Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

10:00 A.M.

7919 Independence Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70806 – Room C

**Members Present:** **Member Absent:**

Chairman Ira Cleveland Commissioner Ricky Lee Cleveland

Commissioner Todd Thompson

Commissioner Dominique Monlezun

**Also present:**

Interim Executive Director ArieSha J. Dents

LTC Jody Hasselbeck

Attorney Gail Holland

Various Industry representatives

Action Taken:

1. Called to Order at 10:00 A.M. – change in the agenda – items XIII and XV moved. Applications ratified.
2. Roll Call
3. Consideration of the minutes from March 29, 2023 – on motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by Commissioner Thompson the minutes were considered. All agreed.
4. Review the statistical report for March 2023
5. Review the accounting total reports for March 2022/March 2023
6. Review the report of fires and accidents for March 2023
7. Review the compliance audits for March 2023
8. Date for the next meeting – May 24, 2023 in Baton Rouge, LA
9. Possible citations for next meeting
10. Regular citations – None
11. Insurance citations – None
12. Permit renewals – Approximately 20+; failure to pay permit renewal.
13. Other Business
14. Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission Advisory Board
15. Purpose of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission Advisory Board – Executive Director Dents informed the Commission of RS 40:1851 (F) The commission shall establish a board to advise the commission on the expenditure of funds collected under this Section. One advisory board member shall be appointed by the commission from each commission inspector’s area, as designated by the commission, and two members shall be appointed at large. Each member of the advisory board shall be a holder of Class I, Class IV, or Class VI permit. Each class of permit holders on which this Section levies an assessment shall have at least two members who hold permits for their respective classes on the advisory board. There shall not be more than nine members of the advisory board. The advisory board members shall serve a term concurrent with that of the governor and, in case of resignation, the appointee will fill the unexpired term. Members shall not receive any compensation for serving the advisory board. On behalf of the Louisiana Propane Gas Association, Randy Hayden approached the commission to ask about the vacancies within the advisory board. He was informed that the vacancies will be addressed shortly.
16. Louisiana’s Open Meeting Laws (From the Louisiana Revised Statutes) – a handout was distributed regarding Open Meeting Laws. Attorney Holland informed the commission that Open Meeting Laws must be followed with a quorum. A “walking quorum” was addressed. Commissioner Thompson reminded the commission that a discussion of three or more is considered a walking quorum. Attorney Holland informed the commission that Open Meeting Laws were established in order to allow public discussion.
17. Executive Session regarding Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission Advisory Board vacancies and marketing proposals/contracts submissions – on motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by Commissioner Thompson an executive session was entered to address the vacancies. All agreed. On motion by LTC Hasselbeck seconded by Commissioner Thompson regular session was entered. All agreed.
18. Consideration and vote on proposals/contracts resubmissions and/or whether to continue with marketing proposals/contracts – on motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, tabled for the next meeting. All agreed.
19. Recommendations for the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission Advisory Board vacancies with public discussion and possible vote - – On motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by Commissioner Thompson an executive session was called. All agreed. On motion by LTC Hasselbeck seconded by Commissioner Thompson regular session was called. All agreed. Current advisory board members include: David Reed (Class I – Reed Gas), Beau Comardelle (Class IV – Pelican Propane), Artie Cole (Class IV – Ferrell Gas), and Tom O’Neal (Class I – O’NealGas). New advisory board members include: Jody Herring; on motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Monlezun. All agreed. Ray Sparnecht (Class V- Tractor Supply); on motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by LTC Hasselbeck. All agreed. Jessica Sinclair (Class V- Sullivan Feed); on motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Monlezun. All agreed. Member at large, Bill Lemaire (Class I – Lampton Love); on motion by LTC Hasselbeck, seconded by Commissioner Monlezun. All agreed. Member at large, Horace Fontentot (Class I – Amerigas); on motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. All agreed.
20. Consideration for protocols for any proposals submitted on behalf of the Chairman or his designee from Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission Advisory Board to the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission - on motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, tabled for the next meeting. All agreed.
21. Market development bank reconciliation as of April 10, 2023: $189,800.90
22. 2023 State of Louisiana Mobile LPG – Appliance Inspection decal
23. Executive session for State of Louisiana Anhydrous ammonia inspection decal – on motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by LTC Hasselbeck an executive session was entered. On motion by Commissioner Monlezun seconded by Commissioner Thompson regular session was entered.
24. Commission legislation and/or rule changes by Office of Legal Affairs representative (if applicable)
25. Open discussion by Interim Executive Director – handouts provided for Civil Law Trainings
26. Commission/Industry/Advisory Board Communication – On behalf of Louisiana Propane Gas Association Randy Hayden approached the Commission. Hayden asked for a status regarding proposals previously approved by the Commission. LTC Hasselbeck addressed the event coordinator contract that involves Hayden. LTC Hasselbeck said the contract isn’t valid. However, compensation will be made for any services rendered. Protocols will be set for the advisory board to select officers. Chairman Cleveland also advised that only advisory board members can make proposal requests moving forward. Hayden reminded the commission of the upcoming joint convention in New Orleans, LA and Propane Days in Washington D.C. in June. Hayden also addressed a piece of legislation he intends to track regarding electric school buses and propane powered school buses. Hayden spoke of the success of the Clean Fuels event where Governor John Bel Edwards spoke about the importance of propane. And he thanked the Governor for his support of alternative fuel. The Zurich Classic was a successful event. Hayden also thanked the Commission for their support. Chairman Cleveland recommended a meeting with himself, Interim Executive Director, and Randy Hayden in the near future.
27. Violations to be heard (if applicable) – see the docket
28. Applications to be ratified (if applicable) – see the docket
29. Adjournment – On motion by Commissioner Monlezun, seconded by Commissioner Thompson the meeting adjourned. All agreed.