

***Tentative Minutes. Pending Board Approval.*

**INDUSTRIAL HEMP LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
LOUISIANA INDUSTRIAL HEMP PROMOTION AND
RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD:
APRIL 11, 2023
9:30 AM**

**Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry Building
LDAF Veterans Memorial Auditorium
5825 Florida Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70806**

Minutes

NOTE: This is a draft of the minutes from the April 11, 2023 meeting of the Industrial Hemp Promotion and Research Advisory Board. A final version of these minutes will be made available after approval of the board at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by Matthew Moreau.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Ms. Erica Morse.

The following subcommittee members were present: Dr. Janana Snowden representing Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center; Mr. Arthur Walker representing a consumer of industrial hemp; Mr. John Ford representing Louisiana Black Farmers Cannabis and Hemp Association; Mr. Matthew Moreau representing the Louisiana Cannabis Association; Mr. Paige Melancon representing as a licensed processor of industrial hemp; A quorum was declared by Ms. Erica Morse.

Others Present: Dr. Ansel T. Rankins Sr., Assistant Commissioner for LDAF Agricultural Environmental Services, Lester Cannon, Director of LDAF Seed Programs Division; Brent Cutrer, LDAF Industrial Hemp Program Coordinator; Paeton Burkett, LDAF Attorney Staff; Erica Morse, LDAF Industrial Hemp Administrative Coordinator. A quorum was declared.

Procedural Note:

Mr. Paige Melancon arrived at 10:19am. A quorum was maintained with more than four subcommittee members present.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Ford made a motion to nominate Dr. Snowden as Vice Chairman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moreau. The subcommittee voted unanimously to accept Dr. Snowden as Vice Chairman. Mr. Ford made a motion to nominate Mr. Moreau as Chairman; Dr. Snowden seconded the motion. The subcommittee voted unanimously to accept Mr. Moreau as Chairman.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments at this time.

DISCUSSION AND DETERMINATION OF THE VISION AND MISSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

The committee established the following mission and vision statement:

“To be intentional in facilitating the creation of an innovative ecosystem that positions Louisiana to lead the industrial hemp industry in advocacy, investment, and education.”

DISCUSSION ON ANY FUTURE FUNDING REQUESTS BY THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY OR BY THE LOUISIANA STATE LEGISLATURE

The board discussed requesting funding from the Louisiana State Legislature. Before requesting funds, more discussion was needed to establish the purpose of the funds.

ESTABLISH HOW THE INDUSTRIAL HEMP PROMOTION AND RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD WILL COMMUNICATE TO THE LEGISLATURE AND TO THE PUBLIC

The board discussed contacting lawmakers and establishing communication throughout the year. Mr. Moreau made a motion to amend agenda item VII to replace “Board” with “Subcommittee” to act on behalf of the board during the 2023 legislative session. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. A roll call vote to amend agenda item VII was taken; all five members present voted unanimously to approve the amendment to agenda item VII.

Mr. Melancon made a motion to nominate Mr. Moreau as the legislative front person and Dr. Snowden as an alternate. Mr. Ford seconded the motion. The subcommittee voted unanimously to approve.

Mr. Moreau made a motion to establish an annual Capitol Day for the Industrial Hemp Legislative Education and Public Relations Subcommittee. Mr. Ford seconded the motion. The subcommittee voted unanimously to approve.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

DATE OF NEXT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

It was decided the date of the next meeting would be announced depending on the availability of the venue and board members. The subcommittee plans to meet within two to three weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ford made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Walker. The subcommittee voted unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:40pm.

Tentative Minutes