Minutes for November 13, 2013

LA Crawfish Research & Promotion Board

Deanie’s Restaurant

841 Iberville Street

New Orleans, La

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Meche called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present**   **Members Absent**

Jody Meche Ralph Babin

Mike Bienvenu David Savoy

Wylie Jewell

Greg Faulk

Bill Pizzolato

Robert Buller

Wayne Romig

Greg Benhard

Kip Lastrapes

Chandra Scarber

**Declaration of a Quorum:**

Chairman Meche declared the presence of a quorum with 10 members present and 2 absent.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion By:** Chandra Scarber and seconded by Greg Faulk to approve the minutes as presented. Motion Carried

**Financial Reports**:

1. Collection Report-Farm Bureau
2. Financial Statements-Farm Bureau

**Motion by:** Wylie Jewell and seconded by Chandra Scarber to except the financials as presented and to amend the budget from the 12-5-2012 meeting to put all excess funds into automated processing project back into the overage category, leaving $230,000.00 as originally budgeted in the Automated Processing Project. Motion Carried.

The board had a lengthy discussion on which way they wanted to go with there short and long term promotion and research programs. After discussing all the options they decide to take the following action.

**Motion By:** Mike Bienvenu Seconded by Kip Lastrapes to provide the Louisiana Crawfish Farmer Association $430,000.00 to administer, plan and implement a research and promotion program to better serve the interest of Louisiana Crawfish Industry. Motion Carried.

**Research:**

Proposals for requested research submitted by Dr. Lutz with the LSU aquaculture research center at the 8/21/2013 meeting, for Natural Predator Fish Management ($7,500.00) and Evaluation of Bull Tongue for crawfish food source ($8,700.00) were adjusted as per board request.

**Motion By:** Mike Bienvenu and Seconded by Bill Pizzolato to fund both projects as per revised proposals presented, for a total funding of $16,200.00. Motion carried

**Promotion:**

The board discussed providing funding for the cooking show featuring LA crawfish in conjunction with LDAF for $6,500.00

**Motion by:** Bill Pizzolato and Seconded by Chandra Scarber to provide the $6,500.00 for the program. Motion Carried

**Board Business:**

The board discussed the logo contest results with UL. The results did not achieve the goals the board has set forth.

**Motion By:** Chandra Scarber and Seconded by Mike Bienvenu to continue the logo contest through 3/1/2014 and include LSU in the contest along with UL. Motion Carried

Memphis & Dallas marketing campaign. The director informed the board of the markets both positive and negative points he had found while on his recent visit to them. He also showed them a non-profit organization (Porter-Leath) who had been putting on a crawfish festival and their requested sponsorship funding.

**Motion By:** Mike Bienvenu Seconded by Wayne Romig to increase the funding by $10,000.00 bringing the total to $30,000.00 for the project. Motion Carried.

**Motion By:** Mike Bienvenu and seconded by Greg Benhard to provide a

$5,000.00 sponsorship to the Porter-Leath foundation for their crawfish festival. Motion Carried.

The board discussed the10/15/2013 ruling by the Louisiana Supreme Court, where the rice boards lost their case with a unanimously ruling against them.

The board asked the director about progress on the Automated Processing Project he provided a short update from Dr. Zappi and told them there would be a full report at the next meeting. No action taken.

**Directors Contract**

The board discussed the director’s contract for another year for $30,000.00, to start 11/1/2013 and end 11/1/2014.

**Motion by:** Jody Meche Seconded by Chandra Scarber to renew the contract for another year starting 11/1/2013 and ending 11/1/2014 for $30,000.00. Motion Carried

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Date of next Meeting:** Will be 2/12/2014 in Lafayette at 1:00 P.M.

**Motion by:** Robert Buller Seconded by Wylie Jewell to adjoin the meeting. Motion Carried