

**Oyster Task Force Meeting
Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 1:00PM
UNO Advanced Technology Center
2021 Lakeshore Dr., STE 210
New Orleans, LA 70122**

Meeting called to order at 1:05PM

Allison West called roll:

Voting-Members Present:

Shane Bagala
Dan Coulon
Byron Encalade
Mitch Jurisich
Brandt LaFrance
Al Sunseri
John Tesvich
Sam Slavich
Peter Vujnovich
Willie Daisy

Voting-Members Absent:

Wilbert Collins
Leo Dyson
Jakov Jurisic
Brad Robin

Non-Voting Members Present:

Mark Schexnayder
Gordon Leblanc in for Lance Broussard
Captain Chad Hebert
Karl Morgan

Motion to approve the March 29, 2016 meeting minutes by Peter Vujnovich, 2nd by Byron Encalade. Motion carries

Motion to approve the amended May 17, 2016 agenda by Peter Vujnovich, 2nd by Dan Coulon. Motion carries

Public and Private Oyster Grounds Committee:

No Report

Enforcement Report:

Chad Hebert provided the enforcement report

Legislative Report:

No Report

Research Report:

No Report

Health Report:

Gordon Leblanc thanked the TF for their sponsorship funding for the shellfish conference on the 7, 8, & 9th of June

Coastal Restoration Report:

No Report

Marketing Report:

Allison West presented to the TF possible pin options

Al Sunseri made a motion to get 100 lapel pins and nametag pins, 2nd by Peter Vujnovich. Motion carries.

Karen Profita with the Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board presented the OTF summary of efforts

Sustainability Report:

Damon Morris stated that on June 14 and 15 there will an auditing team meeting, if anyone would like to participate

Professionalism Report:

Currently working on mechanics of the training

Al Sunseri suggested getting an outlined version of the training to the TF in addition to the video portion

Aquaculture Report:

Al Sunseri requested a report on the hatchery to provide an update on preparedness for this year and the plan moving forward

Al Sunseri addressed the TF on the Congressional Staff Tour

Al Sunseri made a motion to move item 'B. Legislative Update' as the last item under new business, 2nd by Dan Coulon, Motion carries,

Corey Miller/ Debra Abibou with Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana presented to the TF an update on the Shell Recycling Program

Steve Beck addressed the TF on industry advancement grants

Have to focus on harvest requirements for refrigeration, harvesting quality and standards, transport techniques, quality improvement

Steve Beck provided an update on the Public Oyster Seed Ground season summary

Kristy Mcdonough provided the TF with an update on the Public Oyster Seed Ground Account and areas

Al Sunseri made a motion for the TF to draft a letter in regards to the area in Little Lake that is being taken out of the system, 2nd by Peter Vujnovich. Motion carries.

Al Sunseri stated that he would work with the chairman in writing a letter and suggested that other TF members who have experience in the Little Lake area extend their help as well.

The TF was supportive of all season summary updates with the exception of Little Lake

Cole Garrett presented the TF with a legislative update

Al Sunseri asked that Cole Garrett and WLF enforcement represent the industry at the Senate Natural Resources hearing to express the wishes and interest of the TF to oppose shoreline buffer zones

Dan Coulon made a motion to oppose the amendment to House Bill 902, 'Phase 2' that would require all lease expansions, in Phase 2, to leave a 100ft shoreline buffer zone, 2nd by Sam Slavich. Motion carries.

Byron Encalade addressed the TF with tax exemptions- damages on oyster leases- bring this discussion to the organizations that the TF represent for discussion

The next OTF meeting set for August 23 for 1pm in New Orleans

Motion to adjourn by Brandt LaFrance, 2nd by Dan Coulon. Motion carries

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm