



**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY**  
**MIKE STRAIN DVM**  
**COMMISSIONER**



**LOUISIANA AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES COMMISSION**  
**TENTATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 26, 2023, 9:30 AM**

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY**  
**VETERANS' MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM**  
**5825 FLORIDA BOULEVARD**  
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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Robert Hanks at 9:29 a.m.

**II. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

LDAF staff, Oga D. Jordan, called roll.

The following commission members were present:

Donald Berken  
Ryan Ellington  
Ross Girtman  
Robert Hanks  
Ronald Petree  
Tom Russell  
Donald Schexnayder  
Commissioner Mike Strain, DVM

With eight (8) members present, a quorum was declared.

**III. APPROVAL OF MAY 24, 2023 MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to approve and adopt the minutes from the May 24, 2023, meeting. Tom Russell seconded the motion. All members in favor. Motion carried.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were made at this time.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Ms. Kyra Holden stated that the Self-Insured Fund (SIF) balance is \$714,711.33 and the Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund (GCIF) balance is \$6,584,470.79.
- B. Sampler Grader Regulations were discussed by the board members, and comments were made by Commissioner Dr. Mike Strain, Kyra Holden and Dr. Bobby Fletcher. Motion made by Donald Schexnayder and seconded by Ryan Ellington. All members were in favor. Motion carried.
- C. Updates on Lakeland Cotton Company were provided by LDAF Auditor Jeff Fabre. Motion to release \$100,000 collateral pending once settlements have been cleared and paid was made by Tom Russell, and seconded by Donald Berken. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

## **IV. CONSIDERATION OF LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL (RENEWALS)**

Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:16 and La. R.S. 3:3421, the LACC voted to go into Executive Session to discuss the financial status and any issues with the applicants.

A motion was made by Tom Russel to go into Executive Session, and a second motion made by Ross Girtman. A roll call vote was made and the following members were in favor:

Donald Berken  
Ryan Ellington  
Ross Girtman  
Robert Hanks  
Ronald Petree  
Tom Russell  
Donald Schexnayder

2/3 of the members of the LACC were present and voted to go into Executive Session. The LACC went into Executive Session at 10:15 a.m.

The meeting recording was turned back on at 11:11 a.m. Ryan Ellington made a motion to resume the regular meeting, and a second motion made by Tom Russell. All members in favor and the LACC meeting resumed.

The following votes were taken to approve or deny the following license applicants:

**A. COTTON MERCHANT**

1. COTTON MARKETING SERVICES, LLC.

A motion was made by Donald Schexnayder to approve the license application and seconded by Ronald Petree. All members in favor. Motion carried.

2. FARMERS COTTON OF LOUISIANA

A motion was made by Donald Schexnayder to approve the license application and seconded by Ronald Petree. All members in favor. Motion carried.

3. JABBOUR COTTON COMPANY, LLC.

A motion was made by Donald Schexnayder to approve the license application and seconded by Ronald Petree. All members in favor. Motion carried.

4. P.J.S. INCORPORATED

A motion was made by Donald Schexnayder to approve the license application and seconded by Ronald Petree. All members in favor. Motion carried.

5. STAPLE COTTON COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

A motion was made by Donald Schexnayder to approve the license application and seconded by Ronald Petree. Ross Girtman abstained from the vote. All other members in favor. Motion carried.

**B. GRAIN DEALER**

1. BERTAND RICE MARKETING

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

2. BU GROWERS, LTD.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

3. BUNGE NORTH AMERICA, INC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

4. ERWIN KEITH, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

5. FARMERS RICE MILLING COMPANY, INC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

6. GATLIN GROUP, INC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

7. GRAIN MARKETING SERVICE, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

8. GREENFILED COMMODITIES, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

9. GREENFIELD GRAIN, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

10. GULF RICE MILLING, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

11. HANSEN-MUELLER COMPANY

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

12. HENSGENS GRAIN ELEVATOR, INC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

13. SOILEAU RICE BROKER

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

14. SOUTH LOUISIANA RAIL FACILITY, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. Ronald Petree and Donald Berken abstained from the vote. All other members in favor. Motion carried.

15. SUNRISE FOODS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

16. THE ANDERSONS, INC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

17. THE SCOULAR COMPANY

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

18. VITERRA USA GRAIN, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Schexnayder. All members in favor. Motion carried.

## **C. GRAIN DEALER AND WAREHOUSE**

### **1. KENNEDY RICE DRYERS, LLC.**

A motion was made by Ross Girtman to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Berken. All members in favor. Motion carried.

### **2. LAKE ARTHUR DRIER, LLC.**

A motion was made by Ross Girtman to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Berken. All members in favor. Motion carried.

### **3. SIMPLOT GROWERS SOLUTIONS**

A motion was made by Ross Girtman to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Berken. All members in favor. Motion carried.

### **4. SWEET LAKE LAND & OIL COMPANY**

A motion was made by Ross Girtman to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Berken. All members in favor. Motion carried.

### **5. TUBBS GRAIN STORAGE LEASING, LLC.**

A motion was made by Ross Girtman to approve the license application and seconded by Donald Berken. All members in favor. Motion carried.

## **D. WAREHOUSE**

### **1. HARDY RICE DRYER, LLC.**

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to approve the license application and seconded by Tom Russell. All members in favor. Motion carried.

### **2. JONES PRODUCERS GIN, INC.**

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to approve the license application and seconded by Tom Russell. All members in favor. Motion carried.

### **3. TRI-PARISH RICE DRIER, INC.**

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to approve the license application and seconded by Tom Russell. All members in favor. Motion carried.

4. VERMILLION FARMERS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to approve the license application and seconded by Tom Russell. Donald Berken abstained from the vote All other members in favor. Motion carried.

5. VILLE PLATTE RICE DRIER, INC.

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to approve the license application and seconded by Tom Russell. All members in favor. Motion carried.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

No discussion was made regarding old business.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were provided at this time.

**IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Robert Hanks announced the Retirement of Director Kyra Holden from LDAF, with 26 years of service and presented her with a gift from the board members. Her last day will be Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Dr. Bobby Fletcher also announced the following staff changes: Baleigh Olah, Attorney for LDAF, is leaving, and Oga D. Jordan, will be transferring to Division of Administration.

**X. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING**

To be determined at a later date.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Tom Russell made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ronald Petree seconded the motion. All members in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

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LOUISIANA AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES COMMISSION CHAIRMAN

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