

Minutes

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
Louisiana Agricultural Commodities Commission
VIA Zoom
March 15, 2021
9:30 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Robert Hanks called the meeting to order at 9:35a.m.

II. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Commission Members Present

Mr. Robert Hanks
Mr. Ronald Petree
Mr. Tom Russell
Mr. Donald Berken
Mr. Kevin Webb
Mr. Donald Schexnayder
Mr. Ross Girtman
Mr. Ryan Ellington
Mr. Stephen Logan

Absent Members

Commissioner Dr. Mike Strain

There was a quorum of seven (9) members present.

Staff Members Present

Louisiana Agricultural Commodities Commission Director, Kyra Fitzgerald
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Auditor, Jeff Fabre
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Assistant Commissioner, Steve Sessums

Public Present

Mr. Kyle Egbert Chief Financial Officer for Greenfield Grain, LLC
Mr. Cal Williams Chief Operating Officer for Greenfield Grain, LLC
Mr. Aaron Wingold Chief Executive Officer for Viserion Grain, LLC
Mr. Patrick Gilligan Vice President for Viserion Grain, LLC

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – June 30, 2020 and July 9, 2020

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Schexnayder and seconded by Mr. Ryan Ellington to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Robert Hanks asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. GCIF AND SIF BALANCES:

Mrs. Fitzgerald stated that the balances for the Grain and Cotton Indemnity Fund and the Self -Insurance Fund were **\$5,099,727** and **\$595,862** respectively.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF LICENSE APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL:

A motion was made by Mr. Ronald Petree and seconded by Mr. Tom Russell to go into executive session in order to review the financial information regarding the applicants for a grain dealer license. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Russell and seconded by Mr. Donald Berken to come out of executive session. The motion carried.

A. GRAIN DEALER

1. Greenfield Grain, LLC
2. Viserion Grain, LLC

A motion was made by Mr. Stephan Logan and seconded by Mr. Donald Schexnayder to approve the grain dealer license application for Greenfield Grain, LLC. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Stephan Logan and seconded by Mr. Ronald Petree, with Mr. Tom Russell abstaining, to approve the grain dealer license application for Viserion Grain, LLC. Motion carried.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Sampler/Grader Grading Training:** Mrs. Fitzgerald stated that the Department has promote and provide more education and hands on training for all sampler/graders that become certified through the LDAF. All sampler/graders who become certified through the LDAF must take a training and education course as well as passing a written exam in order to be certified as a sampler/grader.
2. **Sexual Harassment Policy and Adoption of Resolution:** This Resolution was required to be acknowledged and voted on by the board and what it does is provides the LDAF with the authority to provide legal counsel and representation by the LDAF in the event that there are any sexual harassment charges brought against a LACC board member. A motion was made by Mr. Donald Schexnayder and seconded by Mr. Donald Berken to approve the Resolution.
3. Mr. Stephan Logan made a statement regarding Tyson Foods, Inc. in that he and several farmers were working on and intending to meet with executives from Tyson Foods, Inc. in order to convince them that it would be a good idea to become a licensed grain dealer with the state of Louisiana.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT


Mr. Robert Hanks asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

IX. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is TBD.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Donald Berken and seconded by Mr. Tom Russell to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.



Mr. Robert Hanks, Chairman