

**LOUISIANA RICE PROMOTION BOARD
Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting Minutes**

**LSU AgCenter Rice Research Station, Crowley, LA
Monday, December 13, 2016**

Officers and Members Present:

John Owen, Kevin Berken, Jeff Durand, Ronald Habetz, Jimmy Hoppe, Christian Richard, Tommy Faulk, Glendon Marceaux, Kent Brown and Michelle Ribera (representative for Dr. Mike Strain)

Officers and Members Not Present:

Paul Johnson and Dr. Mike Strain

Staff Present:

Nicole Broussard and Scott Privat

Others Present:

Randy Jemison, Bruce Schultz and Eric Unkel

Call to order, opening comments and certification of quorum

Chairman Owen called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and welcomed members and guests. Quorum was certified.

Agenda review and approval of June 29, 2016 minutes

Chairman Owen presented the agenda for consideration.

The following items were added to the agenda:

- * Instate Promotion Update - Eric Unkel
- * Legal Update - Scott Privat

MOTION by Glen Marceaux ; **Second** by Ronald Habetz

To accept agenda as revised

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chairman Owen presented the draft minutes for review.

Page -6- of the minutes were revised to read as

- * Appointment of LARPB Representative to Louisiana Rice Producers' Group (previously stated as Rice Farmer's Group)

MOTION by Glen Marceaux ; **Second** by Ronald Habetz

To accept the June 29, 2016 minutes as revised

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Louisiana Department of Agriculture Report

Michelle Ribera was appointed by Dr. Mike Strain as his representative for the LA Dept of Agriculture. The LDAF Report was rendered.

In-state, Board-Directed Promotion Projects Update

Eric Unkel directed the members' attention to the in-state promotion report. Unkel provided a status report with goals and accomplishments for all in-state projects, including AgMagic, Louisiana Farm Bureau TV cooking segment, the National Rice Month 5-K Rice Run and the Louisiana Radio Network National Rice Month Radio Campaign.

Legal Update

Scott Privat reported on the following issues:

- * U. S. Rice Producers' Group Contract
The contract was corrected to read U. S. Rice Producers' Group instead of U. S. Rice Farmers' Group.

MOTION by Jimmy Hoppe ; **Second** by Tommy Faulk

To accept the U. S. Rice Producers' Group Contract as revised

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- * U. S. A. Rice Council Contract
The contract was finally approved.
- * Lawsuit
Supreme Court denied
- * Disclosures
Due by May 15, 2017 for the Calendar Year 2016
- * Ethics
Reminder to file for 2016 before year end
Send copy of certificate to Nicole Broussard for file

LARPB Financial Reports

Nicole Broussard, CPA with Broadhurst, Hamilton & Co., presented the current financial report noting that income to-date for the current fiscal year was \$186,369.48 with refunds to-date of \$11,324.50

Chairman Owen asked the Board to review the financial reports including the general ledger. There were no questions from the Board concerning the financial reports.

MOTION by Jimmy Hoppe, **SECOND** by Christian Richard

To approve financials statements as rendered.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Web page Update

Chairman Owen introduced Bruce Schultz. Mr. Schultz presented the LARPB web page (www.louisianarice.org) which went live in October 2016. The Board suggested items they would like added to the web page.

Other Business

Chairman Owen gave an update on his meeting with the Governor Edwards, Commissioner Dr. Strain, and Mr. Morrish.

Public Comments

Chairman Owen called for public comments. None were offered.

Adjournment

MOTION by Christian Richard; **Second** by Kevin Berken

To adjourn the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting at was adjourned at 11:19 p.m.