**Minutes for June 19, 2013**

**LA CRAWFISH PROMOTION & RESEARCH BOARD**

**NOAA HABITATS AND COSTAL FISHERIES CENTER**

**700 CAJUNDOME BLVD.**

**LAFAYETTE, LA**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Ralph Babin called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT** **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Ralph Babin Wayne Romig

Chandra Scarber Bill Pizzolato

David Savoy Mike Bienvenu

Jody Meche Greg Benhard

Greg Faulk

Robert Buller

Kip Lastrapes

Wylie Jewell

**DELCARATION OF A QUORUM:**

 Chairman Babin declared the presence of a quorum with 8 members present and 4 members absent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION BY**: David Savoy and seconded Jody Meche to approve the minutes as presented for

January 16, 2013. Motion Carried.

**COLLECTIONS & FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Chairman Babin called on Director Ron Harrell to present the collections and financial reports. He reported the board the current condition of accounts.

**MOTION BY:** Jody Meche seconded by Wylie Jewell to except the financial report as presented. Motion Carried.

**Promotions & Research:**

Dr. Greg Lutz with LSU Ag. Center addressed the board to discuss industry needed research.

Through lengthy discussion the board asked Dr. Lutz to look into the following research projects and return at the next meeting with a proposal for the board to consider.

1. A Biologic control of over population and white crawfish, considering introduction of a fish species to accomplish the needed job. With the possibly of being able to harvest and sell the fish.
2. To look into the Redox effect on crawfish on the different soil types.
3. Look into different or new type of crawfish forage vegetation.
4. David Savoy asked Dr. Lutz to see if there is someone with LSU that could do business class self marketing for farmers and fishermen to be able to branch out into the other parts of the crawfish business.

Greg Faulk addressed the board on promotion ideas that being license plates promoting the Louisiana crawfish industry. The board asked Director to look into the cost and have it for the next meeting.

**MOTION BY:** David Savoy and seconded Jody Meche by to have the director send the California Ag in the class program cook books and or promotional items. Motion Carried.

**Motion By:** Chandra Scarber and seconded by Greg Faulk to provide $10,000.00 to Dee Scallan for the continuation of the children educational promotion effort. Motion Carried

The board also asked the director to look into setting up a possible foundation for the Moby Crawfish color book to provide a permanent funding source for Mrs. Scallan children’s promotion.

 **BOARD BUSINESS:**

The Director provided his report; he gave the updates on the automated processing project, legislative event and web site no action taken.

 Discussion about the promotion effort in Memphis and Dallas, he told the board of what was going on with the effort and how he was looking at cost sharing with local non –profit organizations.

The director told the board he would request travel expense funds at the next meeting to go to Memphis and Dallas. The board told him to have the cost together for the next meeting.

The director asked the board to provide funds for aging office equipment.

**Motion By:** Chandra Scarberand seconded by David Savoy to pay the $5,000.00 cost of equipment for the director. Motion Carried.

The director reported on the expenses incurred by the boards assistant Jessica Lange and made a recommendation that the board should provide $800.00 to repay those expenses.

**Motion By:** Greg Faulk and seconded by Robert Buller to provide $800.00 to Jessica Lange to repay her expenses. Motion Carried.

**No public comment:**

 Date set for next meeting is August 21st, 2013 at 2:00 P.M. at the same place in Lafayette.

**MOTION BY:** David Savoy and seconded Wylie Jewell by to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.