Ferriday Downtown Entertainment District

Quarterly Meeting

January 17, 2025

Board Members Present: Shaun Davis, C. Travis Johnson, Brooke Roberts, Brittney V. Scott, Ashley Skipper & Ahren Williams

Absent: Rebecca Brown

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Representative Johnson. The prayer was led by Ahren Williams. The roll was called and a quorum was present to conduct business.

Representative Johnson made a motion to amend the Chair’s Report to add discussions about the Delta Music Festival and Mardi Gras Committee. This motion was approved by Ms. Skipper.

The minutes from October’s meeting were reviewed. With no corrections, the motion to approve the minutes was made by Shaun Davis and 2nd by Ashley Skipper.

**New Business:**

* Resolution to Impose .02% Sales Tax
	+ Motion made by Mr. Davis and 2nd by Mr. Williams; motion carried
* DERSD Grant Traffic Light Feasibility Update- Dr. Jimmy Jones
	+ Dr. Jones provided updates about the Feasibility Study and also the Safe Street Grant which will focus on pedestrian safety such as walkways, infrastructures and street cameras. Ferriday will be the host site. This three-phase study will cover four parishes.

**Chair’s Report**

* Rep. Johnson presented his chair’s report. Mrs. Doretha Cook presented a request for the Town of Ferriday Occupational License Ordinance at the Town of Ferriday Town Hall Meeting. Any business that wants to be located in the downtown district will have to have an approval letter from the Ferriday Downtown Entertainment District board. The resolution was passed and approved by the Alderman of Ferriday.
* 21st Century Workforce Development, led by Executive Director Sharina Mays, has partnered with the Ferriday Downtown Entertainment District and has awarded two grants to businesses in the downtown district; VIP Sports Bar & Premier One Painting LLC. Those grants will be used to renovate and improve the exteriors of the buildings.
* The Louisiana Juneteenth Festival will be a joint effort between the Ferriday Downtown Entertainment District and will be held June 19th- June 21st.
* Rep. Johnson acknowledged how important it is to back the Delta Music Museum Festival and how important it is to Ferriday. Rep. Johnson made a motion & Ms. Scott 2nd the motion for Shaun Davis to be the chair of the Delta Music Museum Festival and ensured the board’s help to bring back its annual celebration.
* Rep. Johnson stated that there was a Mardi Gras event being held in the town but would like to see a committee created for the 2026 Mardi Gras season to make it bigger. Rep. Johnson and Ms. Skipper will be working together for ideas for the upcoming Mardi Gras season.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:33 pm.