



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of  
**AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY**

MIKE STRAIN, DVM *Commissioner*

MINUTES

**LOUISIANA LIVESTOCK BRAND COMMISSION BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 02, 2023  
10:00 AM**

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Mike Strain at 10:10 am.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Enforcement Director, Scott Perry led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Cheryl Gardner.

**Members present:**

Commissioner Mike Strain Ex Officio, Brent Robbins, DVM, Victor Blanchard, James LeLeux, John Thompson, Henry Capdeboscq, Honorable Brian Frazier, Sheriff Ivy Woods, Sheriff Brian Spillman, Nickey Smith, Gertrude Hawkins.

**Members absent:**

Sheriff Julian Whittington, Calvin LeBouef, Honorable John Belton, Charles Garrett, Sheriff Sam Craft.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Henry Cabdeboscq to approve the minutes; motion seconded by James LeLeux. Motion passed unanimously.

5825 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806 | Telephone: (225) 922-1234 Fax: (225) 922-1253 [LDAF.LA.GOV](http://LDAF.LA.GOV)

**Agricultural &  
Environmental  
Sciences**  
Suite 3000  
(225) 925-3770  
Fax: 925-3760

**Agro-Consumer  
Services**  
Suite 5000  
(225) 925-3780  
Fax: 923-4877

**Animal Health  
& Food Safety**  
Suite 4000  
(225) 925-3962  
Fax: 923-4900

**Forestry**  
Suite 6000  
(225) 925-4500  
Fax: 922-1356

**Management  
& Finance**  
Suite 1000  
(225) 952-8143

**Soil & Water  
Conservation**  
Suite 7000  
(225) 922-1269



**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of  
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY**

MIKE STRAIN, DVM *Commissioner*

**Livestock Brand Commission Board Meeting Minutes**

**November 02, 2023**

**Page 2**

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMISSION**

Enforcement Director, Scott Perry introduced the Livestock Brand Commission Brand Enforcement Officers and Security Supervisor.

Enforcement Director, Scott Perry discussed the Brand Enforcement and Security divisions. He also discussed the number of complaints, arrests, and the dollar amount of recovered livestock.

Enforcement Director, Scott Perry discussed the new Saddle Microchipping program.

Vic Blanchard discussed the chronic wasting disease appearing in animals.

Commissioner Mike Strain discussed the chronic wasting disease in farm raised deer and the testing being carried out.

Enforcement Director, Scott Perry discussed the St. Tammany, Justin Thompson case and that it has been adjudicated.

Commissioner Mike Strain discussed the wildfires in the state and the assistant of the Brand Commission personnel.

Sheriff Brian Spillman thanked the Brand Enforcement Officers for the recent saddle microchipping event held in West Feliciana Parish.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Enforcement Director, Scott Perry discussed Lifetime Brands and the increase in the number of brands being registered.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Mike Strain introduced Michelle Ribera as the new Assistant Commissioner of AHFS.

Commissioner Mike Strain asked the board to ratify appointing Michelle Ribera as the new Director of the Livestock Brand Commission.

5825 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806 | Telephone: (225) 922-1234 Fax: (225) 922-1253 [LDAF.LA.GOV](http://LDAF.LA.GOV)

**Agricultural &  
Environmental  
Sciences**  
Suite 3000  
(225) 925-3770  
Fax: 925-3760

**Agro-Consumer  
Services**  
Suite 5000  
(225) 925-3780  
Fax: 923-4877

**Animal Health  
& Food Safety**  
Suite 4000  
(225) 925-3962  
Fax: 923-4900

**Forestry**  
Suite 6000  
(225) 925-4500  
Fax: 922-1356

**Management  
& Finance**  
Suite 1000  
(225) 952-8143

**Soil & Water  
Conservation**  
Suite 7000  
(225) 922-1269



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of  
**AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY**

MIKE STRAIN, DVM *Commissioner*

**Livestock Brand Commission Board Meeting Minutes**  
**November 02, 2023**  
**Page 3**

Motion was made by John Thompson to appoint Michelle Ribera as the new Director of the Livestock Brand Commission; motion seconded by Nickey Smith. Motion passed unanimously.

Michelle Ribera discussed her role as the Assistant Commissioner of AHFS.

Enforcement Director, Scott Perry discussed adding a new position for a Brand Enforcement Officer in Hammond.

Commissioner Mike Strain discussed the issue of the saltwater intrusion in South Louisiana.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Amy McInnis discussed the Sexual Harassment and Ethics training that needs to be completed by the board members.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

November 07, 2024

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion was made by James LeLeux to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Henry Capdeboscq. This motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 am.

CHAIR