

Minutes

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

Louisiana Agricultural Commodities Commission

Veterans' Memorial Auditorium

5825 Florida Blvd.

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

June 26, 2014

9:30 a.m.

I. Call to Order

Mr. Robert Hanks called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Ellington and seconded by Mr. Donald Berken to amend the Agenda to add Gatlin Group Inc., for consideration as a new grain dealer license. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum

Commission Members Present

Commissioner Strain
Mr. Robert Hanks
Mr. David Bollich
Mr. Donald Berken
Mr. Donald Zaunbrecher
Mr. Ryan Ellington

Absent Members

Mr. Keith Hensgens
Mr. Filmore Bordelon
Mr. Lee Carter
Mr. Stephen Logan

There was a quorum of six (6) members present.

Staff Members Present

Assistant Commissioner, Office of the Agro Consumer Services, Benjy Rayburn
Director of the Louisiana Agricultural Commodities Commission,
Kyra Holden
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Auditor, John Smith
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Auditor, Jeff Fabre
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Auditor, Billy Benton
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Auditor, Royshard Rushing
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Legal Counsel Tabitha Gray
Administrative Assistant IV, Bridgette Ott

III. Adoption of Minutes – May 21, 2014

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Berken and seconded by Mr. David Bollich to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

Mr. Hanks asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

**V. Consideration of License Applications for Approval:
(New Applications)**

A. Grain Dealer and Warehouse

1. Lakeland Grain Company, Inc.

B. Cotton Merchant

1. Farmers Cotton of Louisiana, LLC

C. Grain Dealer

1. Gatlin Group Inc.

**VI. Consideration of License Applications for Approval:
(Renewal Applications)**

A. Grain Dealer and Warehouse

1. Agspring Mississippi Region, LLC D/B/A Big River Rice & Grain
2. Louisiana Rice Mill, LLC

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Berken and seconded by Mr. Ryan Ellington to go into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strain and seconded by Mr. Donald Berken to come out of Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Berken and seconded by Mr. David Bollich to approve the following license applications: Lakeland Grain Company, LLC, Farmers Cotton of Louisiana, LLC and Gatlin Group Inc. with all being placed in the Monitoring Program. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strain and seconded by Mr. David Bollich to approve the following license applications: #1 Agspring Mississippi Region, LLC, D/B/A Big River Rice & Grain and #2 Louisiana Rice Mill, LLC. Mr. Ryan Ellington abstained from voting on #1 Agspring Mississippi Region, LLC, D/B/A Big River Rice & Grain. Mr. Robert Hanks abstained from voting on # 2 Louisiana Rice Mill, LLC & Grain. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Ellington and seconded by Mr. Donald Berken to go into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Berken and seconded by Mr. Ryan Ellington to come out of Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Cotton Merchant

1. Dale Hitt Cotton Company, LLC
2. Noble Americas Resources Corporation
3. P.J.S. Incorporated

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Berken and seconded by Mr. Ryan Ellington to approve Renewal Cotton Merchants license applications: #1 Dale Hitt Cotton Company, LLC, #2 Noble Americas Resources Corporation and #3 P.J.S. Incorporated, with #1 Dale Hitt Cotton Company, LLC and #3 P.J.S. Incorporated being placed in the Monitoring Program. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Cotton Merchant and Grain Dealer

1. Lakeland Cotton Company, Inc.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Ellington and seconded by Mr. Donald Berken to approve the Cotton Merchant and Grain Dealer license application for #1 Lakeland Cotton Company, Inc. with #1 Lakeland Cotton Company, Inc. being placed into the Monitoring Program. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Grain Dealer

1. Acadian Rice Mill, LLC
2. Beaumont Rice Mill, Inc.
3. BU Growers LTD
4. Bunge North America, Inc.
5. Crews Trading Co., Inc.
6. Delta Gin Company, LLC
7. James Craig Pitre
8. Lockeby Rice and Grain, Inc.
9. Miller- Bowie Supply
10. Pilgrim's Pride
11. Purina Animal Nutrition, LLC
12. Red River Grain, Inc.
13. Richard Independent Brokers, LLC
14. Soileau Rice Brokers
15. The Andersons.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Ellington and seconded by Mr. Donald Berken to approve the following Grain Dealer license applications: #1 Acadian Rice Mill, LLC, #2 Beaumont Rice Mills, Inc., #3 BU Growers LTD, #4 Bunge North America, Inc., #5 Crews Trading Co., Inc., #6 Delta Gin Company, LLC, #7 James Craig Pitre, #8 Lockeby Rice and Grain, Inc., #9 Miller-Bowie Supply, #10 Pilgrim's Pride, #11 Purina Animal Nutrition, LLC, #12 Red River Grain, Inc., #13 Richard Independent Brokers, LLC, #14 Soileau Rice Brokers, #15 The Andersons with #1 Acadian Rice Mill, LLC, #5 Crews

Trading Co., Inc., #6 Delta Gin Company, LLC, #7 James Craig Pitre, #8 Lockeby Rice and Grain, Inc., and #12 Red River Grain, Inc., #13 Richard Independent Brokers, LLC, and #14 Soileau Rice Brokers being placed in the monitoring program. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Grain Dealer and Warehouse

1. Aaron Duhon Bins, Inc
2. Angelina Grain Company, LLC
3. Hensgens Grain Elevator, Inc.
4. Kaplan Rice Dryer, Inc.
5. Kennedy Rice Dryers, LLC
6. Mowata Rice Drier, Inc.
7. Pinnacle Operating Company
D/B/A Jimmy Sanders, Inc.
8. Planters Rice Mill, LLC
9. Sweet Lake Land & Oil, LLC
10. Victory Supply, Inc.
11. Ville Platte Rice Drier, Inc.

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Berken and seconded by Mr. David Bollich to approve the following Grain Dealer and Warehouse license applications: #1 Aaron Duhon Bins, Inc., #2 Angelina Grain Company, LLC, #3 Hensgens Grain Elevator, Inc., #4 Kaplan Rice Dryer, LLC, #5 Kennedy Rice Dryers, LLC, #6 Mowata Rice Dier Inc., #7 Pinnacle Operating Company, D/B/A Jimmy Sanders, #8 Planters Rice Mill, LLC, #9 Sweet Lake Land & Oil, LLC, #10 Victory Supply, Inc., #11 Ville Platte Rice Drier, Inc., with #1 Aaron Duhon Bins, Inc., #2 Angelina Grain Company, LLC, #4 Kaplan Rice Dryer, Inc., #6 Mowata Rice Drier, Inc., #10 Victory Supply, Inc., and #11 Ville Platte Rice Drier, Inc., being placed in the monitoring program. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Warehouse

1. Dixie Drier, LLC
2. Jones Producers Gin, Inc.
3. Rayne Rice Drier & Warehouse Co., Inc.
4. Vermilion Farmers Co-op Association, Inc.

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Berken and seconded by Mr. Ryan Ellington to approve the following Warehouse license applications: #1 Dixie Drier, LLC, #2 Jones Producers Gin, Inc., #3 Rayne Rice Drier & Warehouse Co., Inc. #4 Vermilion Farmers Co-op Association, Inc. with #3 Rayne Rice Drier & Warehouse Co., Inc. and #4 Vermilion Farmers Co-op Association, Inc. being placed in the Monitoring Program. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Old Business

Mr. Robert Hanks asked if there was any old business. There was none.

VIII. New Business

A. Self- Insurance Fund Claim

Mr. Ryan Ellington abstained from any discussion in this matter and left the room.

Ms. Holden presented to the board a claim against the Self-Insurance Fund by Agspring Mississippi Region, LLC, D /B/A Big River Rice & Grain that had been recently received by the staff. After careful review and discussion the board determined that the claim was premature due to pending litigation as well as other remedies that needed to be satisfied prior to the board accepting a claim against the Self-Insurance Fund. The board requested that the staff send a letter to the claimant stating that the claim was premature and that all other remedies for payment must be exercised before a claim is reviewed.

Mr. Rayburn gave an update on the Rice Research and Promotion legislation. He stated that new forms were being printed and that they will be mailed to the rice millers/handlers farmers re-instating the monthly collection of assessments.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Robert Hanks asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

X. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

To be determined.

XI. ADJOURNEMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Zaunbrecher and seconded by Mr. David Bollich to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.



Mr. Robert Hanks, Chairman