

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
THE GOLDEN L.E.A.F. (Long-term Economic Advancement Foundation), INC.**

The special meeting of the Board of Directors of The Golden L.E.A.F. (Long-term Economic Advancement Foundation), Inc. (the “Foundation”), was noticed for and convened on July 16, 2026, exclusively by videoconference. Board members participating in the meeting were Barry Dodson, Jim Harrell, Randy Isenhower, Buddy Keller, Jefferey Lee, Laurence Lilley, Brian Raynor (Chair), Bobbie Richardson, Jarette Sampson, and Ralph Strayhorn. Also present were Scott T. Hamilton, President, Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation; Ted Lord, Senior Vice President/ General Counsel of the Foundation; and Byron Kirkland, legal counsel to the Foundation.

Mr. Kirkland called the roll of the Board members.

Mr. Raynor called the meeting to order and declared a quorum to be present.

Mr. Raynor asked Mr. Harrell to give the report of the Search Committee. Mr. Harrell reported that the Search Committee reviewed the eleven proposals that the Foundation received in response to its Request for Proposals for an executive search firm and interviewed four finalist candidates. He reported that the Search Committee recommended that the Board select The Nautical Group as the executive search firm to assist the Foundation with the search for the Foundation’s next President and Chief Executive Officer and authorize the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation to negotiate and enter an agreement with The Nautical Group consistent with the proposal submitted by The Nautical Group. Mr. Harrell presented the recommendation in the form of a motion and the motion carried.

A motion was made to increase the technical consulting line item in the Foundation’s administrative budget by \$105,000 to accommodate retaining the search firm. The motion was seconded and carried.

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With no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Read and approved:

Ted Lord, Secretary of the Meeting

Brian Raynor, Chair of the Board