

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION COMMISSION MEETING

March 15, 2011

10:00 A.M.

Scott Research & Extension Education Center
212 Macon Ridge Rd.
Winnsboro, LA 71295

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Logan at 10:10 A.M.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Eva Wales.

Members present: Todd Parker (representing Commissioner Strain), Dr. Roger Leonard, Danny Logan, Jack Dailey, Boyd Holley, George LaCour, Tim White, Ben Guthrie and Travis Walker.

Members absent: none

Others present: LDAF employees Marc Bordelon, Craig Roussel, Kurt Moreau, Dan Tullos, John Dumas, Nathan Oliver, Nolan Adcock, Gene Edmondson, Martin Close, Vernon Thomas, Bridgette Ott, Becky Wilkerson and Eva Wales; John Kruse, LSU Ag Center; Brian Breaux, Louisiana Farm Bureau and Jess Barr, Louisiana Cotton and Grain Association.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Mr. LaCour made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2010 meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Dailey and passed unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The guests that attended were Richard Myers with Cheminova and Dr. John Andries, the previous director of Boll Weevil Eradication Program.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Bordelon gave a brief report on 2010 assessments as follows: \$1,491,673.57 collected for 2010; there were 3 producers with late fees totaling \$3,099.45. These were sent for collections. Mr. Bordelon gave a report on Malathion: we have 3 totes on hand and credit with Cheminova of \$69,567 until the end of the year.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed rule changes for collecting assessments were presented by Mr. Bordelon. Public Comments were asked for: There were no public comments.

Motion: Mr. Dailey made a motion to adopt changes to the Boll Weevil regulations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Parker. This motion passed unanimously.

REPORT FOR COMMISSIONER STRAIN

Mr. Parker recognized the upcoming retirement of Eva Wales from the department. Mr. Parker invited everyone to Ag Day. The budget was discussed for the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

UPDATE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Bordelon discussed supplies that were ordered. A total of 175,000 kill strips were ordered at a cost of \$5,250.00. Samples of carry over lure dispensers were sent to USDA/ARS for analysis. Analysis showed that all lure contained the appropriate quantity blend of grand lure and equal components.

Mr. Bordelon set protocol for Red River at 1 trap for every 40 acres; in the Northeast, 1 trap for every 20 acres; traps will be run every 3 weeks. The area where the last weevil was caught will be trapped and run sooner than 3 weeks. We will no longer use barcodes and scan traps. The traps will have the service date written on them when run. The farmers seem to approve of this method.

Mr. Bordelon discussed the Operational Plan for the 2011 growing year, and noted that Barham Flying Service and Goodman Flying Service have renewed their aerial contract for this year.

Mr. Bordelon stated that program personnel will be inspecting any harvest equipment coming into the state. Each piece of equipment should have a phytosanitary certificate, notice of inspection and/or a letter from the state of origin stating that it comes from a weevil free area. Traps will be put out and run on all equipment when it arrives here.

TECHANICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) REPORT

Dr. Leonard reported that the TAC met on February 8, 2011, at which time Mr. Bordelon presented his 2011 Operational Plan and Trapping Protocol. These were reviewed and accepted by the TAC with a few changes.

USDA REPORT

Mr. Ken Peirce gave a report that USDA is under a hiring freeze and is operating under cost restraints. He also gave an update on the program progress in Texas. There was a short discussion regarding the weevils caught in northeast Arkansas.

FARM BUREAU OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Breaux presented a report of comments from producers who were surveyed regarding the Boll Weevil Eradication Program (copy on file). The major areas addressed included program operation and 2011 cotton acreage. He stated that the producers surveyed had positive feedback and were pleased with the overall operation and success of the program.

ADDITIONAL BUISNESS

There was no additional business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.