

**TENTATIVE MINUTES (PENDING BOARD APPROVAL)  
IN-PERSON MEETING OF THE**

**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH**

**June 20th, 2025, 10:00 A.M.  
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY  
VETERANS MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM  
5825 FLORIDA BOULEVARD  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70806**

**NOTE: THIS IS TENTATIVE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup> 2025, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH. A FINAL VERSION OF THESE MINUTES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AFTER APPROVAL OF THE BOARD AT ITS NEXT REGULARLY-SCHEDULED MEETING.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Craig Fontenot at 10:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Dr. Fontenot led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called by Sara Novak.

**Members Present:** Lennie Crawford, Nickey Smith, Thomas Early, Craig Fontenot, DVM, David Mains, James Cooper, DVM, Josh Kaplan, Rayburn Smith, Law Ponder, Vendal Fairchild, Sara Byrd, DVM, Kurt Cazayoux, Giles Brown, Dale Cambre

**Members Absent:** Anna Chapman, DVM, Brady Rutledge

A quorum was present at all times.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment at this time.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Vendal Fairchild moved to approve the minutes as written from the boards October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meetings. The motion was seconded by Mr. James Cooper, DVM, and passed unanimously.

## LIVESTOCK MARKET HEARING

### A. Deshotel Auctions- Voluntary Relinquishment of Livestock Market Charter

Attorney for the department, Mrs. Amy McInnis, explains to the board the Mr. Deshotel has voluntarily relinquished his Livestock Market Charter for Deshotel Auctions. She asked the board to make a motion to accept the relinquishment.

Mr. Nickey Smith made a motion to accept Mr. Deshotels' relinquishment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vendal Fairchild and passed unanimously.

### B. Cajun Flea Market & Auction (David Arnaud)- Application for Livestock Market Charter

Mrs. Amy Mcinnis explains that we have received an application from Mr. David Arnaud of Cajun Flea Market & Auctions located in Eunice, Louisiana.

Mr. Arnaud wishes to open the livestock market to sell small farm animals consisting of rabbits and chickens. He originally requested the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month. He also alternatively requested that if his first request is not granted that he would like to hold his sales every Thursday.

Mrs. Mcinnis talks about the Louisiana Administrative code 7:21:301B4B. This law states that if there is an auction within 50 miles of the new auction, they will not be granted the same sale day. She also explains RS3:667D1 that tells us the factors the board must consider when deciding to grant a market charter.

Mr. Arnaud is called to the stand as the first witness. Mrs. McInnis asks Mr. Arnaud many questions about his charter. He explains that he currently only sells items such as furniture, household items, and surplus automobiles. He is applying to sell small livestock such as chickens, rabbits and ducks. No sheep, goats, cows, pigs, or horses will be sold at the auction. He explains he knows his facility is located 47.5 miles away from Reeves Auctions. Mrs. McInnis asks him if the board denies his request for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month, would he be requesting a different day. Mr. Arnaud states that he would ask for every Thursday. Mrs. McInnis asks Mr. Arnaud if he recognizes the documents before him. He verifies that this is his application for the charter along with his surety bond. Mrs. McInnis states she has no more questions for Mr. Arnaud and opens the floor to the Board.

A few members of the board ask Mr. Arnaud about the animals he intends to sell. He insures them that he will only be selling chickens, rabbits, and ducks.

Mrs. McInnis calls her next witness, which is Mrs. Michelle Ribera, Director of the Board of Health and Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Animal Health. Mrs. McInnis asks Mrs. Michelle if we had received Mr. Arnaud Application. Mrs. Ribera

goes on to say that we received the application and when it was received, we submitted it to the Board to have a hearing. She also states that all charter holders were notified of the hearing, and the notice was published in official journal of the parishes where the charter was near.

Mrs. McInnis then calls her final witness, Mr. Fail, livestock brand inspector. Mrs. McInnis asks Mr. Fail to explain the inspection he did at Mr. Arnauds Facility. Mr. Fail explains that when he went to inspect the facility that it was more than adequate to host auctions. They then go through the pictures that were taken of the facility the day of the inspection. Mr. Fail states that the facility meets all regulations to hold a sale.

Mrs. McInnis then states that the Department recommends the Board Grant Mr. Arnaud the ability to sell small animals at his facility. The Department does not advise to grant the Saturday sale due to the 50 mile radius regulation. The department does advise that the board grant Mr. Arnaud the Thursday sale.

Mr. Vendal Fairchild motions for the board to grant Mr. Arnauds market charter for small animals on Thursdays. Dr. Craig Fontenot seconds the motion. Mr. Giles Brown recuses. The motion is carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There is no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### A. Proposed rule changes

1. LAC 7:XXI.751 AND 752(Trichomoniasis)
- 2.

Dr. Daniel Myrick explains trich pens and asks that the board approve that they take off the 30 day time period so the facilities can hold animals longer if needed.

Mr. Giles Brown makes the motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Vendal Fairchild and passed unanimously.

3. LAC 7:XXI.1705 and 1730 (Chronic Wasting Disease)

Dr. Myrick explains that this was an emergency rule put into place to move trophy animals off quarantined hunting facilities. This rule states that we issue the hunter a permit number to move that animal off the quarantined facility to a licensed taxidermist. Dr. Myrick is requesting that it be moved to a permanent rule.

Mr. James Cooper makes a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Law Ponder and the motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Myrick then gives a short presentation on New World Screwworm flies.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**NEXT MEETING**

The date for the board's next meeting was not set and will be determined later.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman, Dr. Fontenot moved to adjourn the meeting, Rayburn Smith seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

TENTATIVE