**Finfish Task Force Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 1:00PM**

**The Louisiana Room**

**2000 Quail Drive**

**Baton Rouge, LA 70808**

Jason Adriance called the meeting to order at 1:00PM and began with task force introductions

**Roll call and introduction of guests**

**Members Present:**

Adam Eitmann

Jason Adriance

Major Chad Hebert

Dr. Jack Isaacs

Douglas Olander

Wayne Rollo

Daryl Simon

James Pelas

Acy Cooper, III

Ronald Pierce

George Huge

Benjamin Graham

Stuart Billeaud

Eugene Hoover

Steve Rockwieler

Senator Robert Allain- Chairman

Representative John Stefanski

**Members Absent:**

John Walther

Lance Broussard

Wayne Rollo

Daniel Edgar

Adam Guillory

Representative John Stefanski motioned to accept the December 5, 2017 meeting agenda, 2nd by Eugene Hoover. Motion carries.

Brett Robinson with the LA Board of Ethics addressed the task force with discussion of the Finfish Task Force ethics requirements

Jason Adriance presented the task force with draft bylaws for their review

The task force made a request to invite the Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board to the next meeting to discuss their summary of efforts and receive input

The task force made a request for LDWF to distribute a white paper on the current rules and regulations of the mullet black drum, fisheries; current stock assessments

The task force requested for LDWF to provide an update on red snapper; current stock assessment and regulations

Future agenda items for consideration:

1. Mullet fishery issues- Acy Cooper, III
2. Update on the status of black drum- LDWF
3. Discussion on finfish trawling- LDWF
4. Freshwater stock assessment information 2nd quarter meeting- Eugene Hoover
5. Discussion of mariculture and aquaculture- George Huye
6. Consideration and election of vice-chair- Chairman Senator Allain
7. Update on red snapper (2nd quarter meeting)- Rep. John Stefanski

**Public Comment:**

Thomas Hymel with the LSU Ag Center provided the task force with an overview of program offerings and upcoming events. More information can be found by visiting the following websites:

Louisiana Fisheries Forward: [www.lafisheriesforward.org](http://www.lafisheriesforward.org)

Louisiana Direct Seafood: <http://louisianadirectseafood.com>

The 2018 Louisiana Fisheries Forward Summit will be held on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at the Pontchartrain Center in Kenner, LA

David Cresson, of the Coastal Conservation Association, asked that board consider mariculture and aquaculture in future meeting discussion

Kindra Arnesen, a Louisiana Shrimp Association board member, requested that the board consider the public’s use and access to the finfish resource for future discussion

A Vermillion Bay Seafood representative expressed concern for low representation of dock buyers on the board

Next meeting date to be determined- proposed the first quarter of 2018

Motion to adjourn by Rep. John Stefanski, 2nd by George Huye. Motion carries.