**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH**

**October 11, 2012 10:00 am**

**Veterans Memorial Auditorium**

**5825 Florida Boulevard**

**Baton Rouge, LA 70806**

**Proceedings**

Ms. Tabitha Gray swore in two commission members. The commission members sworn in were Chris Tauzin and Craig Fontenot, DVM.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dr. Maxwell Lea at 10:01 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called by Mr. John Walther.

**Members Present:**

James Cooper, DVM, Craig Fontenot, DVM, Eugene Robertson, Tom Ardoin, Kelly Garris, Maxwell Lea, DVM, Gary Greene, DVM, Giles Brown, Chris Tauzin, William Holdman, John Van Bennett, Rayburn Smith, Law Ponder and Commissioner Mike Strain.

**Members Absent:**

Bob Pitre, Neal McFadden, Butch Racca, Tim Crawford, and Tim Veillion

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dr. Lea had the guests introduce themselves.

**Guests present:**

Dale Hollier (USDA VS), Parrish Foote (LDAF), Ronnie Harrell (La. Farm Bureau), Martie Woodridge (La. Farm Bureau), Jessie Carver (Livestock Marketing Association), Diane Stacy, DVM (LDAF), John Walther (LDAF), Kevin Finley (LDAF), Dr. Alma Roy (La. Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab), and Liz Wilcox (LDAF)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dr. Cooper made a motion to accept the minutes from July 26, 2012. Mr. Holdman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Tabitha Gray, Executive Counsel, discussed the Animal Care Standards and Act 113.

The board members discussed the proposed rules and regulations.

Commissioner Strain spoke on the H3N2 problems in United States.

Commissioner Strain stated the Farm Bill has expired on September 30, 2011 and what the effects are from this.

Commissioner Strain thanked the board members for addressing the Animal Care Standards and Act 113 and he would like standards approved by the board by the middle of December 2012. He requested the board meet after the state fair to make any adjustment and to give everyone time to look over the information.

Mr. Walther discussed the Animal Disease Traceability. He provided information for the board members in their packet. He stressed the importance of animals to have their own individual identification for Federal guidelines.

Dr. Stacy elaborated further on information on livestock traceability following the strict Federal performance standard guidelines. All adult livestock are still being tagged at the sale barns to comply with disease traceability regulations. Producers, Veterinarians, and the state all have to comply with the new regulations for interstate travel.

Mr. Smith asked about cattle coming from the farm going straight to buying station and/or to a killing plant. He questioned if they would have to comply and have the ability to trace back a disease if they are co-mingled. Mr. Walther stated this would be a change of ownership and would have to be identified by the buyer. There is an exemption going to slaughter but livestock will still have to have a back tag.

Dr. Stacy gave an update on the Trichomoniasis herd certification program. A handout with statistics was included in the board members packet.

**Motion:** Mr. Bennett made a motion to table the certification program. Motion was seconded by Mr. Smith. Motion but was not passed- board unanimously decided to table it until the next meeting.

Dr. Roy, LSU, gave an update to the board on the PCR test.

Dr. Stacy gave a report on the Equine Encephalitis since the last board meeting.

Dr. Stacy discussed the developing of an intrastate regulation for the alternative livestock program.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Walter gave a power point presentation on the Department of Agriculture and Forestry’s emergency response to Hurricane Isaac.

Mr. Brown asked for the Department of Agriculture and Forestry to contact them for assistance next time a hurricane hits Louisiana.

Mr. Tom Ardoin gave a report on the Louisiana Cattleman’s foundation on training volunteers for emergency response.

Dr. Lea designated December 13, 2012 as a tentative date for the next board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** Mr. Smith made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Giles seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Meeting dismissed at 12:05.