

**Summary of the Fur Advisory Council Meeting  
July 20, 2011  
New Iberia, Louisiana**

**Council Present**

Archie Domangue  
Curtis Cruse  
Frank Ellender  
Sam Smith  
Charles Pettefer, Jr.  
James Gallaspy

**LDWF Presence**

Tanya Sturman  
Edmond Mouton  
Bob Love

**Others**

**Council Absent**

John Linzay  
Allan Ensminger  
Judge Edwards

Curtis motioned to approve the minutes from the May meeting. Archie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Election of Officers**

Archie motioned to keep the same officers. Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Education Contract**

Edmond explained the RFP process. Only two proposers submitted proposals. One was the current contractor, Quentin Morris, and the other was from a firm. Mr. Morris scored the highest and his price was about half of that from the other proposer. A contract was drafted based on the RFP and the price submitted by Mr. Morris. This is a three year contract. The purpose is to educate the general public about wildlife management and habitat as it relates to the fur industry. Key points regarding positive information about trapping are outlined in the contract. The cost is \$54,000 total for three years.

James motioned to issue this contract. Frank seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

James said that he thought the contract was getting better and better. Curtis stated that Quentin was making a real effort to learn more about the nuts and bolts of trapping. James said that he took Quentin trapping last winter.

**Chinese Fur Contract**

Edmond talked about the Chinese contractor. Nick Shao came to Louisiana this spring with some Chinese buyers. He speaks English well and was able to facilitate meetings. He works year round in Hong Kong and mainland China. He has worked at the Beijing Fur Show on Louisiana's behalf for several years. His scope of service is very similar to his contract from last year. His current proposal is to continue this work for an additional three years for a total of \$25,000.

Frank motioned to issue this contract. Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Edmond went through his list and reported how much the buyers were buying and at what price. James asked if the Nutria Control Program would continue. Edmond said that he believes so. There are two years ahead of us now. The program has been successful. The cost benefit is high.

### **Quadruped Legislation Update**

Edmond explained that there was already legislation in place. This new bill amended the existing law. The newest legislation added otter, muskrat and mink to the previous list of opossums, raccoons, nutria and beaver as species that crawfish farmers and landowners can take if the animals are destroying the crawfish stock and ponds. The Department was asked to give an opinion, and the Department opposed the new legislation, especially for otter, since they are controlled by CITES. The bill passed and was signed into law.

Frank suggested that Mark Shirley give Curtis a list of crawfish farmers, so that trappers can contact the farms directly and offer their services. Curtis said that he'd like to attend the next Crawfish meeting.

### **Other Business**

The Louisiana Trappers and Alligator Hunters Association has requested 50 trapping kits to give away at their trapping workshops. The cost is just under \$2,000. The Council could purchase these supplies directly and then donate the supplies to the association. Curtis said that they teach them how to tune a trap and make inexpensive lures. More licenses are sold. Older people are also coming to the workshop. Curtis explained how the two day workshops operate. They do everything from setting traps to cleaning and stretching the hides. They also do a classroom session on ethics, rules and regulations.

**James motioned to purchase the trapping supplies. Curtis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Curtis motioned to purchase 20,000 tattoos. James seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

The Council talked briefly about the displays.

Edmond gave the Council an update on a bill that he has been working on since 2009. This bill would provide funding to Louisiana for wetland habitat protection. New bills have been submitted in both the house and the senate to fund this nutria eradication program. Another bill is under consideration to start a feral swine program. Glenn Delaney is working on getting some other states on board.

Edmond reported on the snare issue. He is staying on top of it. He has gathered data showing that more bear are killed by trains and cars than by snares. Edmond suggested publishing recommended procedures for trapping hogs.

Frank asked about media. Edmond said that he gets a lot of calls from media. It increases tourist hunters.

**James motioned to adjourn. Archie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**