

Shrimp Task Force August 6, 2013 Meeting

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Clint Guidry at 10: 02 a.m. in Houma, La at the Terrebonne Council Meeting Room.

I. Roll Call and introduction of guests

Present	Absent
Alan Gibson	Mark Abraham
Andrew Blanchard	Alberto DuPuy
Byron Despaux	Mark Schexnayder
Clint Guidry	Dr. Carrie Castille
Lance Nacio	George Barisich
Acy Cooper-entered at 10:06	Harry Cheramie
Dr. Jack Isaacs	Tenney Sibley
Mayor Jubal Marceax in for Col. Mayne	
Marty Bourgeois in for Mark Schexnayder	

Guests

Erin Brown-LDWF	Jason Froeba-LDWF
Julia Lightner- LDWF	Marlee Morris-LDWF
Alan Matherne- LSU Sea Grant	Lucy Boutte-LDWF
John Fallon-Audubon Nature Institute	Ty Medlen-LDWF
Aubrey Billiot- industry member	Damon Morris-LDWF
Betty Billiot- industry member	Chance Ryan-LDWF
Larry Alexie- industry member	Ewell Smith- LSPMB
Joy Alexie- industry member	Kristin McLaren-LSPMB
Barry Rogers-industry member	Cullen Curole-South Central Planning and Development
Warren Delacroix- industry member	Marla Cooper- Plaquemine Parish
Ronnie Anderson-industry member	Doug Daigle- La Hypoxia Working Group

Approval of March 14, 2013 Minutes and August 6, 2013 Agenda

Motion to approve minutes by Andrew Blanchard, second by Byron Despaux, Motion adopted.

Motion to add item 5a1. Diversion Discussion by Andrew Blanchard, second by Alan Gibson. Motion adopted.

Motion to adopt agenda by Alan Gibson, second by Andrew Blanchard.

Budget Report – Rene LeBreton reported that the remaining budget balance is \$67,031.98

Motion to fund the seafood promotion and marketing board for \$27,750. Second by Lance Nacio. Motion adopted.

Major Jubal Marceaux addressed the group regarding meeting with Crab Task Force and serviceable crab trap law.

It was suggested that the task force look into drafting a notice of intent or legislation that would allow for no more than 4 serviceable crab traps to remain onboard a shrimping vessel while engaged in shrimp activities.

Motion by Andy Gibson to have the department look into the derelict crab trap laws and have a notice of intent or legislation drafted second by Lance Nacio. Motion passed.

Cole Garrett from LDWF addressed the task force on the Secretary's authority in setting seasons.

Some fishermen gave public comment on the shrimp seasons, recommendation is to hold shrimp task force meetings prior to the April and August commission meetings.

Task force wants to continue industry outreach regarding skimmer size.

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

Louisiana Hypoxia Working Group- Doug Daigle/Clint Guidry

Clint Guidry said that a task force member should be on the hypoxia working group, Motion by Andy Gibson, second by Lance Nacio to support the state hypoxia group and also write a letter to NOAA to ask that they continue funding studies on hypoxia. Marty Bourgeois will write letter. Motion adopted.

Resolution opposing additional river water or sediment diversion projects or modifications to existing diversion projects or modifications to existing diversions into the Barataria or Pontchartrain basin that will cause irreparable harm to our commercial shrimp fishery, businesses dependent on our industry and to the livelihood and culture of our coastal fishing communities as a whole.

Adopted by the entire task force. Clint Guidry said he will get with Ashley Roth to make sure that copies of this go out to others, including the Governor's Office.

Marty Bourgeois went over task force vacancies and asked for recommendations from the task force and American Shrimp Processors Association.

Update on Artificial Reef Fund- program to assist all docks and processors get up to health code requirements for certification program, program would be to help improve quality of catch through refrigeration.

Motion to meet with Jason Froeba to discuss these items on the Management Sub Committee level (Lance Nacio, Andy Gibson and Clint Guidry)

Jason Froeba talked about conversion rates for certification program and presented his staff's numbers recommendations based on National Marine Fishery Standards. Headless shrimp would yield 62-64 percent headless and peeled 49 percent, headless, peeled and deveined yield 48 percent. Lance Nacio recommended that Jason Froeba speak with Dr. Jon Bell.

Andy Gibson and Clint Guidry recommended that the department reach out to the industry.

Department is asking for representatives on a voluntary continuing education steering committee. A fisherman and dealer representative from each task force to sit on the committee.

Ewell Smith addressed the task force on top markets for shrimp and trade programs are on hold until another ruling from ethics committee on trade programs.

Marty Bourgeois reported on the NOAA Ted Program

Cole Garret gave an update on the 2013 legislative session, HB 142 – Crab trap mesh size
HB 426 – Composition of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and
SB 167 – Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board

Jack Isaacs presented his seafood processor survey results.

Public Comment- comment on lake of seafood supply in the lake due to MRGO.

The chairman made a motion that the department and other state agencies to do research and tracking of Lake Pontchartrain area and the effects of MRGO. Second by Lance Nacio. Motion adopted.

Set Next Meeting- motion by Lance Nacio that we have quarterly meetings and also meet prior to the setting of seasons. second by Andy.

Adjourn - Motion to adjourn by Andy Gibson, second by Lance Nacio. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

DRAFT