**Crab Task Force Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 11, 2017, 1:00pm**

**2021 Lakeshore Dr., STE 210**

**New Orleans, LA**

**Voting Members Present:**

Eric Blanchard

LaQuita Meek

Trudy Luke

Pete Gerica

George Jackson

Rodney Parfait

Warren Delacroix

Chalin Delaune

**Voting Members Absent:**

Chalin Delaune

Sheb Callahan

James Bergeron

Paul Alfonso

Kim Alfonso

**Non-voting Members Present:**

Julie Falgout in for Julie Anderson Lively

Mark Schexnayder

Captain Chad Hebert

**Non-voting Members Absent:**

Melissa Trosclair Daigle

Motion to approve the February 7, 2017 meeting minutes by Eric Blanchard, 2nd by George Jackson. Motion passes.

**Financial Report:**

Fund Balance: $ 175, 103.45

Remaining Budget Balance: $37, 394.25

Motion to approve the financial report by Eric Blanchard, 2nd by Laquita Meek. Motion passes.

Motion to amend the agenda to add item A. Discussion of crab trap closure- under ‘New Business’ by Rodney Parfait, 2nd by George Jackson

Motion to accept the amended agenda by Rodney Parfait, 2nd by George Jackson. Motion passes.

Jeff Marx addressed the TF with an update on the Derelict Crab Trap Removal Program

Chalin Delaune entered at 1:10pm

Warren Delacroix addressed the TF with an update on the Joint Task Force Working Group Meeting

Rodney Parfait addressed the TF with discussion on the crab season closure

George Jackson recommended changing the date of the closure and/or a month of no female crabs as an alternative to this year’s closure

Suggested changing sizing and catch limits as an alternative to closing for a month

Trudy Luke suggested combining the closure with the crab trap clean up

George Jackson made a motion to close the season for the month of October in 2018, 2nd by Paul Alfonso.

Eric Blanchard made a substitute motion to hold off on voting on season closures until the next meeting so that the TF can receive feedback on a female-only closure and/or combining a closure with crab trap clean ups, 2nd by Paul Alfonso. Motion passes with

The TF requested recommendations on months of preference for the 2018 closure

Paul Alfonso addressed the TF with crab trap clean up boat registrations, and establishing TF email addresses

Thomas Hymel tabled his item-to discuss crab-marketing opportunities-until the next meeting

Eric Blanchard addressed the TF with crab imports

Eric Blanchard made a motion to request that SPMB coordinate an exploratory committee to work with the TF look into scheduling a staff tour, and discussing imports, 2nd by Paul Alfonso. Motion passes.

Eric Blanchard made a motion to re-elect Pete Gerica as chairman of the Crab Task Force and Chalin Delaune as vice-chair, 2nd by George Jackson. Motion passes.

**Public Comment:**

Requested that the SPMB provide an update on crab marketing at the next meeting

**Next meeting set for July 11, 2017 at 1pm in New Orleans**

Motion to adjourn by Eric Blanchard, 2nd by Paul Alfonso. Motion carries.