**Oyster Lease Damage Evaluation Board Meeting**

**Thursday, February 11, 2020**

**Division of Administration Law**

**1020 Florida Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA**

**10:00 AM**

*The following constitute minutes of the Oyster Lease Damage Evaluation Board Meeting and are not a verbatim transcript of the proceedings.*

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call by:** Chairman Charles Perrault, Division of Administrative Law

Roll Call

Present

Charles Perrault

Don Briggs

Ralph Pausina

Timothy Allen

 Absent

 Matthew Slavich

Introductions

 James Devitt, Deputy General Counsel, DNR

 Angel Covington, Oyster Lease Board Administrator, DNR

Karl Morgan, Certifies Oyster Lease Biologists, OCM Permits Administrator, DNR

1. **Approval of Prior Minutes from the Past Year**

Minutes from February 21, 2019

Motion to Approve 2019 Minutes by Timothy Allen

Second by Don Briggs

No objections, unanimous approval

1. **Certification and Recertification of Oyster Biologists**

New Certifications

Kelly Gonzales

Aaron Petty

David Buzan

Ryne Benard

Basile Dardar

Jeremy Griffith

Jason Shackelford

Unanimous approval across the Board

Recertification of Biologists

Edwin Cake, Jr.

John Cirino

Billy Culpepper

Dakota Dagenhardt- Present

Aaron Dugas

Ronnie Duke- Present

Mark Gagliano

Nicholas Gaspard- Present

Martin Heaney

David Hebert

Read Hendon

H. Dickson Hoese- Present

Gabriel Johnson

Kenneth King, Jr.- Present

Coy LeBlanc- Present

Paul LeBlanc, III

Jude LeDoux- Present

Tyler Ortego

Scott Porter

Michael Rayle

Sarah Roy- Present

Adam Trahan- Present

Brady Trahan

Unanimous approval across the Board

Mr. Perrault stated with no objections all of the biologists have been recertified for the following year.

1. **Old Business**

**Proposal of adding a fee for Biologists (new & renewals)**

James Devitt addressed the Board regarding the process of having a fee added to new and recertified biologists.

 Motion not to proceed with the proposal made by Ralph Pausina

 Second by Timothy Allen

 No objections, unanimous approval

1. **New Business**
2. Ralph Pausina made a motion to discuss that OLDEB remove the temporary certifications for new biologists but keep for recertification. Seconded by Timothy Allen for discussion. Mr. Perrault then gave a history of temporary certification. New proposal was made by Mr. Perrault to have the Board rescind the ability of the chairperson to grant temporary certification to new applicants, and to confirm the authority of the chairperson to continue to grant temporary certifications for recertification applicants.

Motion to approve the new proposal made by Ralph Pausina

Second by Timothy Allen

No objections, unanimous approval

1. Sara Roy, from the members of the public present at the meeting, raised a discussion with the Board regarding updating the 1998 Melancon Map. Sara Roy and Jason Shackelford discussed how it is used, why she would like to see it updated and how it is applied to the OLDEB. James Devitt offered that the Board and staff would give consideration to any public comments submitted to the Board on this issue and suggested that those comments include any details that would be helpful to review of the proposal.
2. Adjournment by Mr. Perrault

Motion approved by Ralph Pausina

Second by Don Briggs

Minutes by Angel Covington, LDNR Office of Coastal Management