HORTICULTURE COMMISSION MEETING

December 18, 2018

9:00 a.m.

Veterans’ Memorial Auditorium

5825 Florida Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Minutes

**CALL TO ORDER**

The hearing was called to order by Mr. Bass at 9:09 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called by Mrs. Lane

Members present: Fred Bass, Chad Danos, Steve Hoover, Jack Hopper, Jeff Beasley representing Dr. William Richardson, Benjy Rayburn, and Zefferino Von Kurnatowski.

A quorum was present.

Others present: Ansel Rankins, LDAF; Tina Peltier, LDAF; and Christie Lane, LDAF

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**OLD BUSINESS**

­There was no old business.

**REINSTATEMENT REQUESTS**

Mr. Reggie Crain requested reinstatement of his arborist license.

**Motion:** Mr.Rayburn made a motion to allow reinstatement of Mr. Crain‘s arborist license. The motion was seconded by Mr. Von Kernatowski and passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Peltier gave the following updates:

During 2018 the commission heard a total of twelve cases. Three of the twelve fines assessed have been paid in full and five of the twelve cases have been referred to the Department of Justice for collection. There are four more cases pending sixty day notifications in order to be sent to the Department of Justice. The DOJ has a total of 62 cases from the commission.

**Director’s Report:**

Mr. Rankins gave the following updates:

Emerald Ash Borer- Emergency rule went into effect on December 13th, adding Caddo parish. The EAB confirmation was made in June, however regulatory action was pending possible finds throughout the final months of the trapping season. There are 10 parishes in Louisiana that are now under state quarantine restrictions. The department anticipates the federal deregulation of EAB forthcoming after biological controls have been successful using stingless wasps.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Mr. Hoover made a motion to adjourn at 9:31 a.m. This motion was seconded by Mr. Danos and passed unanimously.