LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOESTRY

BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

MARCH 14, 2013 - 10:00 A.M.

VETERANS MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

5825 FLORIDA BOULEVARD

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70806

Proceedings

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dr. Maxwell Lea at 10:05 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGENCE**

Dr. Lea led the board in the pledge.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called by John Walther.

**Members Present:**

Tom Ardoin, Giles Brown, James Clark Cooper, DVM, Lennie “Tim” Crawford, Craig Fontenot, DVM, Kelly Garris, Gary Greene, DVM, Maxwell Lea, DVM, Neal McFadden, Bob Pitre, Law Ponder, Butch Racca, Eugene Robertson, Rayburn Smith, Chris Tauzin and Commissioner Mike Strain, DVM.

**Members Absent:**

John Van Bennett, William Holdman, and Tim Veillion.

**Guest Present**:

John Christiana, Southwest horse Sale, Angela Christiana, Southwest Horse Sale, Emily Smith, Board Member Rayburn Smith’s wife, Victoria Richmond, Louisiana Horse Rescue, Robert Joyner, La. Cattleman’s Association, Randy Tupps, La. Cattleman’s Association, Linden Virjile, La Cattleman’s Association, Westley Fitch, La Cattleman’s Association, Warren Joseph, DVM, LDAF, Mary McFadden, Neal McFadden’s wife, Brian Lelande, USDA, Parrish Foote, LDAF, Patrick Richmond, La Horse Rescue, La. Horse Rescue, Ashley Dupree, LDAF, John Walther, LDAF, Diane Stacy, DVM, LDAF, Brent Robbins, DVM, LDAF, and Liz Wilcox, LDAF.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Commissioner Mike Stain spoke on Equine Herpes Virus, closed borders for the importation of deer, animal traceability, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr. Lennie Crawford asked the Commissioner to address the recent Mary Landrieu’s bill on horse slaughter, exportation of horses for slaughter out of the country, and testing of horse meat.

Commissioner spoke on the issue.

Commissioner spoke on the furlough of the Federal Meat Inspection and keeping the processing plants open.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:**

Mr. Eugene Robertson made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 13, 2012 board meeting. Mr. Pitre seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

Dr. Stacy announced Dr. Kenneth Angel, the new USDA area Veterinarian in Charge in Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. Angel took Dr. Nettles position and his information was enclosed in the board member’s packet.

Mr. Walther gave the board an update for Alternative Livestock on inspections and the import band. He presented the board a copy of the letter he submitted to all license deer farmers and a copy of the “Routine Alternative Livestock Producer Inspection” form.

Dr. Stacy spoke on the use of Stat-Pak testing for TB in cervids. A blood test has been approved by USDA and the test is included in the UMR (Unified Methods and Rules). Dr. Stacy recommended the board to modify TB testing regulations to coincide with the CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) rather than the UMR.

**MOTION:**

Dr. Cooper made a motion to the board to make a recommendation to change the regulations to include the CFR as well as the uniform methods and rules. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown. The motion passed.

Dr. Stacy gave a report on the Equine Piroplasmosis positive test for Theileria equi at LA Downs from a horse originating out of state.

Mr. Walther gave an update of livestock traceability that became official on March 11, 2013.

Dr. Stacy reported in 2012 of 7.73% positive test for trichomoniasis and now in March the state already has 8.85% positive cases. She discussed the batch testing with the board. Dr. Fontenot made a motion to accept the PCR test as an official test. The board discussed the issue and decided to have the department to do some polling to see what other state were doing and put it on the agenda next board meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Lea opened the floor for the discussion of the Southwest Horse Sale Application.

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John and Angela Christiana answered questions from the board on the procedures being followed, when the facility would be built, anticipated completion date, dates of sale, and P& S rules and regulations.

**MOTION**

Motion was made by Mr. Pitre to accept the application. Motion was seconded by Mr. Robertson.

Mrs. Dupree asked before the vote is made if there are any members in direct competition and if he would like to recuse them from voting? Mr. Giles Brown asked the board to recuse him from voting.

Dr. Lea asked to make an amendment to the motion. Mrs. Dupree stated they would have to vote on the motion on the table or the person that made the motion would have to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Pitre withdrew his motion.

Dr. Lea requested the board to approve the charter with the restriction that the facility to be approved by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry prior to any sales.

Mrs. Dupree stated the law and advised the board they could only vote yes or no. Restrictions could not be added to the request for the Charter.

**MOTION**

Mr. Pitre made the motion to accept the Charter for Southwest Horse Sale. Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. A verbal roll call was conducted.

Approved: Tom Ardoin, James Cooper, DVM, Lennie Crawford, Craig Fontenot, DVM, Kelly Garris, Gary Green, DVM, Neal McFadden, Bob Pitre, Law Ponder, Butch Racca, Eugene Robertson, Rayburn Smith, and Chris Tauzin.

Against: Maxwell Lea, DVM

Mr. Giles Brown recused himself from the vote.

Motion was passed with 13 for and 1 against.

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Mr. Robertson asked if the board had the authority if check the facility before or after the first sale. Could the board take the Charter back? Dr. Lea addressed the question and state the board would have to have another hearing like today to have it revoked.

Mr. Crawford asked if there was a standard operation procedure. Dr. Lea addressed the question and advised the board there is no written standard operation.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**:

**MOTION**:

Dr. Lea made a motion recommending the Commissioner to change the license fee for deer facilities from 50 dollars per year to 250 dollars per year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cooper. Motion passed.

Mr. Walther discussed the Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) permanent ID waiver for race horses.

Mr. Patrick Richmond, Louisiana Horse Rescue Farm spoke to the board about his experience with permanent ID’s. He asked the board to do away with the waiver for race horses that go to the track not needing a mandatory microchip.

Dr. Lea reviewed Louisiana’s EIA’s program with the board.

Mr. Walther asked the board to give him authority to implement routine day to day issues.

**MOTION**

Mr. Ardoin made a motion to give the Director of The Veterinary Health Division the authority to implement the policies the board has set forth. Mr. Racca seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**ADJOUNMENT**

**MOTION**:

Mr. Pitre made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Meeting dismissed at 12:36 p.m.