

Louisiana Oyster Task Force Meeting
John Tesvich, Chairman

The following is the agenda for the Louisiana Oyster Task Force Meeting. The public is invited to attend.

Thursday, May 23 1:00 PM

UNO Advanced Technology Center, 2021 Lakeshore Drive, Suite 210, New Orleans

Minutes

I. Roll Call-meeting called order at 1:03 p.m.

Present:

Sam Slavich

Gordon Leblanc in for Tenney Sibley

Chip Kline

Mark Schexnyder

Dan Coulon

Byron Encalade

Jakov Jurisic

Buddy Pausina

Brandt Lafrance

Al Sunseri

Shane Bagala

John Tesvich

Karl Morgan

Brad Robin

Peter Vujnovich

Eddie Skena in for Major Sammy Martin

Absent:

Jerome Zeringue

Wilbert Collins

*This meeting is being held in compliance with
Louisiana's Open Meetings Law as defined by La. R.S. 42:11, et seq.*

Guests:

Tom Soniat-UNO

Elizabeth Leidinger- GCR

Donovan Burke-LDWF

Marcia Fanara- LDWF

Lucy Boutte-LDWF

Jon Bell- LSUAC

Steven Voisin- Motivati

John Supan- LSU SeaGrant

Chris Lemaire- DHH

Patrick Banks-LDWF

Ty Lindsey- LDWF

Julia Lightner-LDWF

Drue Winters- Governors Office

Susan Colley-UNO

Raymond Impastato- LDWF

John Fallon-Audubon Gulf

Katie Semon- LDWF

Alexandra Skaggs- GNO, Inc

Mark Naquin- Mark's Oysters

Taylor Naquin- Mark's Oysters

Andre Lyon- Lyon productions

Corey Miller- Costal Restoration Coastal Louisiana

Steven Stegall- Appraiser

II. Approval of March 19, 2013 MINUTES

Motion to approve the March 19 minutes by Jakov Jurisic, second by Sam Slavich. Motion adopted.

III. Treasury Report

A. Oyster Tag Sales-March tag sales ,160,000

B. LOTF Financial Report- fund balance is 216, 304 and budget balance is 65,250.

Al Sunseri asked for an accounting from the state treasurer of the Oyster Development Account over the last 10 years, abbreviated.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report by Pete Vujnovich, second by Al Sunseri.

Motion adopted.

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IV. Committee Reports

- A. Public and Private Oyster Grounds Committee – no report
- B. Enforcement - Eddie Skena reporting on behalf of Captain McManus—significant increase in theft in oysters on private lease in Terrebonne and Plaquemines Parish. Lots of violations on waste receptacles must be marked for human waste only. Two gallon container per person. **Motion by Buddy Pausina that the department of Wildlife and Fisheries supply buckets of various sizes and decals for human waste. Second by Jakov Jurisic. John Tesvich also suggested education to the industry. Mr. Buddy Pausina will amend the motion to include an education component, maybe another round of public meetings if necessary. Second Jakov Jurisic accepts the amendment. Motion adopted.**
- C. Legislative – John Tesvich went over the bills that LDWF submitted, both of the bills are moving through the legislature.
- D. Research – John Supan didn't have a report
- E. Coastal Restoration – Dan Coulon presented to the group the cards from Farm Bureau that allow you to weigh in on your vote on certain legislative bills. Ashley Roth will get Chip Kline the list of oyster task force members for the Oyster Advisory Council meeting announcements.
- F. Marketing – Dan Coulon asked about sponsoring a shucking demo at a festival or another event that we do. Al Sunseri brought up the grant that GOIC received for marketing and some of the things they are working in.
- G. Health – Gordon Leblanc addressed the group regarding the May 1 refrigeration guidelines.
Dan Coulon asked that we send a plaque to David Guilbeau, second by Jakov Jurisic. Motion carried. Ashley Roth will look into the cost of the plaque.
- H. Sustainability- John Tesvich asked that maybe the research committee looked into the lack of production and rebuilding of seed grounds. John Supan will send out the document they created about 4 years ago and that the research committee can meet again.

Drue Winters gave an early restoration update. Four barrier islands and a fishery enhancement center. More than half of the funds for the 28 projects are going to Louisiana. Public meeting will be held probably sometime in July. She will let them know. Restore Act trust fund being funded by clean water act fines, 80 percent will go to Louisiana. Public Meeting on June 12 at Belle Chasse Auditorium.

Kristin McLaren and Ewell Smith addressed the OTF regarding Senate Bill 167.

Jakov Jurisic made a motion to adopt the resolution presented to the OTF regarding Senate Bill 167, second by Dan Coulon. Buddy Pausina said that the word bifurcation should be struck. Al Sunseri said he would be against the resolution because they needed to move faster and that the chairmen of the various organizations (OTF, shrimp task force, LSPMB, etc.) go meet with the parties involved (Chabert, Lt. Governor, etc.).

Buddy Pausina made a substitute motion to vote for Senate Bill 167, for, against or abstain. Second by Dan Coulon.

4 members oppose the bill.

6 members want to abstain.

V. Old Business

- A. BP Oil Spill Remediation**
 - 1. Claims Process
 - 2. Public Reef Remediation
 - 3. Oyster Lease Remediation
- B. Out Da Bayou**

VI. New Business

- A. Tom Soniat- Stock assessment workshop on August 29---task force needs to appoint someone to be their representative there. Peter Vujnovich will go again. Dermo Study--- motion by Peter Vujnovich dermo study in the amount of \$6,700, second by Shane Bagala. Motion adopted.**
- B. GOIC/ISSC Meetings- October 26-November 1 ISSC Meeting in October in San Antonio. Sal Sunseri made a motion to send any task force members that would like to attend. Second by Jakov Jurisic. Motion adopted.**

Mark Schexnyder presented a certified oyster basket from the hardware store and wants to help educate the industry on this. John Tesvich said this can be discussed in the public/private oyster grounds committee. Buddy Pausina said the research committee would be better, but it will stay with the public/private grounds committee. Al Sunseri said they should go through the labeling requirements and the shucked requirements. This might be thorough a different committee.

VII. Set Next Meeting- Tuesday, August 13 at 1 p.m.

VIII. Adjourn- Motion to adjourn by Dan Coulon, second by Jakov Jurisic. Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.