boyle, Brazile, Coulon, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Henning, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Smith, and Voelker.

B. Infrastructure Task Force

Dr. Francis recognized Mr. John Landry for a report from the Infrastructure Task Force.

Mr. Landry noted to the Board that many of these recommendations had already been covered. He then asked Mr. Kopplin to lead the discussion and the Powerpoint presentation (combined with Economic and Workforce Development Task Force Presentation --Attachment C).

Mr. Kopplin reminded the board that they had previously approved \$150 million to cover the state match for \$1.5 billion worth of repaired infrastructure. He continued that \$95 million dollars for local infrastructure match had been approved and is being utilized. Mr. Kopplin explained the

function of the resolution to be voted upon. He noted the need to estimate funds for projects needing match monies that may arise in the future. Mr. Kopplin noted that there will be some projects that will not be possible without extra CDBG funds. He stressed the importance of returning the public schools.

Mr. Bollinger inquired how much money was for match only. Mr. Kopplin responded that the funds were not broken down into match versus non-match. He continued that the cost estimates are constantly changing. Mr. Kopplin also explained that there would not be another category of non-match expenses approved without the board's approval. He explained that the resolution would convey to HUD that projects and categories had already been identified.

Mr. Bollinger and Mr. Kopplin engaged in a conversation discussing the process of the resolution and the project categories that had been identified to date.

Ms. Johnson explained to the board that when the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) Education Task Force submitted an infrastructure budget, it was broken down by parish. She further explained that the information was broken down by actual need according to parish. Ms. Johnson noted that higher education was not included in the education budget.

Mr. Kopplin noted that the desire is to "approve enough money to keep progress from ever stalling out." He cautioned approving too much money and advocated being able to use discretion at a later time.

Mr. Bollinger inquired who the gatekeeper of the K-12 detailed request would be. Mr. Kopplin responded that the LRA would be working in conjunction with the Department of Education and the Division of Administration Office of Community Development. He noted that the LRA would be primarily concerned with the planning process.

Mr. Leger inquired about the procedural requirements associated with the action plan. Mr. Kopplin noted that the action plan would be presented to the legislature and then be sent to HUD. He noted that funds would not be released by the Office of Community Development unless the plan is consistent with criteria set up by the LRA. Mr. Kopplin noted that funding could be secured more quickly since plans do not have to be continually submitted to HUD. Mr. Leger further inquired whether the action plan included emergency actions taken earlier which may be subject to federal requirements and/or LRA requirements. Mr. Kopplin responded that the action plan was for public schools. He noted that there were systems that would have to have creative solutions to assure that matches were covered.

Mr. Landry noted to the board that he and Mr. Pat Forbes have been working on a draft process for the infrastructure elements. Mr. Forbes explained that there have been several processes considered to determine how recipients would be selected. He noted that there would be criteria established to ensure that each project follows the planning guidelines and priorities established by the LRA. This ensures that projects are done that feed the larger regional planning effort. Mr. Forbes explained that the priority is to ensure that all potential grantees apply for as much public assistance as possible.

Ms. Johnson explained to the board that the St. Bernard Parish School System has spent out-of-pocket money and is hopeful that they will be reimbursed. Mr. Kopplin responded that it may take some creativity however; all schools will receive their money.

Mr. Coulon inquired what the estimated infrastructure repair fund figures were based upon. He continued by questioning the source of funding in regard to the projects which involve FEMA. Mr. Forbes explained that the figures represent the best estimate available based upon state agency costs. He continued that FEMA's estimate for the Louisiana match is considerably lower than the original figures. Mr. Forbes noted that the most accurate estimate is the figure being presented today. He noted that the figure does change as more accurate information is received. Mr. Coulon inquired about the layout of the slide. Mr. Forbes explained that the top figures are local/parish and the bottom figures represent the state.

Mr. Tom Henning inquired whether there was a deadline for project worksheet submissions. He also questioned whether the affected parishes are aware of the deadline. Mr. Kopplin responded that the anniversary date of the storm is the deadline. He also noted that the LRA is working with FEMA to obtain a deadline. Mr. Kopplin stressed the importance of getting the project deadlines in before the deadline so as not to lose money. He also noted that parishes have been informed of the deadline.

Ms. Fraiche inquired whether there were parishes that had yet to apply. Mr. Forbes responded that he did not have that information readily available.

Mr. John Smith questioned whether there was funding available to cover cleanup cost associated with other agencies besides FEMA. Mr. Kopplin responded that there were dollars available for those costs. He noted that the list of needs continues to grow; however, the resources do not.

Sen. Bajoie questioned why higher education infrastructure repairs were not included. Mr. Kopplin explained that the state buildings match covers the higher education repairs. He continued that deferred maintenance costs may enlarge the estimate at a later date.

Mr. Chet Morrison questioned whether the detailed applications are available on the LouisianaSpeaks web site. Mr. Kopplin explained the difference between the two planning processes that are ongoing. He noted that the LouisianaSpeaks web site represents new building whereas the current information estimates the amount to replace infrastructure to the level it was pre-storm. Mr. Kopplin noted that Mr. Forbes could break down the information on a case-by-case basis if needed.

Mr. Leger questioned whether projects had to meet FEMA advisory base flood elevation (ABFE) maps. Mr. Kopplin responded that they do indeed have to meet FEMA advisories. He reminded the committee that meeting the FEMA ABFE maps was a key part of the agreement with Chairman Don Powell. Mr. Kopplin explained that the LRA is asking the parishes to adopt the ABFE maps parishwide.

Mr. Coulon explained that FEMA will not pay for deferred maintenance. He continued that the process is not quite where it needs to be yet; however, the task force is getting close. Mr. Kopplin

agreed with Mr. Coulon. He added that many parishes have adopted the ABFE maps. Mr. Kopplin reminded the board that there have been mixed feelings nationwide on the appropriateness of the ABFE maps.

Ms. Kim Boyle sought clarification on whether a parish will be eligible to receive funding if they do not adopt the ABFE maps. Mr. Kopplin responded that the parish would get no money.

Mr. Kopplin introduced the resolution.

Mr. Leger noted his concern over the mandate that the parishes must adopt the ABFE maps. He questioned whether the ABFE maps were the best available science.

Dr. Francis questioned whether there was an appeals process involved. Mr. Kopplin responded that there is not an appeals process in regard to the ABFE maps. He noted that FEMA is the expert in flood plain management. He also stated that a number of parishes have adopted the ABFE maps to follow the best available science. Mr. Kopplin noted that the levees are not certified and there is a need to follow the ABFE maps in the short term until the levees are certified.

Dr. Francis called the question.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Boysie Bollinger and seconded by Mr. Tom Henning the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Recommend to the Governor that an addition \$500 million be provided to units of general state and local government for the entire match amount required by FEMA; include PA grants in funding; allocate \$200 million to repair primary and secondary schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority does hereby recommend to the Governor and Louisiana Legislature that an additional \$500 million be provided to units of general state and local government for the entire match amount required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Programs, according to guidelines included in previous resolutions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority does hereby recommend to the Governor and the Louisiana Legislature that eligibility for these funds be extended to include projects that are ineligible for FEMA PA grants.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority does hereby recommend to the Governor and the State of Louisiana that \$200 million of the aforementioned \$500 million be allocated to repair of primary and secondary schools.

Voting: Bajoie, Blake, Bollinger, Boyle, Brazile, Coulon, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Henning, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Smith, and Voelker.

Mr. Morrison noted his concern over the mandate to utilize the ABFE maps.

Mr. Voelker noted his concern over the lack of an appeals process.

Sen. Bajoie questioned what powers the legislature had in regard to the action plan. Mr. Kopplin explained that the proposal will be sent to the legislature. If they reject it, the LRA will have to come back and modify it. He commented that the program does not apply to homeowners with less than 50% damage as well as those who already have permits.

Mr. Landry and Mr. Leger discussed their concern over the ABFE maps.

Mr. Coulon reiterated the need for an appellate process to be included in the action plan. He proposed that the same appellate process included in the Road Home Program be included in the infrastructure action plan.

Dr. Francis encouraged reconsidering the motion that passed the action plan to avoid the mandatory use of “bad science” in LRA program guidelines. Mr. Coulon made such a motion.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Tim Coulon and seconded by Mr. Boysie Bollinger, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

To reconsider the motion that passed the action plan sponsored by the Infrastructure Task Force so as to discuss the possible inclusion of an appellate process.

RESOLVED, to reconsider the motion that passed the action plan sponsored by the Infrastructure Task Force that allocates funding of match monies for repair projects so that the LRA Board of Directors can consider the inclusion of an appellate process.

Voting: Blake, Bollinger, Brazile, Coulon, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Johnson, Henning, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Smith, and Voelker.

Mr. Coulon suggested including the following language used in the Road Home Program: “complies with the latest available FEMA guidance for base flood elevations unless exceptions are granted by the LRA based on reasonable alternatives where safety is not minimized.”

Dr. Francis clarified the language under question. He noted that this language would make the action plan under question consistent with the Road Home Program language. This language reserves the right to question the ABFE maps.

Mr. Reilly questioned the need for such language. He questioned whether the appeals process would be judged by project or by parish. Mr. Kopplin responded that the process would be parishwide and based upon the parish bringing sound science that is more compelling than the ABFE maps. He then reminded the Board of the approval process the action plan will go through. Mr. Kopplin noted that Mr. Coulon’s amendment would allow the Board flexibility to make a change where “sound science and prudence justify one another.” He explained that the priority is safety, not politics.

Mr. Reilly questioned how the process would work. Mr. Leger responded that the reason the particular language in the Road Home Program is in place so that parishes have an alternative when the ABFE maps are not the best science. He continued that the parishes are responsible for gathering the alternative science as well as bringing it to the LRA. Mr. Reilly and Mr. Leger discussed the impact this language would have on homeowners as opposed to parish governments.

Mr. Kopplin noted that individual government projects funded by CDBG dollars must follow federal guidelines by adopting the ABFE maps. He explained that all FEMA funded projects must adopt the ABFE maps. Mr. Kopplin further explained that the appeal process would only apply to those projects the LRA funds.

Dr. Mackie noted that starting with a false premise leads to bad outcomes. He continued that the ABFE maps are designed to be accurate when all systems work properly. Dr. Mackie expressed his feeling that the science is correct.

Mr. Bollinger questioned whether parishes would have the time to go through the approval process without funding.

Mr. Smith questioned whether the additional language would give the parishes an opportunity for appeal. Mr. Kopplin responded that parishes receiving FEMA funds must adopt the ABFE maps. He explained that a public infrastructure project must comply with the ABFE maps. He continued that the LRA has no discretion over that guideline. Mr. Kopplin explained that the LRA has gone on record as wanting parish governments to follow the best available advice for mitigation prevention. He noted that the adoption of the ABFE maps have not been as controversial outside of the levee system. Mr. Kopplin explained that the language would install an appellate process for parishes that can prove a better science than the ABFE maps.

Mr. Bollinger expressed his belief that the LRA is the organization to bear the burden of flood maps.

Mr. Morrison questioned whether the word “reasonableness” could or should be included in the language.

Mr. Coulon stated that he did not feel the language needed to be amended. He noted the need for consistency in the action plans.

Ms. Johnson noted her desire to have the LRA staff develop the appellate process.

Mr. Bollinger noted that the development of an appellate process would be a different motion and not necessary in this action plan.

Ms. Fraiche expressed her discomfort and concern over federal preemptions. She requested a legal analysis of what could legally be done in regard to the FEMA regulations. Mr. Kopplin assured Ms. Fraiche that a legal analysis would be conducted.

Mr. Voelker called the question on issue.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. David Voelker and seconded by Dr. Calvin Mackie the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Call the question on the wording of the Infrastructure Task Force resolution that allocates matching monies for state and local governments.

RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board of Directors does hereby call the question on the wording of the resolution sponsored by the Infrastructure Task Force that allocates funding of match monies to state and local governments.

Voting: Blake, Bollinger, Brazile, Coulon, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Henning, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Smith, and Voelker.

Dr. Francis reviewed the recommendation to be voted upon.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Tim Coulon and seconded by Mr. Boysie Bollinger, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Make the language of the Infrastructure Action Plan consistent with the language of the Road Home Program in regard to an appellate process.

RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board of Directors does hereby make the language of the Infrastructure Action Plan consistent with the language of the Road Home Program by adding the following language:

“complies with the latest available FEMA guidance for base flood elevations unless exceptions are granted by the LRA based on reasonable alternatives where safety is not minimized.”

Voting: Blake, Bollinger, Brazile, Coulon, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Henning, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Smith, and Voelker.

C. Coastal Protection Committee

Dr. Norman Francis recognized Mr. Rene Cross for a report from the Coastal Protection Committee.

Mr. Cross explained two issues being dealt with in congress dealing with revenue sharing options. He then introduced the first resolution dealing with the Outer Continental Shelf revenue sharing.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Rene Cross and seconded by Mr. Boysie Bollinger, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Support the passage of a Louisiana Constitutional amendment to dedicate Federal OCS revenues to only be used for coastal protection.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Recovery Authority fully supports the passage of an amendment to the Constitution of Louisiana that will dedicate any Federal OCS revenues to be used only for the purposes of coastal protection, including conservation, coastal restoration, hurricane protection, and infrastructure directly impacted by coastal wetland losses.

Voting: Blake, Bollinger, Boyle, Brazile, Coulon, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Henning, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, and Voelker.

Mr. Rene Cross introduced the second resolution dealing with the Outer Continental Shelf revenue sharing.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Rene Cross and seconded by Dr. Calvin Mackie, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Support the sharing of existing OCS revenues with coastal producing states. Also, support Governor Blanco's action to block future Federal oil and gas leasing on the OCS unless the Federal government mitigates in the form of OCS revenue sharing or complete investment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Recovery Authority fully supports the sharing of existing OCS revenues with coastal producing states and encourages the Congress to pass the requisite legislation this year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Recovery Authority fully supports the Governor of Louisiana's action to block future Federal oil and gas leasing on the OCS unless and until such time that the Federal government accurately assesses the environmental impact of these activities on coastal Louisiana and takes serious steps towards the mitigation of these impacts in the form of OCS revenue sharing or other significant and complete Federal investment.

Voting: Blake, Bollinger, Boyle, Brazile, Coulon, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Henning, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Smith, and Voelker.

Ms. Johnson questioned the amount of monetary gain from these procedures. Mr. Forbes responded that estimates are in the range of \$3 to 5 billion a year if Louisiana gets 50% of OCS revenue.

Mr. Cross noted that the congressional bills will most likely be amended before being passed.

D. State and Local Legislative Task Force

Dr. Norman Francis recognized Mr. Sean Reilly for an update from the State and Local Legislative Task Force.

Mr. Reilly gave a brief summary of the recent legislative session. He commended Gov. Blanco and the legislature for achieving a teacher pay raise. Mr. Reilly also noted that the Road Home Program received a unanimous vote. He continued that the Road Home Corporation was created to be the repository of properties from homeowners electing to sell their homes/property. Mr. Reilly explained that the legislature made provisions to reduce the amount of uncompensated care that have plagued private hospitals. He announced the formation of the Louisiana Healthcare Redesign Collaborative based upon the PricewaterhouseCoopers report. Mr. Reilly also updated the board on the measures that the legislature took to ensure that the emergency preparedness for nursing homes was enhanced. He concluded his report by explaining a Louisiana Constitutional amendment that provides for a single tax assessor in Orleans Parish.

Mr. Reilly then introduced a resolution in support of the Louisiana Constitutional amendment to provide for a single tax assessor in Orleans Parish.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Sean Reilly and seconded by Ms. Donna Fraiche, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Support the passage of a Louisiana Constitutional amendment to provide for a single tax assessor in Orleans Parish.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Recovery Authority fully supports the passage of a constitutional amendment to provide for a single tax assessor in Orleans Parish.

Voting: Blake, Bollinger, Boyle, Brazile, Cross, Fraiche, Francis, Henning, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Smith, and Voelker.

Dr. Francis moved to amend the posted agenda in favor of hearing a resolution that requests the President of the United States to provide an extension for the 100% reimbursement policy for the parishes affected by Hurricane Rita. Ms. Robyn Cockerham took the roll call vote.

Amend the Agenda of the July 06, 2006, LRA Board meeting to allow an additional resolution to be heard.

RESOLVED, that the agenda to the June 15, 2006, LRA Executive Board Meeting be amended to allow a resolution concerning the Hurricane Rita affected parishes be voted upon.

Voting: Blake, Bollinger, Boyle, Brazile, Coulon, Cross, Francis, Henning, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Smith, and Voelker.

Dr. Francis recognized Mr. Henning for a discussion of his resolution. Mr. Henning explained that Hurricane Rita affected parishes being left out of the debris removal extension has created negative feelings toward the government in southwest Louisiana. He noted that many individuals in that area feel forgotten.

Mr. Henning introduced a resolution that requests an extension on reimbursement policies for the Hurricane Rita-affected parishes.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Tom Henning and seconded by Ms. Laura Leach, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Ask the President of the United States to grant an extension for the nine additional parishes that were hit by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita: Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Jefferson, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. Mary, Terrebonne, and Vermillion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Recovery Authority asks the President of the United States to reconsider and grant an extension for the nine additional parishes that were hard hit by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. These parishes include: Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Jefferson, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. Mary, Terrebonne, and Vermillion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority requests the President of the United States to grant extensions for FEMA's 100% reimbursement policy for Category A and B debris removal for the following parishes: Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Jefferson, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. Mary, Terrebonne, and Vermillion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority requests that an extension be granted to the nine parishes listed above at least until 31 August of this year, in order to lessen the impact of the two hurricanes on the state of Louisiana.

Voting: Blake, Bollinger, Boyle, Brazile, Coulon, Cross, Francis, Henning, Johnson, Landry, Leach, Leger, Mackie, Morrison, Reilly, Smith, and Voelker.

E. Education Task Force

Dr. Frances recognized Ms. Johnson for a report from the Education Task Force. Ms. Johnson handed out a brochure to the board that presented an update on the public school system in New Orleans. She also spoke of tentative plans that involved housing of New Orleans teachers. She announced to the board that Ms. Brazile would be assisting in recruiting teachers.

Dr. Francis thanked her for her report and the work that she has done for the Education Task Force.

Dr. Mackie inquired why there were different opening dates for schools in Orleans Parish. Ms. Johnson responded that the goal was to open all of the schools on the same day; however, there was too much damage in some schools to reopen at the same times as others. She continued that in addition, the school calendars had already been approved.

Ms. Brazile and Ms. Johnson announced that board member Ms. Susan Taylor would be running advertisements for New Orleans teachers in Essence Magazine.

XI. GUEST REPORTS

A. St. Tammany Parish Recovery and Planning Update

Dr. Norman Francis recognized Mr. Kevin Davis, parish president of St. Tammany Parish, for an update on St. Tammany Parish.

Mr. Davis presented a Powerpoint presentation (Attachment D). The information contained in the slideshow reviewed the impact of Hurricane Katrina on St. Tammany Parish and the initial recovery efforts and explained the long-term concerns. Many of the recovery and improvement plans were discussed as well.

Mr. Boysie Bollinger inquired whether St. Tammany Parish adopted the ABFE maps. Mr. Davis responded that he did not adopt the ABFE maps due to incorrectness on the maps. Mr. Bollinger and Mr. Davis then discussed the financial aspect of not adopting the ABFE maps. Mr. Davis noted that although there is money involved, there is a safety risk that must be addressed before financial concerns take precedence.

Mr. Coulon noted to Mr. Davis that there is precedence for the state to reimburse the parish for roadwork. He then inquired whether a discussion of an appellate process for the ABFE maps could be included at the August LRA meeting.

Dr. Francis requested LRA staff to develop strategic approach for appellate process. Mr. Davis encouraged utilizing parish presidents' expertise during these discussions.

B. St. Bernard Citizens Recovery Committee Report

Dr. Francis recognized Judge David Gorbaty for an update from the St. Bernard Citizens Recovery Committee. He distributed a copy of the St. Bernard planning book which presents a "post-Katrina planning framework for St. Bernard Parish that has been created to stimulate the recovery of Louisiana's hardest hit parish. Rather than attempt to restore the area to its pre-Katrina condition, a new vision for a place with more dynamic trajectory is advanced." He also introduced members of the committee that attended the meeting as well as employees of the Chalmette Refinery. In addition, Judge Gorbaty read and distributed a letter to the board members from the St. Bernard Citizens Recovery Committee Report.

Judge Gorbaty introduced Mr. Danny Bourgeois. Mr. Bourgeois spoke of the need for funds to secure the services of a grant writer. He also noted that this assistance would help St. Bernard Parish become self reliant.

Judge Gorbaty noted that the planning books are already being used to secure investors. He also announced that the AIA Architectural Association recognized and presented the planning book with an award.

Mr. David Voelker thanked Judge Gorbaty for attending and presenting the information to the LRA. He questioned how much money was needed. Judge Gorbaty responded that he did not have the exact figure but could get the numbers if needed.

Dr. Francis encouraged getting the figures to him. He continued that if the LRA did not have the money, they would seek alternative sources to secure the funds.

Mr. Walter Leger, Jr. spoke of the early days after Hurricane Katrina and the hardships that have been endured since. He thanked all of those that have spent long hours aiding St. Bernard Parish.

Dr. Francis thanked the St. Bernard Citizens Recovery Committee for their report and expressed his appreciation for their work.

Mr. Sean Reilly encouraged the St. Bernard Citizens Recovery Committee to put in an application for funding with the LRA Foundation. He also expressed his appreciation for the work that went into the development of the planning book. Judge Gorbaty responded by thanking the LRA for Mr. Andres Duany's planning assistance.

Ms. Donna Fraiche thanked Judge Gorbaty and the St. Bernard Citizens Recovery Committee for their active work with the Long Term Community Planning Task Force and for their continued dedication to the rebuilding of St. Bernard Parish.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no unfinished business items for discussion.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no further public comments.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

XV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board was reminded that the August meeting would be held in Lafayette.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Kopplin, Executive Director

/rac

Date approved: _____