

**Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting  
Of the Louisiana Agriculture Aviation Association  
Held at the Paragon Casino Resort in Marksville, La  
On October 10, 2017**

The meeting of the Board of Directors of Louisiana Agriculture Aviation Association was called to order by Dwayne O'Brien, president, Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 9:00AM. The first order of business was taking roll of the members present. The following members were present: Dwayne O'Brien, Reed Keahey, Clay Vincent, Barry Boyette, Bradley Reed, Cathy Ellett and Edward Krielow; absent were Seth Olivier, Robert LeJeune, Stephen Gustafson and Cory Coco. Also in attendance were Jake Perry, Scotty Hall and Ashley Olivier.

Dwayne O'Brien asked for a reading of the minutes of the last board meeting whereupon a copy of the minutes for the 2016 fall meeting was circulated and reviewed by members. A motion was made by Bradley Reed to accept the minutes, seconded by Barry Boyette and motion carried. Minutes of the 2017 convention meeting was then circulated and reviewed by the members. A motion was made by Bradley Reed to accept the minutes, seconded by Reed Keahey and motion passed.

Dwayne O'Brien called for officer reports with the first being Operation Safe. Kim Pope was scheduled to present a report; however, she was not able to attend and sent an email to Edward Krielow to read to the group. She stated she and Randy Price had worked spectrometer developed by WRK of Oklahoma and they were impressed with its capabilities and it could be used for larger groups. In anticipation of additional workload, Jack Finley was hired in July to help with the program and has already attended training. For the 2018 Operation Safe programs, she is proposing a south fly-in for February 20-23, 2018 with the meal and meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>; auxiliary dates would be February 27<sup>th</sup> to March 2<sup>nd</sup> with meal and meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>. For the north fly-in she is proposing March 27-30, 2018 with meal and meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>; auxiliary dates would be April 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> with meal and meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Tommy Ellett stated he had sent two planes to be tested with new equipment and was impressed with the results.

The next item was the NAAA report from our representative, Bradley Reed. He stated he had just returned from NAAA Board meeting held in San Antonio and a number of items were discussed. The first was issues with containers which are identical in form, labeling and color but contained different chemicals. The NAAA is requesting anyone who encountered this problem report it to them so action can be taken with the chemical companies. Other items he mentioned were: NAAA attendance at AirVenture, excess damage caused by ground rigs, proper reporting of UAV incidents to the local FAA/FSDO, towers and tower markings, NAAA convention to be held in Reno, NV December 4-7, 2018 and new member discount for sponsored pilot with less than 5 years of ag flying.

The next report was from Ashley Olivier of the Support Committee. She stated the Support Committee of the NAAA was holding a fundraiser at the NAAA convention for NAARAF/PAASS titled "Peddling for PAASS". This will be a bicycle buggy event whereby the participants will peddle the buggy around Savannah. The cost will be of \$100 per participant and they are requesting sponsorship of \$500 from state organizations. After some discussion, a motion was made by Barry Boyette, seconded by Cathy Ellett and passed to sponsor a buggy for \$500. Other convention functions being sponsored by the Support Committee are a riverboat cruise and the Athena Program.

The next item was a report by the nominating committee. Bradley Reed stated the committee recommended the following slate of officers and directors for 2018: Seth Olivier – President, Tommy Ellett – Vice-President, Clay Vincent – Secretary/Treasurer, Reed Keahey – Region I Director, Tom Wolf – Region III Director, Barry Boyette – Pilot At Large, Bradley Reed – NAAA Director and Cathy Ellett – Support Committee. After some discussion, it was moved by Bradley Reed, seconded by Dwayne O'Brien and passed to recommend the nominating committee's recommendation to the general membership at the general membership meeting.

The first item of old business was a discussion of the NAAA Leadership Course. Reed Keahey was previously selected as our nominee and has submitted his application. He and Edward Krielow stated that were waiting for a notice from the NAAA on the status of his nomination. The alternate nominees are Cory Coco first alternate and Jake Perry second alternate.

Under new business, the first item discussed was the financial report for the eleven months ended September 30, 2017. Edward Krielow reviewed the financial statement starting with cash position of the association which was \$200,151. He then reviewed the income and expenses pointing out an increase in conference fees and dues and a decrease in convention expenses, death benefits and scholarships. The association had net income for the period of \$8,975. He stated in his overall opinion, the association is in sound financial condition. A motion was made by Barry Boyette, seconded by Tommy Ellett and passed to accept the financial statement as presented.

The next item was a discussion of the website. Edward Krielow informed the board of someone hacking of our website trying to raise funds for a sick child on the website GoFundMe. He took immediate steps to secure the website and instituted a password requirement to access our membership directory which contains all of our membership contact information. He indicated our website was used by substantially more by our membership to register for the 2017 convention. He also pointed out it was time to renew our contract for our website maintenance and recommended we continue to retain Chad Crochet as our webmaster. On a motion by Reed Keahey, seconded by Clay Vincent and passed to retain Chad Crochet as our webmaster for 2018 at the same rate as last year or \$1,100.

Dwayne O'Brien informed the board it was time to select our nominee for the Greg Koontz Aerobatics Course Scholarship. He stated one of problems is the nominee must be a member of both the LAAA and NAAA. To alleviate selecting a non-qualified member, last year we chose to award it to our organization and we would select a representative at our convention by selling tickets for a raffle only to those members who are also NAAA members. We won the drawing at the 2016 NAAA convention and raffled it our convention raising funds for our Support Committee. He recommended we following the same procedure for this year and it was the consensus of the board that we proceed accordingly.

Next item on the agenda was selection of 2018 LAAA convention site. A discussion ensued by various board members who indicated their satisfaction with the Golden Nugget Casino and their preference to remain there if we could financially afford it. Edward Krielow stated that he had received a number of requests from our attendees to remain at the Golden Nugget for 2018. He further stated, except for some issue he had with our event representative, he was satisfied with the venue and its employees. His only reservation was the ultimate cost as this was the first year with the Casino and would not know the total cost for several weeks. It was the consensus of the board to allow Edward Krielow to negotiate with the Casino for the 2018 convention and reserve it if it was financially feasible.

The next agenda item was our sponsorship of the FFA State Convention. After some discussion, it was moved by Bradley Reed, seconded by Barry Boyette and passed to maintain our sponsorship of the FFA State Convention at our same level of \$1,500.

Under other new business, Dwayne O'Brien initiated a discussion on JET A USA. He stated he had been approached by the company to provide a revenue sharing program to our member who participated by purchasing fuel from their company. This provides for a payment of one cent per gallon to be paid to the LAAA for fuel purchased by one of our members. The company representative stated that he estimated our association would receive approximately \$1,800 per year. After some discussion, a motion was made by Barry Boyette, seconded by Bradley Reed and passed to participate in the JET A USA fuel rebate program.

In other new business, Edward Krielow requested the assistance of the board members in soliciting sponsorships for our 2018 LAAA convention. He distributed a listing of sponsors for the last three years witch included the member contact. The schedule was reviewed and sponsors were assigned with a request to notify Edward Krielow of sponsors secured by November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Dwayne O'Brien brought up a discussion on the Farrell Keahey Scholarship Essay and inquired as to the topic for the 2018 award. Ashley Olivier stated the theme for 2018 will be: "Creating a Positive Image of Aerial Applications in our Communities."

Cathy Ellett indicated the support committee would like to provide a tour of the Bayou Rum facility in Lacassine, La for convention participants. After some discussion it was the consensus of the board to host the event on Wednesday, January 3, 2018 from 1-4:30PM. Cathy will proceed with securing a bus for transportation between the casino and the rum facility.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Barry Boyette, seconded by Tommy Ellett, to adjourn and the motion carried.

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Tommy Ellett, Secretary

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Edward L. Krielow, Executive Secretary