LOUISIANA BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION COMMITTEE

December 13, 2011

10:00 a.m.

Veterans’ Memorial Auditorium

5825 Florida Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Minutes

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Danny Logan at 10:05 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called by DeAnna Cole.

Members present: Travis Walker, Tim White, Todd Parker (Representing Commissioner Strain), Danny Logan, Boyd Holley, Ben Gutherie, Jack Dailey, Dr. John Kruse (representing Chancellor Richardson).

Others present:Marc Bordelon, Craig Roussel, Ashley Dupree, Kurt Moreau, Nolan Adcock, Becky Wilkerson, John Dumas, Vernon Thomas, Martin Close, Bridgette Ott, Bobby Simoneaux, Michael Vallen (Hearing Officer), Karen Logan and DeAnna Cole.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** Mr. Dailey made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 23, 2011 meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Holley and passed unanimously.

**ADJUDICATORY HEARING**

Case #11BW01-James Robert Guillot dba Little Brake Farms, LLC, was presented by Mrs. Dupree.

Mr. Bordelon stated that, on or about August 24, 2011, Mr. Guillot moved four (4) pieces of cotton harvest equipment into the state illegally. Mr. Guillot stipulated to the illegal movement of the equipment. Included in the stipulation was the Commission’s recommendation of a $20,000.00 fine with $16,000.00 suspended provided there are no future violations of Boll Weevil Law or Regulations through December 31, 2016. The remaining $4,000.00 is payable within thirty (30) days unless a suitable payment arrangement has been made. If timely payment is not made in accordance with any payment arrangement the entire amount of the fine will be due and payable at that time.

Stipulation received. **Motion:** Mr. Parker made a motion to accept the recommended stipulation. This motion was seconded by Mr. Holley and passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Mr. Holley made a motion to accept the penalty charges. This motion was seconded by Mr. Parker and passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Bordelon informed the commission that throughout the 2011 crop year, no boll weevils were captured. The department will also be coordinating with Cheminova on obtaining a refund for products that were purchased for the Boll Weevil program that are no longer used.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Report for the Commissioner**

Mr. Parker, representing Commissioner Strain, commended the board, along with the department staff for their hard work and said that Commissioner Strain is very pleased. Mr. Parker also announced several staff changes within the division. Mrs. Ott will be relocating and Ms. Cole will be filling her position. Also, Mr. Roussel will be retiring.

Mr. Simoneaux updated the board on the progress of the Dow chemical, “Sulfoxaflor.” Discussion followed.

Mr. Roussel shared his plans for his future along with thanking everyone for the opportunity and the many memories.

**Update from the Director**

Mr. Bordelon reported that to date the commission had collected $1,757,672.53 in assessments, penalties, and fines. Also, six liens totaling $9,409.35 are still pending.

Mr. Adcock reported that there are still five fields that have cotton stalks remaining in the Monroe area. Mr. Dumas also reported that there are two fields in Winnsboro area with cotton stalks remaining.

**Technical Advisory Committee**

Dr. Kruse commented on the great relationship between the Department of Agriculture and LSU AgCenter.

Mr. Logan spoke about the need to progress on not requiring plant stalks being destroyed each crop year. Mr. Bordelon stated that he felt the stalk destruction regulations should not be relaxed as long as portions of Texas are still in the active phase of eradication.

**Farm Bureau Oversight Committee Report**

Mr. Breaux shared his appreciation to the commission for all the hard work.

**ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

Mr. Bordelon presented the board members with lapel pins for their service to the commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURN**

**Motion:** Mr. Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:58 a.m. This motion was seconded by Mr. Holley and passed unanimously.