

**Summary of the Fur Advisory Council Meeting
October 25, 2012
Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

Council Present

Archie Domangue
Frank Ellender
Judge Edwards
Sam Smith
Charles Pettefer, Jr.

LDWF Presence

Tanya Sturman
Edmond Mouton
Bob Love

Others

Tab Pitre
Johnny Price
Michael Consiglio

Council Absent

Allan Ensminger
James Gallaspy
John Linzay
Steve Hughes

Frank motioned to approve the minutes from the May 2012 meeting. Archie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

Judge motioned to elect Sam Smith for Chairman of the FAC. Archie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Sam motioned to elect Frank Ellender for Vice-Chairman of the FAC. Charlie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Annual Report- Michael Consiglio

Mink represents about 85% of the entire industry. When mink goes up, it pulls everything else up. Fur prices are at record highs. Ranch mink is at about \$100. The Chinese are our largest buyers. The second largest consumer is Russia. Greece is another good market; visas are not required there. Muskrats are in big demand. Raccoons and beaver are not in demand. There are a lot of these skins still in China that have not moved through. Otters will be strong this season. Bobcat, coyotes and wild mink will sell this year. Nutria is not main stream. We have found a buyer with a creative flare who would like to buy nutria. Edmond said that license sales have been going up. There is a Ukrainian company interested in Louisiana skins as well. Michael attended the Beijing fair last year.

Bob Love and Edmond Mouton suggested that the buyers develop some educational materials about what types of skins they will buy. The Department will help format, print and distribute the flyers.

Tab Pitre said that he can get 100,000, if he gets the money up front. Tab said that he would like to set up a meeting with Beverly about shipping. Noel is meeting with Beverly on Tuesday. Edmond suggested that Tab join in on that meeting. Bob explained that they are trying to work out a master list program like they are using in Europe so that the paperwork doesn't have to be duplicated for every shipment.

Fur Fair Consideration

Archie motioned to send Sam Smith to Beijing. Charlie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Judge motioned to send Tanya Sturman to Beijing. Frank seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Cameron Fur Festival Consideration

Judge motioned to purchase two coats from Hatem for the Fur Festival. Frank seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Frank motioned to get Quentin to attend the Fur Festival with display materials. Charlie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

The new trapping regulations have been released. There were no significant changes.

The bear regulations did not pass, but the Department requested that we take proactive educational approach. Edmond passed out the results of the bear education pamphlet. They are printing 7,500 copies.

Archie motioned to purchase one more display unit and print three screens. Charlie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Judge motioned to initiate the process of drafting an RFP for the services that Michael Consiglio has provided. Frank seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Edmond recommends that we have a meeting in late January to vote on the RFP.

Adjourned