

LOUISIANA SEAFOOD PROMOTION AND MARKETING BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Open Forum
August 30, 2018
11:00 AM – LDWF 2nd Floor Conference Room
2021 Lakeshore Dr., New Orleans, LA 70122

Members Present: Kristen Baumer (Chairman), Sal Sunseri, Acy Cooper, Dexter Guillory, Jakov Jurisic, Chalin Delaune, Ron Harold, Jason Duet

I. Call to Order

The Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board meeting was called to order by Chairman Kristen Baumer at 11:05 AM at the Capitol Park Event Center in Baton Rouge. Kristen Baumer welcomed everyone and allowed the guests to introduce themselves.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Motion made by Dexter Guillory to modify the agenda and add H2B discussion to new business. Sal Sunseri seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Adoption of Minutes

Acy Cooper motioned to adopt the minutes from the June 13, 2018 meeting. Dexter Guillory seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Old Business

Executive Director

Kristen Baumer thanked everyone for coming and allowed the guests to introduce themselves.

Chairman Baumer introduced each candidate present that is interested in the Executive Director position. Each candidate will have a chance to address the board. In alphabetical order, Jeff Arnold, Jill Bankston, Nickie Monica, and Troy Theriot introduced themselves to the board.

Each candidate discussed their strengths, what they would bring to the position, and why they are a good candidate to be the Executive Director of the Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board. Each candidate was questioned by members of the board. Questions consisted of why they want the position, what their goal would be as Executive Director, etc.

Sal Sunseri motioned to have executive session to discuss candidates moved to the end of the meeting. Jakov Jurisic seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

V. New Business

Seafood Resolution

Chalin Delaune discussed the seafood resolution that influences the Louisiana delegation to impose a 10 cent tax on all seafood products that are imported into the United States. He proposed to the board that they vote and pledge their support for the seafood resolution.

There was a brief discussion about the specifics of the resolution amongst the board members. Kristen Baumer allowed for public comment on the topic. Nickie Monica suggested that the board bring this resolution to NACO and the police jury association meetings.

Jakov Jurisic motioned to make a formal statement of LSPMB in support the resolution. Sal Sunseri seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Audubon Institute

Kristen Baumer discussed GSSI and their importance in the national recognition of the certification program that Audubon is working on. Audubon is still working on finding funding to proceed with the work that they have been doing. Kristen Baumer mentioned that having support from many different organizations would be extremely beneficial.

Damon Morris was asked by Sal Sunseri to discuss if there is a possibility for oyster certification. Damon Morris discussed certification requirements and what the industry is looking for. He also mentioned that this would be an internationally recognized certification, not just nationally.

Chalin Delaune motioned to support up to \$250,000 total over the next three years (2019-2021) contingent upon maintaining the RFM certification and fip. This motion is also for the board to recommend to the Lieutenant Governor that the Seafood Board in active agreement negotiations with Audubon. Dexter Guillory seconded the motion. Kristen Baumer opened up discussion for this motion. There was a brief discussion to clarify the specific details of Chalin Delaune's motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Gulf Seafood Foundation Proposal

Jordan Buras mentioned the proposal from the Gulf Seafood Foundation Consulting Services Agreement. The proposal is that the Foundation shall assist the Seafood Board with the development articles for publication on the Gulf Seafood Newsroom and distributed to various outlets.

Chalin Delaune asked that the proposal be amended to include the price for services. Kristen Baumer suggested tagging each article with the Louisiana Seafood Board. Sal Sunseri mentioned that doing that may be controversial depending on the article topic.

The board discussed whether or not this proposal would be beneficial for the board. There was a brief discussion about how the board can produce their own content and have it be more beneficial.

ULL Community Economic Development Proposal

Jeff Stewart from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette proposed a request for the Community Economic Development in Underserved Rural Coastal Louisiana Parishes. The study has been well underway, Mr. Stewart asked in help expanding the scope of the study to include all coastal Louisiana Parishes. The monetary request for this study is \$249,678, which will be matched by the USDA funding.

There was a brief discussion by the board about the specifics of the study and how they plan to expand to all of the coastal Louisiana Parishes.

Chalin Delaune made a motion to support the study with the full \$249,678. Sal Suneri seconded the motion. Kristen Baumer opened the motion for discussion. Jakov Jurisic raised a question of why the board doesn't ask for federal support before the board pledges their funds to the study. After a brief discussion about why the board should pledge the funds first, Chalin Delaune recanted his motion.

Jakov Jurisic made a motion to defer discussion of the ULL Community Economic Development proposal until next meeting. Sal Sunseri seconded the motion.

Discussion of LSPMB representation at PABI meeting in Plaquemines

Captain George Ricks, president of the Save Louisiana Coalition, made a presentation about diversions. Throughout his presentation, he mentioned his concerns about the state's plans to build sediment diversions to rebuild wetlands. After the presentation, Jakov Jurisic expanded on the topic of sediment diversion and its effect on the oyster industry.

Jakov Jurisic proposed a motion to oppose the two diversion projects. Acy Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. H2B Work

Dexter Guillory discussed the importance of H2B work. He asked for board attendance at the H2B meeting on September 10, 2018 at Druscilla Seafood in Baton Rouge.

VII. Executive Session

Before going into executive session, Kristen Baumer asked if anyone would like to public comment. There was no public comment.

Dexter Guillory motioned to go into executive session to discuss the Executive Director candidates. Jakov Jurisic seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously at 2:18 PM.

Jakov Jurisic motioned to end executive session at 2:39 PM. Dexter Guillory seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Chalin Delaune made a motion to submit three names, in order of preference, to the Lieutenant Governor. The order being submitted is Troy Theriot, Nickie Monica, and then Jeff Arnold. Jakov Jurisic seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Setting of the next meeting

The board unanimously decided to hold the next meeting in the month of October in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the Capitol Park Event Center.

IX. Public Comment

Jakov Jurisic mentioned having board representation in Washington, D.C. Kristen Baumer suggested having the oyster and shrimp task forces partner up in addition with the Louisiana Seafood Board.

Jakov Jurisic also discussed the importance of having board representation at the Walking of the Hill.

X. Adjournment

Jakov Jurisic motioned to adjourn. Chalin Delaune seconded the motion at 2:50 PM. Motion carried unanimously.