

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

The General Membership meeting of Louisiana Agriculture Aviation Association was called to order by Dwayne O'Brien, president, Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 1:00PM. The first order of business was taking role of the members present. The following members were present: Dwayne O'Brien, Reed Keahey, Clay Vincent, Barry Boyette, Bradley Reed, Cathy Ellett, Jake Perry, Scotty Hall, Tom Wolf, Ashley Olivier and Edward Krielow.

Dwayne O'Brien asked for a reading of the minutes of the last general 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 Reed Keahey 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 Scotty Hall and motion passed.

Dwayne O'Brien called for officer reports with the first being Operation Safe. Kim Pope was schedule 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 19th; auxiliary dates would be February 27th to March 2nd with meal and meeting on the 26th. For the north fly-in she is proposing March 27-30, 2018 with meal and meeting on the 26th; auxiliary dates would be April 3rd to the 6th with meal and meeting on the 2nd. 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 state 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 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, Bradley Reed moved and Reed Keahey seconded a motion to accept by acclamation the slate of officers and directors recommended by the board and motion passed.

The next report was from Cathy Ellett of the Support Committee. She informed the group she and other support committee members were soliciting items for the live auction which is to be held at the 2018 LAAA convention. Ashley Olivier reported on a raffle being held at 2017 NAAA Convention for an ATV and other items and they had tickets available for \$100 each.

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 Tommy Ellett, seconded by Bradley Reed and passed to accept the financial statement as presented.

Dwayne O'Brien informed the membership 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 further stated the board had approved the same procedure for the 2018 Convention.

Next item on the agenda was selection of 2018 LAAA convention site. A discussion ensued by various 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 membership 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. Dwayne O'Brien advised the membership that the board approved our continued sponsorship of the FFA State Convention at our same level of \$1,500.

The next item was a discussion of the website. Edward Krielow informed the membership 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.

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 he estimated our association would receive approximately \$1,800 per year. After some discussion, a motion was made by Barry Boyette, seconded by Cathy Ellett and passed to participate in the JET A USA fuel rebate program.

Dwayne O'Brien brought up a discussion on the Farrell Keahey Scholarship Essay and reported the LAAA would be using the same topic as the NAAA to allow our applicants to use the same essay for both awards. Ashley Olivier stated the theme for 2018 will be: "Creating a Positive Image of Aerial Applications in our Communities."

Cathy Ellett reported the support committee would be providing a tour of the Bayou Rum facility in Lacassine, La for convention participants. The event will be held on Wednesday, January 3, 2018 from 1-4:30PM. She 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 Bradley Reed, seconded by Scotty Hall, to adjourn and the motion carried.

Tommy Ellett, Secretary

Edward L. Krielow, Executive Secretary