



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY  
MIKE STRAIN DVM  
COMMISSIONER



MINUTES

LOUISIANA EQUINE PROMOTION AND  
RESEARCH BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

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

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

Agro-Consumer  
Services  
Suite 5000  
(225) 922-1341  
Fax: 923-4877

Animal Health  
& Food Safety  
Suite 4000  
(225) 925-3962  
Fax: 925-4103

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

Management  
& Finance  
Suite 1000  
(225) 922-1255  
Fax: 925-6012

Soil & Water  
Conservation  
Suite 7000  
(225) 922-1269  
Fax: 922-2577

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

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.

**Agro-Consumer Services**  
Suite 5000  
(225) 922-1341  
Fax: 923-4877

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.

**Animal Health & Food Safety**  
Suite 4000  
(225) 925-3962  
Fax: 925-4103

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.

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

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.

**Management & Finance**  
Suite 1000  
(225) 922-1255  
Fax: 925-6012

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

**Soil & Water Conservation**  
Suite 7000  
(225) 922-1269  
Fax: 922-2577

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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**Agricultural & Environmental Sciences**  
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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.

**Agro-Consumer Services**  
 Suite 5000  
 (225) 922-1341  
 Fax: 923-4877

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were submitted.

**Animal Health & Food Safety**  
 Suite 4000  
 (225) 925-3962  
 Fax: 925-4103

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday, January 22, 2024 – 10:00AM

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

**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.

**Management & Finance**  
 Suite 1000  
 (225) 922-1255  
 Fax: 925-6012

  
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 Chairman

**Soil & Water Conservation**  
 Suite 7000  
 (225) 922-1269  
 Fax: 922-2577