

**LOUISIANA RICE PROMOTION BOARD**  
**DRAFT** Board of Directors Meeting  
Meeting Minutes

**LSU Rice Research Station, Crowley, LA**  
**Tuesday, June 24, 2025**

**Call to order, opening comments and certification of quorum**

Chairman Kane Fontenot called the meeting to order at 12:58 pm and welcomed members and guests. Quorum was certified. Board Members 10 Present 1 Absent

**Agenda review and approval of June 25, 2024 minutes**

Chairman Fontenot presented the agenda and the minutes for consideration.

**MOTION** by Trevor Hair; **SECOND** by Christian Richard

To dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the June 25, 2024, minutes as submitted

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**LARPB Financial Reports**

Nicole Broussard, CPA presented the current financial report noting that Assessments to-date for the current fiscal year was \$787,055.53 with refunds to-date of \$53,123.70.

Chairman Fontenot asked the Board to review the financial reports including the general ledger. There were no questions from the Board concerning the financial reports.

**MOTION** by Mark Pousson; **SECOND** by Kent Brown.

To approve financials statements as rendered.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Board Updates**

A listing of Board Members who submitted their Ethics training, sexual harassment training and Financial Disclosures were emailed. Several Board members are not in compliance. Another email will be sent by Nicole Broussard to all Board members with links to the various training courses. Board Members were also asked to provide their date of births in order to look up their Ethic Certificates on the LA Ethics Website.

Nicole Broussard also presented an Updated Policies and Procedures Policy for the Board to review and adopt. Several minor clarifications were presented and a Disaster Recover/Business Continuity Plan was also included.

**MOTION** by Paul Zaunbrecher; **SECOND** by Mark Frey.

To approve Policies and Procedures Policy.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **Certified LA Grant Update**

An update on the Certified LA Rice Campaign was presented by Kane Fontenot, Chairman.

## **In-state, Board-Directed Promotion Projects Update**

Kane Webb updated the Board on recent Rice Promotion Projects.

## **Funding Requests Reports**

- USA Rice Council - Peter Bachmann, Sarah Moran, Michael Klein
  - Update on the accomplishments and highlights of the past year
  - Update on accountability & transparency
  - Update on revenue and international market and program areas
  - Request for continued funding
- LA Radio Network - Jennifer Marsh
  - Request for Crawfish & Rice Joint Campaign in the amount of \$7,500
  - Request for LA Radio Network Campaign in the amount of \$6,175
- Marketing Campaign - Allie Shipley
  - Request for \$6,000 to continue marketing campaign
  - Kathryn Shea Duncan has decided not to submit a proposal
- LA Ag Center – Youth Rice Field Day - Lanette Hebert
  - Request of funding for a Youth Rice Field Day not to exceed amount of \$3,000
  - As of now, this is a one time request

## **Act on Funding Requests**

**MOTION** by Mark Pousson; **SECOND** by Kent Brown  
To accept funding of Ag Magic in the amount of \$1,000.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Tommy Faulk; **SECOND** by Christian  
To accept funding of the Crawfish & Rice Joint Campaign in the amount of \$7,500 and the LA Radio Network Campaign in the amount of \$6,175  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Kent Brown; **SECOND** by Paul Zaunbrecher  
To accept funding of LA Farm Bureau - TWILA in the amount of \$5,000  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Mark Pousson; **SECOND** by Mark Fontenot  
To accept funding of LSU Ag Center – Youth Rice Field Day not to exceed \$3,000  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Tommy Faulk; **SECOND** by Eric Unkel  
To accept funding of US Rice Farmer’s Group not to exceed \$18,000  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Mark Frey; **SECOND** Christian Richard  
To accept funding of U. S. A. Rice Council at the minimum amount of \$400,000.00 but not to exceed \$1,000,000.00.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Mark Pousson; **SECOND** by Christian Richard  
To accept funding of Allie Shipley’s proposal for the social media campaign for the FYE 06/30/2026 in the amount of \$ 6,000.00.  
**MOTION CARRIED.** Kent Brown abstained from voting.

#### **Act on Contracts**

##### **Nicole DeJean-Broussard, CPA LLC**

**MOTION** by Tommy Faulk; **SECOND** by Mark Pousson  
To approve and allow the Chairman to sign the contract with Nicole DeJean-Broussard, CPA LLC for professional accounting services for an annual fee of \$5,075.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

##### **Vincent & Heard Law Offices, LLC**

**MOTION** by Mark Pousson; **Second** by Paul Zaunbrecher  
To approve and allow the Chairman to sign the contract with Vincent & Heard Law Offices, LLC for professional legal services for an annual fee no greater than \$2,000  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

##### **U. S. A. Rice Council**

**MOTION** by Paul Zaunbrecher; **Second** by Mark Frey  
To approve and allow the Chairman to sign the contract with U. S. A. Rice Council  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

##### **USA Rice Federation/Farmer’s Group**

**MOTION** by Mark Frey; **Second** by Tommy Faulk  
To approve and allow the Chairman to sign the contract with USA Rice Federation/Farmer’s Group  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

##### **Allie Shipley**

**MOTION** by Eric Unkel; **Second** by Mark Pousson  
To approve and allow the Chairman to sign the contract with USA Rice Federation/Farmer’s Group  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **Amended Budget and New Budget**

### **2024 – 2025 Amended Budget**

**MOTION** by Trevor Hair; **Second** by Kent Brown  
To approve the 2024 – 2025 Amended Budget  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **2025 – 2026 Budget**

**MOTION** by Mark Frey; **Second** by Tommy Faulk  
To approve the 2025 – 2026 Amended Budget  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **Election of Officers**

Chairman Fontenot requested nominations for the Officers.

**MOTION** by Eric Unkel, **Second** by ALL  
To nominate Kane Fontenot as Chairman.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Mark Frey, **Second** by Eric Unkel  
To nominate Scott Franklin as Vice-Chairman.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Paul Zaunbrecher, **Second** by Mark Frey  
To nominate Thomas “Tommy” Faulk as Secretary/Treasurer.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Kent Brown, **Second** by Mark Pousson  
To nominate Thomas Faulk, Christian Richard and Paul Zaunbrecher as signatories on the checking account.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **Appointments**

**MOTION** by Eric Unkel, **Second** by Trevor Hair  
To appoint Dylan Heard as the Board’s Education Liaison on Ethics.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION** by Eric Unkel; **Second** by Thomas Faulk  
To appoint Christian Richard as the board’s representative to Louisiana Rice Producers’ Group.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Other Business**

Chairman Fontenot discussed having a meeting in November.

### **Legal Update**

Dr. Strain gave an update on the pending lawsuit.

### **Public Comments**

Chairman Fontenot called for public comments.

No public comments were made.

### **Adjournment**

**MOTION** by Mark Pousson; **Second** by ALL  
To adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:11 pm