

MINUTES

LOUISIANA EQUINE PROMOTION AND RESEARCH BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
VETERANS MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
5825 FLORIDA BOULEVARD, 1ST FLOOR
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70806**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held in-person and was called to order by Dr. Neely Heidorn at 10:02 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Neely Heidorn led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Dr. Neely Heidorn and a quorum was called.

Members present:

Dr. Neely Heidorn, Sky Wright, Marc Browning, Raegan Comeaux, Dr. Bill Davis, Edwin Fenasci, John Boudreaux, Lyle Guillory, William Bloom, Anita Hefler and Roger Heitzmann.

Members absent:

Jim Gauthier, Dr. Frank Andrews, Whitney Boyce and Bernard Chatters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Madison Plaisance with Farm Bureau introduced herself and discussed taking over for Dr. Ron Harrell who has resigned from the board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Edwin Fenasci to approve the minutes; motion seconded by Sky Wright. Roger Heitzmann abstained. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the 19 grant applications received for 2023.

Motion was made by Edwin Fenasci to accept the date of September 18, 2023 as the deadline for the grant applications; motion was seconded by Sky Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the 9 grant applications that were recommended to the board.

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Dr. Neely Heidorn recused herself from discussing the grant applications for LSU Agricultural Center and Livingston Horse Show Association because she sits on the boards.

Motion was made by Edwin Fenasci to grant \$40,000 to Cajun Rodeo Association; motion was seconded by Sky Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Dr. Bill Davis to grant \$5,000 to Acadiana Junior High & High School Rodeo Club; motion was seconded by Marc Browning. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Edwin Fenasci to grant \$35,000 to Nation Cutting Horse Association; motion was seconded by Sky Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Roger Heitzmann to grant \$35,000 to United States Team Penning Association; motion was seconded by Sky Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Dr. Bill Davis to grant \$5,000 to Feliciana Youth Rodeo Association; motion was seconded by Sky Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Roger Heitzmann to grant \$5,000 to Livingston Horse Show Association; motion was seconded by Edwin Fenasci. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Dr. Bill Davis to grant \$5,000 to LSU Agricultural Center; motion was seconded by Sky Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Sky Wright to grant \$65,000 to Southern Reined Cow Horse Alliance; motion was seconded by Edwin Fenasci. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Roger Heitzmann to grant \$30,000 to Acadian Cutting Horse Association; motion was seconded by Sky Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the license plate design and showed the template sample.

Motion was made by Sky Wright to approve the license plate design; motion was seconded by Edwin Fenasci. Motion passed unanimously.

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Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the mandatory Sexual Harassment and Ethics training that the board members need to have completed by October 31, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were submitted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, January 22, 2024 – 10:00AM

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Marc Browning to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Roger Heitzmann. This motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Chairman