



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

MIKE STRAIN, DVM *Commissioner*

MINUTES

**LOUISIANA EQUINE PROMOTION AND RESEARCH BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2024
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 10:00 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, Dr. Neely Heidorn, Marc Browning, Whitney Boyce, Bernard Chatters, Edwin Fenasci, Dr. Bill Davis, Jerome Bellard, Roger Heitzmann, William Bloom and Madison Plaisance.

Members absent:

Sky Wright, Dr. Frank Andrews, Anita Hefler and Raegan Comeaux.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Jim Gauthier to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2024, meeting; motion seconded by Dr. Bill Davis. Roger Heitzmann abstained. Motion passed unanimously.

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NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the following 2024 grant recommendations made by the Grant Application Review Subcommittee:

- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$40,000.00 to Acadian Cutting Horse Association.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$10,000.00 to Acadiana Jr. High/High School Rodeo.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$50,000.00 to DeSoto Parish Police Jury.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$15,000.00 to Gaitway Therapeutic Horsemanship.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$20,000.00 to Just Believe Training.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$50,000.00 to United States Team Penning Association.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$60,000.00 to Beauregard Parish Police Jury.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$10,000 to Bell City High School Rodeo.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$20,000.00 to Cajun Little Britches Rodeo Association.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$70,000.00 to Cajun Rodeo Association.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$10,000 to Feliciana Youth Rodeo Association.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Greater New Orleans Therapeutic Riding Center.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$10,000.00 to Livingston Horse Show Association.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$5,000.00 to the Louisiana Quarter Horse Association.

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- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$80,000.00 to Southern Reined Cow Horse Alliance.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$10,000.00 to TXC Memorial Scholarship.
- The committee recommends an award in the amount of \$24,000.00 to Houghton Riding Club.

Motion to approve all recommendations of the subcommittee for 2024 grant awards was made by Roger Heitzmann; motion was seconded by Edwin Fenasci. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

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

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed updating the grant application.

Dr. Neely Heidorn discussed the application deadline.

Motion was made by Jim Gauthier to update the grant application; motion was seconded by Bernard Chatters. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cheryl Gardner discussed the upcoming Saddle Microchipping event being held January 31, 2025 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Equine Sale Center in Opelousas.

William Bloom discussed having promotional banners for the Equine Board.

Amy McInnis discussed the grant applications and the deadline for the Annual Reports.

Amy McInnis discussed the deadline for Prevention of Sexual Harassment.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 – 10:00AM

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion was made by Edwin Fenasci to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Bernard Chatters. This motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.


Chairman