

LOUISIANA AGRICULTURAL FINANCE AUTHORITY (LAFA)

December 9, 2015

10:00 AM

Veterans' Memorial Auditorium

5825 Florida Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) Commissioner Mike Strain at 10:04 AM.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called by Melanie Tullier.

**Present:** Commissioner Strain, William "Skip" Hawkins, Richard Muller, H. Marcell Parker, Jr., William Stutts, Calvin Viator, and Linda Zaunbrecher

**Absent:** Ted Gauthier and Wilbert "Bill" Waguespack

Mrs. Tullier stated there was a quorum with seven members present.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Commissioner Strain asked the board members to review the minutes from the June 19, 2015, meeting.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Mr. Viator to approve the minutes from the June 19, 2015, meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Parker, and passed unanimously.

**REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Mrs. Catrina Irvin presented LAFA's Financial Statements to the board and answered the members' questions.

A motion was made by Mr. Hawkins to accept the Financial Statements. It was seconded by Mrs. Zaunbrecher, and passed unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

- Mr. Simon updated the board on the Lacassine Industrial Park. Porocel is fulfilling their lease requirements. He continues to receive inquiries into possible leases at the Lacassine Industrial Park.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Lacassine Industrial Park**

Mr. Simon recommended that the board refrain from proceeding with the expansion of the rail spur due to the slowdown in the oil industry.

### **Lease of LAFA properties (Oberlin Nursery, Deridder Nursery, Ringgold (Superior Ostrich Plant) and Newton County, TX, Nursery)**

A resolution was made by Mr. Muller that the Commissioner be authorized to lease the properties for an amount that is, in his opinion, a fair market value, reserving mineral rights, and on such other conditions or terms as he deems necessary or proper. It was seconded by Mr. Parker, and passed unanimously.

### **Replacement of the roof at the Opelousas property**

Mr. Simon notified the board that the project is progressing as planned.

### **Delinquent payments owed to LAFA from Louisiana Farm and Agribusiness Loan and Grant Recovery Program**

A motion was made by Mr. Viator to turn the delinquent files over to the Office of Community Development for collection. It was seconded by Mrs. Zaunbrecher, and passed unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Simon requested that the board members notify him if they would be interested in serving for another term.

Mr. Muller requested that the board consider possible ways to assist the agricultural community in the future.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mrs. Zaunbrecher to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Parker, and passed unanimously at 11:02 AM.