



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

MIKE STRAIN, DVM *Commissioner*

MINUTES

**LOUISIANA EQUINE PROMOTION AND RESEARCH BOARD MEETING
MARCH 25, 2025
10:00 a.m.**

**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 10:03 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:

John Boudreaux, Jim Gauthier, Sky Wright, Dr. Neely Heidorn, Marc Browning, Dr. Frank Andrews, Whitney Boyce, Bernard Chatters, Edwin Fenasci, Anita Hefler, Dr. Bill Davis, Roger Heitzmann, William Bloom and Raegan Comeaux.

Members absent:

Jerome Bellard and Madison Plaisance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Roger Heitzmann to approve the minutes from the December 09, 2024, meeting; the motion was seconded by John Boudreaux. Motion passed unanimously.

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Fax: 925-3760

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NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made by Sky Wright to review the grant application for the National Cutting Horse Association; the motion was seconded by Dr. Bill Davis. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Marc Browning to award funds to NCHA; the motion was seconded by Sky Wright. Edwin Fenasci made the motion to table until the amount of funds were known.

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the Economic Impact reviews from grants that were previously awarded.

Motion was made by Marc Browning to grant Dr. Neely Heidorn the authority to update the Economic Impact report; the motion was seconded by Dr. Bill Davis. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Edwin Fenasci to award NCHA up to the amount of \$35,500 if funds are available; motion was seconded by Marc Browning. Motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Amy McInnis discussed the Financial Disclosure requirements for the board.

Attorney Amy McInnis discussed the Ethics Training requirements for the board.

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the revisions to the grant application form, the application guidelines and the preparation of the administrative rules.

Roger Heitzmann made a motion to open grant applications June 1, 2025, and close July 31, 2025; the motion was seconded by John Boudreaux. Motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Amy McInnis discussed the Equine Board being added to the DOA boards website.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the update on the application process.

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Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the GNOTRC grant being denied due to conflict.

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the update on the license plate.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Boudreaux discussed speaking with Senator Hensgens on raising the cap money.

Michelle discussed getting the grant money in a lump sum on July 1, 2025.

Motion was made by Edwin Fenasci to award NCHA the amount of \$35,500; motion was seconded by Marc Browning. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Neely Heidorn set the next meeting of the Subcommittee on August 12, 2025.


Bernard Chatters made a motion to allow Dr. Neely Heidorn to make any revisions to the grant application; the motion was seconded by Edwin Fenasci. Motion passed unanimously.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 02, 2025 – 10:00AM

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion was made by Marc Browning to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Roger Heitzmann. This motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.


Chairman

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