

# FUR ADVISORY COUNCIL (FAC)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2020  
ZOOM CONFERENCE MEETING

## ATTENDANCE

### **Council Members Present**

Frank Ellender  
Ryan Schaefer  
Steve Hughes  
Danny Perry  
Clint Johnson  
Archie Domangue

### **LDWF Present**

Tanya Sturman  
Jennifer Manuel  
Jeb Linscombe  
Buddy Baker  
Jason Waller  
Joel Courtney

### **Council Members Absent**

Tony Howard  
Charles Pettefer, Jr.  
John Verret

### **Public Present**

Michelle Mudd  
Greg Linscombe  
Mark Shirley

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

*Ryan Schaefer motioned to approve the minutes from the July 2019 meeting. Archie Domangue seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

*Archie Domangue nominated Ryan Schaefer as Chairman. Steve Hughes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

*Archie Domangue nominated Frank Ellender as Vice-chairman. Clint Johnson seconded.  
Motion carried unanimously.*

#### GLENN DELANEY'S CONTRACT UPDATE

Glenn Delaney summarized the work he has done on behalf of LDWF and the Fur Advisory Council. He works to educate the public and the public's congressional representatives and staff as to the important role that trapping plays in wildlife management. Delaney continuously monitors potential legislation that may impact Louisiana wildlife or sustainable use. Over the past year this has included numerous bills that address a wide array of issues of concern ranging from prohibiting the use of leg-hold traps, requiring signage on National Wildlife Refuges regarding the use of body-gripping traps by wildlife/habitat managers, feral swine management, and wildlife trafficking to anti-trophy hunting legislation that, if enacted, would have the effect of prohibiting the harvest of any wild or farmed alligators and alligator eggs in Louisiana and other states. When requested by LDWF administration, Delaney actively engages in the legislative process to advise members of the Louisiana delegation and the committees of jurisdiction on the perspective of the fur and alligator industries and LDWF, and work to advance or oppose specific pieces of legislation.

#### CALIFORNIA LAWS REGARDING FUR AND ALLIGATOR SALES

Jeb Linscombe gave an update on the California lawsuit related to penal code 653o. The judge heard the arguments and will make a ruling in the coming weeks. In the interim, alligator sales remain legal in California. He works to prevent problems from being created by legislation that would impede the fur industry.

#### NUTRIA CONTROL PROGRAM UPDATE

Jennifer Manuel went over the nutria numbers for the past couple of years. The goal of the program is to remove 400,000 nutria annually. That goal was last achieved in 2009, and in recent years the average has been closer to 200,000. In 2019 they made the decision to increase the nutria bounty from \$5 per tail to \$6. Although the number of acres damaged by nutria are not increasing, that is because some acres have converted to open water and have been completely lost.

#### TRAPPER EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Tanya Sturman reviewed the activities related to trapper education for the past season. LDWF put on an instructors training course, five full-day trapping workshops around the state, and a three-day trapping school at Woodworth Education Center. The events were well attended and participant feedback was positive.

## 2020-2021 FAC BUDGET APPROVAL

Tanya Sturman went over the 5 year summary of the Louisiana Fur Public Education and Marketing Fund. The average revenue for the fund, which includes license fees and interest, was about \$53,000, and the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year matches that amount. The primary projects are the trapper education program and the contract for legislative education.

*Clint Johnson motioned to approve the proposed FAC budget. Frank Ellender seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

## LOUISIANA FUR AND WILDLIFE PAGEANT- QUEEN'S UPDATE

Alivia Mudd gave an overview of her activities as the Louisiana Fur and Wildlife Festival's representative. She talked about the festival and the pageant. She has been interviewed by a local news station, and she has utilized social media to promote fur fashion.

## FUR COAT UPDATE

Jennifer Manuel said that she had sent the furs to the manufacturer this past year for a bolero style coat, and that the coat should be completed this year. The council purchased a vest last year, but the pageant director decided to use one of the older coats. So, both the vest and the bolero coat will be available for future pageants. The Lafayette office also has several alligator purses from Tchoups Industries in storage for future queens.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

*Archie Domangue motioned to adjourn. Frank Ellender seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*