



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

MIKE STRAIN DVM

COMMISSIONER



LOUISIANA AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 27, 2024, 9:30 A.M.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
VETERANS' MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
5825 FLORDIA BOULEVARD
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70806

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Environmental
Sciences**
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**Animal Health
& Food Safety**
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**Management
& Finance**
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**Soil & Water
Conservation**
Suite 7000
(225) 922-1269
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I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Robert Hanks at 9:32 A.M.

II. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

LDAF staff, Cindy R. Abbott, called roll.

The following commission members were present:

Robert Hanks
Ryan Ellington
Garret Hebert
Ronald Petree
Tom Russell
Kevin Webb
Larry Sayes

With seven (7) members present, a quorum was declared.

The following commission members were absent:

Ross Girtman
Stephen Logan

LDAF Staff Present

Agro Consumer Services Assistant Commissioner: Kevin Finley;
Louisiana Agricultural Commodities Commission Director: Gene Cavalier;
Weights and Measures Assistant Director: Allison Dumas;
LDAF Attorney: Bethany Gonzales;
LDAF Auditor: Jeff Fabre;
LDAF Agricultural Specialist Warehouse Program Manager: Todd Breaux
LDAF Agricultural Specialist Grain Program Manager: Chad Price
Administrative Coordinator IV: Cindy Abbott.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

IV. ADOPTION OF MAY 29, 2024 MINUTES

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve and adopt the minutes from the May 29, 2024, meeting. Ronald Petree seconded the motion. All members in favor. Motion carried.

V. GRAIN & COTTON INDEMINITY FUND AND SELF INSURANCE FUND

Director Gene Cavalier stated that as of June 26, 2024, the Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund (GCIF) balance is \$7,448,222.69 and the Self Insurance Fund (SIF) balance is \$752,404.33.

- A.** RS 3:3412- Self Insurance Fund (SIF)
- B.** RS 3:3412.1- Grain & Cotton Indemnity Fund (GCIF)

Director Gene Cavalier discussed the maximum and minimum dollar amounts for the Grain & Cotton Indemnity Fund (GCIF). Mr. Cavalier stated, if the GCIF balance, within the Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority (LAFA), reaches twelve (12) million dollars, the commission will suspend collection. If the GCIF balance falls to ten (10) million dollars or below, after the collection is suspended, the commission will resume collection.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

No old business at this time.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION OF NEW LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL

Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:16, R.S. 42:17(10), and R.S. 3: 3421, the commission members voted to enter Executive Session to discuss the financial status and any possible issues with the applicants.

The motion to enter Executive Session was made by Ryan Ellington; Tom Russell seconded the motion. All members were in favor. The motion carried.

Robert Hanks
Ryan Ellington
Garret Hebert
Ronald Petree
Tom Russell
Kevin Webb
Larry Sayes

Seven (7) of the members of the LACC were present and voted to enter Executive Session. The LACC went into Executive Session at 9:39a.m.

The meeting recording was turned back on at 10:05 a.m. Cindy Abbott called roll and the same seven (7) members of the LACC listed above were present.

Ronald Petree made a motion to resume the regular meeting, Ryan Ellington seconded the motion. All members in favor and the LACC meeting resumed.

a. NEW WAREHOUSE LICENSE APPLICANT

1. F. R. RICE DRIER, LLC.

A motion was made by Kevin Webb to approve the new warehouse license request, F. R. Rice Drier, LLC. The motion was seconded by Tom Russell. All members in favor. Motion carried.

2. SOUTH LOUISIANA RAIL FACILITY, LLC.

A motion was made by Kevin Web to approve the new warehouse license request, South Louisiana Rail Facility, LLC. The motion was seconded by Ryan Ellington. All members in favor. Motion carried.

*Ronald Petree and Garret Hebert abstained from voting on (a.2.) South Louisiana Rail Facility, LLC, due to a conflict of interest.

B. CONSIDERATION OF LICENSE APPLICATION RENEWALS FOR APPROVAL:

a. COTTON MERCHANT

1. BROADWAY COTTON COMPANY

2. COFCO AMERICAS RESOURCES CORPORATION

3. COTTON MARKETING SERVICES, LLC.

4. DALE HITT COTTON CO. LLC

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to approve the Cotton Merchant license renewal requests, naming the license applicants above individually. The motion was seconded by Kevin Webb. All members in favor. Motion carried.

5. FARMERS COTTON OF LOUISIANA, LLC.

6. P. J. S. INCORPORATED

7. THE SEAM, LLC

8. STAPLE COTTON COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION (STAPLCOTN)

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to approve the Cotton Merchant license renewal requests, naming the license applicants above individually. The motion was seconded by Ryan Ellington. All members in favor. Motion carried.

b. GRAIN DEALER

1. BERTRAND RICE MARKETING
2. FARMERS RICE MILLING COMPANY
3. GATLIN GROUP, INC.
4. GREENFIELD COMMODITIES, LLC.
5. GREENFIELD GRAIN, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the Grain Dealer license renewal requests, naming the license applicants above individually. The motion was seconded by Garret Hebert. All members in favor. Motion carried.

6. HANSEN- MUELLER COMPANY
7. JAMIE V. SOILEAU DBA SOILEAU RICE
8. LIVESTOCK NUTRITION CENTER, LLC.
9. LOUISIANA FARM BUREAU MARKETING ASSOCIATION
10. MILLER- BOWIE SUPPLY

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the Grain Dealer license renewal requests, naming the license applicants above individually. The motion was seconded by Ronald Petree. All members in favor. Motion carried.

11. POINTE COUPEE FARMERS ELEVATOR, INC.
12. RAGAN & MASSEY, INC.
13. RIVIANA FOODS, INC. DBA ACADIA WAREHOUSE
14. ROSE MENOU DBA MS. ROSE CSMW GRAIN BROKER, LLC

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the Grain Dealer license renewal requests, naming the license applicants above individually. The motion was seconded by Ryan Ellington. All members in favor. Motion carried.

15. SOUTH LOUISIANA RAIL FACILITY, LLC

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the Grain Dealer license renewal request, South Louisiana Rail Facility, LLC. The motion was seconded by Kevin Webb. All members in favor. Motion carried.

*Ronald Petree and Garret Hebert abstained from voting on (b.15.) SOUTH LOUISIANA RAIL FACILITY, LLC due to a conflict of interest.

16. VISION GRAIN, LLC.

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to approve the Grain Dealer license renewal request, Vision Grain, LLC. The motion was seconded by Larry Sayes. All

members in favor. Motion carried.

*Tom Russell abstained from voting on (b.13.) VIZERION GRAIN, LLC, due to a conflict of interest.

c. WAREHOUSE

1. HARDY RICE DRYER, LLC.
2. JONES PRODUCERS GIN, INC.
3. MAMOU RICE DRIER & WAREHOUSE, INC.
4. VILLE PLATTE RICE DRIER, INC.

A motion was made by Kevin Webb to approve the Warehouse license renewal requests, naming the license applicants above individually. The motion was seconded by Garret Hebert. All members in favor. Motion carried.

d. WAREHOUSE & GRAIN DEALER

1. CROWLEY GRAIN DRIER, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the Warehouse and Grain Dealer license renewal request, Crowley Grain Drier, LLC. The motion was seconded by Ryan Ellington. All members in favor. Motion carried.

2. FENTON RICE CO-OP

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the Warehouse and Grain Dealer license renewal request, Fenton Rice Co-op. The motion was seconded by Ronald Petree. All members in favor. Motion carried.

*Kevin Webb abstained from voting on (d.2) Fenton Rice Co-op, due to a conflict of interest.

3. KENNEDY RICE DRYER, LLC.
4. LAKE ARTHUR DRIER, LLC.
5. SWEET LAKE LAND & OIL COMPANY, INC.
6. THIRD CROP, LLC DBA FALCON RICE MILL

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the Warehouse and Grain Dealer license renewal requests, naming the license applicants above individually. The motion was seconded by Kevin Webb. All members in favor. Motion carried.

7. THORNWELL WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATION

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the Warehouse and Grain Dealer license renewal request, Thornwell Warehouse Association. The motion was seconded by Ronald Petree. All members in favor. Motion carried.

*Garret Hebert abstained from voting on (d.7) Thornwell Warehouse Association, due to a conflict of interest.

8. TUBBS GRAIN STORAGE LEASING, LLC.

A motion was made by Tom Russell to approve the Warehouse and Grain Dealer license renewal request, Tubbs Grain Storage Leasing, LLC. The motion was seconded by Ryan Ellington. All members in favor. Motion carried.

VIII. MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION OF BOARD RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO THE FEE RULE AMENDMENT

A motion was made by Ronald Petree to amend the agenda for consideration of the board resolutions relating to the fee rule amendment. The motion was seconded by Tom Russell. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Bethany Gonzales, LDAF staff attorney, explained that the department would begin the process this fall to increase the hourly and overtime fee rates with the Federal Grain Inspection Service ("FGIS"). Once approved with FGIS, the fees will need to be updated in the Louisiana Administrative Code Title 7. The purpose of the resolution is to grant the department the board's authority to promulgate the fee update on the board's behalf.

A motion was made by Ryan Ellington to approve the resolution relative to the amendment of rules relative to fees. The motion was seconded by Kevin Webb. All members in favor. Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements at this time.

XII. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

To be determined.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Tom Russell to adjourn the meeting and Ronald Petree seconded the motion. All members in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 A.M.



LOUISIANA AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES COMMISSION CHAIRMAN