

LOUISIANA SEAFOOD SAFETY TASK FORCE

MINUTES

December 09, 2025, at 10:00 A.M.

Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry  
Veterans' Memorial Auditorium  
5825 Florida Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Director, Mr. Gene Cavalier, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

II. **ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

Ms. Blaire LeBlanc, LDAF Staff, called roll, and the following Commission Members were present:

**Commission Members Present**

Ms. Allison Dumas  
Dr. Evelyn Watts  
Mr. Chalin Delaune  
Ms. Theresa Sokol  
Mr. Andrew Blanchard  
Mr. JB Hanks  
Mr. Patrick Banks  
Ms. Rachael Mathews  
Mr. Will DuBos  
Ms. Jessica Elliott

**Alternates Present:**

Shelly Dupre

With Ten (10) members present and One (1) alternate, a quorum was declared.

The following members were absent: Representative Christopher Turner (Chairman), Senator Micheal Fesi, Ms. Martina Salles and David Savoy.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

- a. Representative Tim Kerner expressed his concern for transparency in processing plants and thanked the seafood safety task force for their work.

IV. **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2025, MINUTES.**

Mr. Patrick Banks moved to amend the minutes from the September 18, 2025, meeting. Mr. Andrew Blanchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**V. LDAF SEAFOOD INDUSTRY SAFETY FEE AND REPORTING FORM UPDATE (POWER POINT PRESENTATION).**

- a. Full power point presentation attached.

**VI. LDAF W&M INSPECTION NUMBERS & LAB TEST RESULTS TO DATE.**

- a. Seafood Testing.
  - i. 428 seafood samples have been collected as of December 08, 2025. Of the 428 seafood samples, 408 have completed the testing process.
  - ii. The following positive test in shrimp samples:
    - 1. Florfenicol from a product of Thailand.
    - 2. Ciprofloxacin from a product of India.
    - 3. Nitrofurantoin metabolite SEM from a product of India.
    - 4. Nitrofurantoin metabolite AOZ from a product of Indonesia.
- b. Seafood Labeling.
  - i. 925 packages were inspected as of December 08, 2025.
  - ii. Inspections were performed at 86 locations statewide.
  - iii. 23 instances of packages not in compliance.
  - iv. 18 stop orders resulting in 724 packages that had to be removed and/or corrected.

**VII. LDH INSPECTION NUMBERS TO DATE AND PROTOCOL FOR POSITIVE TESTED SEAFOOD.**

- a. Mr. Gene Cavalier provided an update from Mr. Greg Richard, LDH on imported seafood inspections in the restaurant industry from mid-September 2025 to December 2025.
- b. Mr. Gene Cavalier provided information from Ms. Jennifer Armentor, LDH, on the LDH protocol for destruction of positive-tested seafood.

**VIII. CHALLENGES AND LEGISLATION FOR LOUISIANA SEAFOOD INDUSTRY.**

Board members discussed industry challenges and whether future legislation could assist with these challenges. No action was taken.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS.**

Patrick Banks, LDWF, gave an update on the imported seafood dealer licenses issued this year. Also, that Dr. Jack Issac, Economist for LDWF, did an economic analysis on all imports coming from Indonesia.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

- a. Rusty Gaudet, LaSea Grant, requested seafood safety task force send transcripts to NOAA as a comment from LDAF before the executive order.
- b. A motion was made by Mr. Will Dubois to submit comment on the executive order to NOAA on behalf of the seafood safety task force and seconded by Mr. Andrew Blanchard. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

**XI. SET NEXT MEETING DATE.**

February 09, 2025.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made at 11:50 a.m. to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Andrew Blanchard and seconded by Mr. Will Dubois. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

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Chairman Signature

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Printed Name

TENTATIVE