**Crab Task Force Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 5, 2016**

**UNO Advanced Technology Center**

**2021 Lakeshore Dr., STE 210**

**New Orleans, LA 70122**

Allison West called roll

**Voting Members Present:**

Eric Blanchard

Chalin Delaune

LaQuita Meek

Trudy Luke

Pete Gerica

James Bergeron

Rodney Parfait

Warren Delacroix

Kim Alfonso

**Voting Members Absent:**

Paul Alfonso

Gustave Chagnard, III

**Non-voting Members Present:**

Mark Schexnayder

Jack Isaacs

Capt. Chad Hebert

Julie Falgout in for Julie Anderson

**Non-voting Members Absent:**

Alan Matherne

Melissa Daigle

Motion to accept the January 12, 2016 minutes from by Trudy Luke, 2nd Kim Alfonso. Motion carries.

Motion to accept the April 5, 2016 agenda by Kim Alfonso, 2nd by Eric Blanchard. Motion carries

Financial Report: remaining fund balance- $156, 786, encumbrances- $9,375, budget balance- $23, 786

Motion to accept the financial report by Kim Alfonso, 2nd by Warren Delacroix. Motion carries.

Jeff Marx addressed the TF on management options

James Bergeron made a motion to close crabbing season during the month of October 2016, 2nd by Trudy Luke. Motion passes with vote: 7 yes, 1 abstained

Paul Alfonso entered at 1:53pm

Jeff Marx addressed the TF with a summary on the crab trap clean up

Lake Pontchartrain cleanup- total of 1386 traps removed from the water

Lafitte cleanup- total of 1194 traps removed from the water

Patrick Smith with the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation addressed the TF regarding crab trap clean up; would like the Task Force’s feedback and suggestions Patrick@saveourlake.org

Jeff Marx addressed the TF with the LFF Professionalism Program changes

Trudy Luke made a motion to reject the presented changes to the LFF Professionalism Program, 2nd by Eric Blanchard. Motion carries.

It was the wishes of the TF for the LFF Program to remain the same and not to renew the declaration of emergency on its expiration in July 2016

Pete Gerica addressed the TF regarding navigable waters –

There have been 90 citations issued in the last 5 years relating to placing crab traps on navigable waters

The TF postponed the agenda item, ‘Black Drum Regulations and Issues that will Protect Smaller Crab Population’ until the next meeting

**Pubic Comment:**

Chalin Delaune read a letter to the Crab Task Force from Kris Bourgeois

Next meeting set for July 5, 2016 for 1pm in New Orleans

Motion to adjourn by Rodney Parfait, 2nd by James Bergeron. Motion carries.