



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

MIKE STRAIN DVM

COMMISSIONER

LOUISIANA BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION COMMISSION

March 19, 2013

10:00 a.m.

Scott Research and Extension Center

212 Macon Ridge Road

Winnsboro, LA 71295

Minutes



Agricultural & Environmental Sciences

P.O. Box 3596
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 925-3770
Fax: 925-3760

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Danny Logan at 10:02 a.m.

Agro-Consumer Services

P.O. Box 3098
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1341
Fax: 923-4877

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Tonya Peairs.

Members present: Danny Logan, George Lacour, Jack Dailey, Boyd Holley, Travis Walker, Tim White, Ben Guthrie, Todd Parker (representing Commissioner Strain), Dr. David Kerns (representing Chancellor Richardson).

Animal Health & Food Safety

P.O. Box 1951
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 925-3962
Fax: 925-4103

Others present: Marc Bordelon, Tad Hardy, Nolan Adcock, Becky Wilkerson, Martin Close, Brian Breaux, John Dumas, Nathan Oliver, Vernon Thomas, Kurt Moreau, Mike Turner, Tabitha Gray (attorney representing La. Dept. of Ag & Forestry), Lindsey Hunter (hearing officer), Sebe Brown, David Crigler and Tonya Peairs.

Forestry

P.O. Box 1628
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 925-4500
Fax: 922-1356

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

Management & Finance

P.O. Box 3481
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1255
Fax: 925-6012

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Holley made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 06, 2012. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dailey and passed unanimously.

Soil & Water Conservation

P.O. Box 3554
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1269
Fax: 922-2577

ADJUDICATORY HEARING

Mr. Logan turned the meeting over to Ms. Lindsey Hunter, Assistant Attorney General.

Case # 13BW01 – Billy W. Wilson was charged with 29 violations of the Louisiana Boll Weevil Eradication Regulations, LAC 7:XV.327.B. Ms. Tabitha Gray entered into evidence the official charge letter and certified mail tracking receipt (S1) and the stipulation agreement (S2) signed by Mr. Wilson and notarized. Included in the stipulation was the commission's recommendation of a \$21,750.00 fine with \$18,953.00 suspended provided there are no future violations of the Boll Weevil Law or Regulations on or before December 31, 2015. The remainder of the fine in the amount of \$2,797.00 is payable within 30 days unless other payment arrangements are made. If Mr. Wilson fails to pay as agreed, the entire amount of the fine, including the suspended portion of the fine, will become due and payable immediately.

Motion: Mr. Parker made a motion to approve the stipulation agreement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lacour and passed unanimously.

Ms. Hunter turned the meeting back over to Mr. Logan.

OLD BUSINESS

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the National Boll Weevil Protection Fund. Mr. Parker informed the commission members that Commissioner Strain could not financially support this at this time. Dr. Kerns said that the Technical Advisory Committee sees this as a valuable program but cannot support if the funds are not available.

There was also discussion on stalk destruction requirements. Dr. Kerns informed the commission members that a Technical Advisory Committee vote on suspending the requirements of stalk destruction narrowly passed.

Motion: Mr. Holley made a motion that the mandatory stalk destruction requirement be suspended until such time that the commissioner determines it necessary that it be reinstated and that any changes in regulation necessary to accomplish this be made. The motion was seconded by Mr. Parker. The motion failed.

Motion: Mr. Dailey made a motion to facilitate a survey to all Louisiana cotton growers to seek approval or disapproval in regards to supporting the National Boll Weevil Protection Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holley and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Report from the Commissioner

There was no new report from the Commissioner.

Update from the Director

Mr. Bordelon spoke briefly about the 2013 Boll Weevil Trapping Protocol and Standard Operational Plan. He gave an update on monies collected (assessments and late fees) and pending liens. Mr. Bordelon also gave an update on the aerial contract renewals, due March 22, 2013. He also told the commission members that nominee selection for the vacant alternate commission seat is in progress.

Technical Advisory Committee

Dr. Kerns advised the commission members that the Technical Advisory Committee is in support of the 2013 Boll Weevil Trapping Protocol and Standard Operational Plan.

USDA Report

There was no report from USDA.

Farm Bureau Oversight Committee Report

There was no report from the Farm Bureau Oversight Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURN

Mr. Logan adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.