**LOUISIANA AQUATIC CHELONIAN RESEARCH AND PROM0TION BOARD**

**November 7, 2012 10:00 am**

**Veterans Memorial Auditorium**

**5825 Florida Boulevard**

**Baton Rouge, LA 70806**

**Proceedings**

Ms. Tabitha Gray swore in commission members. The commission members sworn in were George White, Howard Spann, Roy Nugent, Jesse Evans, Kenny Davis, Keith Boudreaux, and Lyndon Blanchard.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dr. Brent Robbins at 10:10 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Dr. Robbins led the members in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was verified by Liz Wilcox from the introduction of the board members.

**Members Present:** Dr. Brent Robbins representing Commissioner Strain, Keith Boudreaux, Jesse Evans, George White, Jr., Howard Spann, Roy Nugent, and Alternate Kenny Davis.

**Members Absent:** Gary Alleman, Felix Blanchard, Joseph Williams, Diane Strange

**Guests present:**

Liz Wilcox, (LDAF), Ashley Dupree, (LDAF), Parrish Foote, (LDAF), Diane Stacy, DVM (LDAF), John Walther, (LDAF), Benjy Rayburn, (LDAF), Dr. Mark Scurria, (LDAF), Dr. Warren Joseph, (LDAF), Dr. Daniel Myrick, (LDAF), Dr. Greg Lutz, (LSU AgCenter), Daisy Evans DeWitt, (Turtle Farmer), Jennifer Evans, (Turtle Farmer), Curtis Colson, (LSU AgCenter), Dr. Phil Elzer, (LSU AgCenter), and Dr. Greg Lutz, (LSU AgCenter) and Lyndon Blanchard, (Turtle Farmer and Alternate Board Member)

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ELLECTION OF OFFICERS**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Spann made a motion to accept the minutes from December 9, 2010. Mr. Boudreaux seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Evans discussed with the board issues of farmers going out of business and the legal issues on turning domesticated/ wild turtles out in the wild. He also elaborated on the problems with the terms “captive farm raised”, “domesticated” and “wild” have become a huge issue for the farmers.

Dr. Robbins directed Mr. Walther to get a study committee together to get information together to get an idea on how to address the problem on the farmers going out of business and releasing turtles.

Mr. Walther passed out financial statements to the board and gave the members and update on the department.

Dr. Stacy discussed the issues with the shipping papers for turtles.

Curtis Colson, LSU AgCenter, gave a report on the salmonella testing Louisiana State University was researching on turtles and turtle eggs.

Dr. Scurria gave a report on a meeting in Baton Rouge on November 2011 that was to set to address the best managed practices for turtle farmers in the United States.

Mr. Evans discussed the issues of the term ”domesticated turtles”.

Mr. White gave an update on the FDA ruling.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Colson advised the board about their recent research on sterilization.

Dr. Elzer told the board he would recommend the board looking into the salmonella and sterilization research.

**Motion:** Mr. White made a motion to approve two studies by the LSU AgCenter: 1st on probiotics and 2nd on sterilization of turtles. Motion was seconded by Mr. Evans. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Boudreaux discussed with the board the issues and concerns of safety for turtles on the 250 and 500 turtle boxes. He would like to see if the LSU AgCenter would also look into this research.

Mr. Evans discussed liability on the resale of turtles after he has sold them.

Mr. Boudreaux gave a report on a meeting with the US Fisheries and Wildlife and the FDA.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Mr. Evans made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Boudreaux seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Meeting dismissed at 12:04.