

**Summary of the Fur Advisory Council Meeting
May 6, 2014
New Iberia, Louisiana**

Council Present

Archie Domangue
Frank Ellender
Charles Pettefer, Jr.
James Gallaspy
Ryan Schaefer
Tony Howard
John Linzay
Judge Edwards

LDWF Presence

Tanya Sturman
Edmond Mouton
Buddy Baker
Bob Love

Others Present

Marco Demory

Council Absent

Steve Hughes

Jimmy motioned to approve the minutes from the March meeting. Tony seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Education Program

Quentin introduced himself and explained what he does within the Education program. He talked about reeducating the public who has misinformation. He went over the major points that he hits at every event. He said that the schools and libraries reach a big crowd and that the reception is positive. The teacher's conventions are not as productive. He recommended that the Council consider doing some trapping demonstrations at the State Fair.

Tony said that he would like to see Quentin talk more about the evolution of the industry.

Edmond said that it would be inappropriate to discuss the specific scope of service in front of a potential bidder on the RFP.

Edmond recommended doing a one year period with Quentin with what he is already doing and fund some trapping workshops independently in the meantime. Then the Council could work out the details on what they want to do for an RFP. Frank asked about tweaking the scope to try a pilot program with the trapping workshop.

Buddy advised against doing a little bit of a bunch of things. He is concerned about throwing together a quick trapping workshop. He encouraged them to take some time to develop a well thought out program before they try to implement it. Bob mentioned the Venise Ortigo is a good resource within the Department.

John Linzay said that he has instructed in five trapping workshops. They have used the state facility. John said that the foundation for the trapping workshops is there already.

Frank suggested that Denise Ortigo could observe a trapping workshop and suggest things that we could do to improve it.

Ryan asked if the unused budget would roll over into the next year. He said that he would rather spend it now on something. Edmond said that the Council could fund the program with Quentin and give money to trapping workshops through the Trappers Association.

Ryan said he would like to work out a scope of service via committee and come back in a month to six weeks to vote on the contract.

Frank appointed Tony, Archie, Judge and Ryan to be on a committee to work out a scope of service.

Buddy clarified that the committee will work on the scope of service for a one year contract and will later work on a scope of service for a three year RFP.

Turkish Fair Update

Edmond said that the Turkish Fair amendment is on hold due to the spending freeze. The amendment can be resubmitted when the spending freeze is lifted. The travel requests are also being held due to the spending freeze.

Other Business

John Linzay said that some landowners with high fences want coyotes removed during the off season period. Coyotes and raccoons are hurting turkey nests. This does not fall under the nuisance control program because it is wildlife on wildlife. John wants to know what tools they can use. Edmond said that he would have to look into it and talk to enforcement. John asked about outside of a high fence. Edmond said he would look into it. Edmond said a 30 day special permit may be possible.

Edmond said it would be better to tweak the definition of nuisance control than to tweak trapping rules.

Jimmy asked about the five-state regional trappers' convention. John said that it is set for October.

Edmond suggested that we order some more fur rings. It takes about a year to get an order through. Maybe the Council can consider this purchase at the next meeting. John asked about getting better quality samples. Bob said that we can specify the grade.

Tanya reminded everyone about the Financial Disclosure Forms due May 15.

Buddy said he would like Edmond to do a budget update at the next meeting.

Buddy said that they are trying to get polar bears uplisted to appendix 1.

John asked about delisting bobcats. Buddy said that they tried twice, but they failed both times. The U.S. government will not support trying again at this time. Buddy said that any fur controlled by CITES devalues the fur, because many people believe that they should use products controlled by CITES. He also said that the administrative costs are high to manage the tagging system.

Ryan motioned to adjourn. John seconded. Motion carried unanimously.