

**Louisiana Beef Industry Council Meeting**  
**July 21, 2017**  
**LSU-A Evacuation Building**  
**Alexandria, Louisiana**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Walter Smith. Members present: Dr. Shelia Pitre, Joey Blanchard, James Leleux, Amelia Kent, Walter Smith, John Thompson, Mack Shelton, and Marty Wooldridge. Member absent: Ed Lopinto

Joey Blanchard made a motion, seconded by Dr. Pitre to adopt the minutes from the April 27, 2017 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Pitre made a motion, seconded by Amelia Kent to accept the financial report as presented by Peter Barrios. Motion passed unanimously.

Lindsey Hunter, Louisiana Department of Ag and Forestry (LDAF), next responded to the council's request regarding ethics matters as it relates to council activities. Joey Blanchard inquired on reimbursement for council member travel to attend meetings. The council was informed that council members may be reimbursed for actual travel and other expenses incurred in attendance at meetings of the council or while on official business of the council. The council was informed that council members would not be prohibited from voting to approve the disbursement of funds under the council's control to the organization which appointed them and of which they are also a member. The council requested further clarification if this also applied to the member if he or she were an officer of the organization and would a council member be prohibited from presenting a project for funding on behalf of the organization which appointed them. The council further requested clarification as to what constitutes an officer of an organization and what constitutes a financial interest from the organization.

Joey Blanchard made a motion, seconded by Dr. Pitre to fund a \$1500 sponsorship to the 2017 Washington Parish Free Fair. Walter Smith made the presentation. Motion passed unanimously. The council further indicated that this event was not a district livestock show.

Dr. Pitre made a motion, seconded by Marty Wooldridge to fund a sponsorship for \$1,000 for the 2017 annual meeting of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana. Michelle Ribera (LDAF) made the presentation. Council was informed that this sponsorship would be paid from the funds remaining in the prior state checkoff program and not from the national checkoff program funds. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Pitre made a motion, seconded by Joey Blanchard to fund a sponsorship for the 2017 Fall Associated Grocers Show at the Lamar Dixon Expo Center for \$4,000. This included up to \$2,000 for meat and items for preparation, up to \$500 for travel for council members involved in

the event and up to \$1,500 for promotional materials to be provided at the event. Amelia Kent made the presentation. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Pitre made a motion, seconded by Amelia Kent to hear a late funding request not on the agenda from the Acadiana Cattlemen. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Pitre made a motion, seconded by Marty Wooldridge to fund a \$1,000 sponsorship for one year for the Acadiana District Livestock Show. James Leleux made the presentation. The motion passed unanimously.

Marty Wooldridge made a motion, seconded by Amelia Kent to fund a sponsorship for \$1,000 for two Acadiana Cattle producer field days upon approval from CBB for such expenditures. James Leleux made the presentation. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Pitre made a motion, seconded by Amelia Kent to submit the Acadiana Cattlemen's funding request of \$1,000 for the Acadiana Master Cattleman Program to the CBB for a determination if their request can be funded. James Leleux made the presentation. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Pitre made a motion, seconded by James Leleux to fund a sponsorship for \$5,000 for beef promotion on the Louisiana Farm Bureau Cooking Program. Avery Davidson, Louisiana Farm Bureau, made the presentation. The motion passed unanimously with Marty Wooldridge abstaining because he is a State Board member in Louisiana Farm Bureau.

Amelia Kent next presented a CBB update report to the council. Amelia further discussed having someone from the Federation of State Beef Councils speak to the LBIC on the merits of being a member of the Federation. The council also agreed to having someone speak in opposition to joining the Federation.

Walter Smith next discussed the council's need for an administrative assistant to manage the secretarial and clerical matters of the council. The council recommended that this endeavor continue to be pursued.

Under old business, the council next discussed the LBIC website. The council was informed that two proposals had been received to provide new management of the website.

The council next discussed LBIC funding procedures with regard to establishing a monetary limit that would not require an individual to come before the council with the request. The proposal would be submitted to the council in writing.

Mack Shelton made a motion, seconded by Dr. Pitre that financial requests of \$500 or less would not require the individual making the request to present in person at the council meeting. A written proposal submitted to the council of this amount or less would suffice. The motion passed unanimously.

Mack Shelton next discussed providing beef recipes to interested individuals to use in promoting beef. The council was in agreement to provide this information when requested.

Mack Shelton next discussed the research project with the LSU AgCenter's Iberia Research Station concerning forage-fed beef. The council approved funding the project for \$9,500 on November 11, 2016. The project had been completed but no report has been made to the council from the AgCenter on the results of the project.

Joey Blanchard made a motion, seconded by Dr. Pitre that the council send a letter to the LSU AgCenter requesting a report on the project within 60 days or the funding will be rescinded. The motion passed unanimously.

Under new business, the council scheduled its next two meetings as follows:

Thursday, September 28, 2017 9:00 a.m.  
Louisiana Farm Bureau Building  
9516 Airline Hwy. Baton Rouge, LA

Friday, November 3, 2017 1:00 p.m.  
Louisiana State Fair  
Shreveport, LA

John Thompson made a motion, seconded by Joey Blanchard to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.