

**Summary of the Fur Advisory Council Meeting  
February 4, 2014  
New Iberia, Louisiana**

**Council Present**

Archie Domangue  
Frank Ellender  
Charles Pettefer, Jr.  
James Gallaspy  
Steve Hughes  
Tony Howard  
Judge Edwards

**LDWF Presence**

Tanya Sturman  
Edmond Mouton  
Buddy Baker  
Bob Love

**Others Present**

Quincy Verret and wife  
Ryan Schaefer  
Tim Allen

**Council Absent**

Allan Ensminger  
John Linzay

Jimmy motioned to approve the minutes from the October meeting. Charlie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Beijing Update- Tony Howard**

Tony said that there was a lot of interest in wild fur. The booth space was well placed. We were in the middle and close to the front. He said that one of our largest buyers kept talking about the nutria not having a standard. Archie provided traditional standards for the nutria.

Tony showed pictures of Chinese farmed skins. The Chinese mink were flatter and the leather was thinner.

He showed pictures of laser cut designs in the fur of nutria and seal. He said that nutria is similar to seal in how it can be cut with a laser. We need to know how many square centimeters we can get out of a hide. The buyer is comparing price per square centimeter.

Louisiana samples were in poor condition at the booth. We need new samples, and he thinks they can be donated. Jimmy suggested that Michael use the samples for one year and then we could donate them to the 4H clubs. Jimmy said to tan with Moen tannery. Edmond said that he'd prefer to keep educational furs separate from show furs, because of the quality difference.

Tony said Nick was a fluent translator. He didn't feel like we had a quality translator this year. Edmond explained the history of Nick's contract and that the Department dropped his contract when he was living in England. Tanya said that Nick is now living in China. Buddy suggested that communication had degraded between Michael and Nick. Frank asked Tony to talk to both of them.

Tony showed pictures of some of the creative ways that they are using small amounts of fur.

Jimmy motioned to form a committee to research a nutria standard. Tony seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Turkey Fur Fair**

Tony said that Turkey is a gateway to Russia, and he thinks the Council should be present at the Fair. After a discussion and some follow up questions that should be presented to Michael, the Council decided to table the fair consideration until the next meeting.

### **Washington D.C. RFP Consideration**

Edmond explained the history of the contract and the good that the current contractor, Glenn Delaney, has done. He has lately worked with the feral swine issue. Since the federal government has been under restraint, he has not secured research budget during the past year. Edmond read the scope of service that had previously been submitted to the Council for review.

Charlie motioned to publish the RFP. Judge seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Coastwide Nutria Control Program Update**

There are a few leases on Marsh Island, but most nutria harvest is in the eastern part of the state. There are almost 400 applications in for the nutria program already. Most nutria are shot by rifle. The others are trapped. Almost 4,000 whole carcasses have been brought out of the marsh. Almost 140,000 tails have come out.

Edmond explained the regulations for disposing of nutria in the marsh. The belly must be cut, for example. Regulations are created to protect eagles from eating nutria with shot in them.

### **Other Business**

Jimmy is concerned about picking up fur. If Jimmy has an unlicensed employee pick up fur, he cannot legally carry the fur. Edmond said that if Jimmy has his license under his business name, then it should be okay. Tony said that putting it under his business name has worked for him. Edmond said that different wildlife agents will tell you a different thing. He said it's safer to have each person have a license.

Tony asked about bears getting caught in snares. Edmond told him to ask Maria. Edmond agreed to ask Maria himself, if the Trapper's Association would send him an email requesting that.

Jimmy motioned to adjourn. Tony seconded. Motion carried unanimously.