**Crab Task Force Meeting**

**Tuesday, July 11, 2017, 1pm**

**Center for Energy Resource Management Building**

**2045 Lakeshore Dr., STE 216**

**New Orleans, LA 70148**

**Voting Members Present:**

Eric Blanchard

Chalin Delaune

LaQuita Meek

Sheb Callahan

Trudy Luke

Pete Gerica

George Jackson

Rodney Parfait

Warren Delacroix

**Voting Members Absent:**

James Bergeron

Paul Alfonso

Kim Alfonso

**Non-voting Members Present:**

Julie Lively

Mark Schexnayder

Jack Isaacs

Chad Hebert

Julie Falgout in for Melissa Daigle

Eric Blanchard made a motion to accept the April 11, 2017 meeting minutes, 2nd by Warren Delacroix. Motion carries

Motion by Eric Blanchard to amend the agenda to add item C. To Hear an Update on the Crab Trap Clean Up- John Lopez and item D. Discussion of Sustainability Certifications and Recommendations from the CTF for a Nominee for the Audubon Gulf Technical Advisor Committee- Damon Morris under ‘New Business’, 2nd by Warren Delacroix. Motion carries

Motion to accept the amended agenda by Eric Blanchard, 2nd by Warren Delacroix. Motion carries.

**Financial Report:**

Budget Balance: $ 37,394

Fund Balance: $178, 340

Motion to accept the financial report by Eric Blanchard, 2nd by Warren Delacroix. Motion carries.

Tabled item A. Update on Crab Task Force Name Tags under old business until the next meeting

Thomas Hymel addressed the TF with crab marketing opportunities

Jeff Marx led discussion on blue crab harvest restrictions

Rodney Parfait made a motion to close the season to all female crabs from March 1- April 30 in lieu of a 1-month crab season full closure, 2nd by LaQuita Meek. Motion passes with 6 to 3 vote.

John Lopez addressed the TF with discussion and feedback on derelict crab trap cleanups

Damon Morris led discussion on sustainability, stating that the Audubon Gulf Responsible Fisheries Management Research Program is requesting that the CTF nominate a crab fishery nominee to serve on the technical advisory committee.

Trudy Luke volunteered to serve on the committee as a crab fishery representative

Damon Morris stated that there will be a crab fisheries certification audit in October and there may be a need to discuss a funding mechanism in the future

Motion to adjourn by Eric Blanchard, 2nd by George Jackson. Motion carries.