

House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Minutes of Meeting
2016 Regular Session
March 16, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stuart J. Bishop, chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. in Room 4, in the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The secretary called the roll.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Stuart J. Bishop, chairman
Representative Robert E. Billiot
Representative Terry R. Brown
Representative Charles R. Chaney
Representative Patrick Connick
Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan
Representative Phillip R. DeVillier
Representative Franklin J. Foil
Representative Jerry Gisclair
Representative John E. Guinn
Representative Christopher J. Leopold, vice chairman
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative Jack G. McFarland
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative James H. "Jim" Morris
Representative Malinda B. White
Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative James K. Armes III
Representative Jack Montoucet

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Su King, legislative analyst
Tyler S. McCloud, attorney
Karen Stephens, secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Larry Warino, clerk
Janet Anthony, sergeant at arms
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Bill No. 214 by Representative Lance Harris

Representative Lance Harris presented House Bill No. 214, which authorizes the sale of certain property in Rapides Parish.

Representative Terry Brown offered a motion to report House Bill No. 214 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 214 was reported favorably by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Chaney, Connick, Coussan, DeVillier, Guinn, Lyons, McFarland, Miguez, Jim Morris, White, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 622 by Representative Jim Morris

Representative Jim Morris presented House Bill No. 622, which authorizes the transfer of certain state property in Caddo Parish.

Representative Leopold offered a motion to report House Bill No. 622 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 622 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Chaney, Connick, Coussan, DeVillier, Foil, Guinn, Leopold, Lyons, McFarland, Miguez, Jim Morris, White, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Bill No. 323 by Representative Jackson

On behalf of Representative Jackson, Representative Miguez presented House Bill No. 323, which authorizes the transfer of state property in Morehouse Parish.

Cole Garrett, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 763-5577, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 323.

Representative Bishop offered amendments to remove the authorization for the division of administration to enter the agreement in proposed law. Representative Bishop offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Chaney, Connick, Coussan, DeVillier, Foil, Guinn, Leopold, Lyons, McFarland, Miguez, Jim Morris, White, and Zeringue voted yea.

Thomas Bates, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 765-2971, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 323.

Representative Bishop offered a motion to report House Bill No. 323 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 323 was reported with amendments by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Chaney, Connick, Coussan, DeVillier, Foil, Guinn, Leopold, Lyons, McFarland, Miguez, Jim Morris, White, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Presentations:

State Land Office

Mark Moses, Division of Administration, Office of Facility Planning and Control, State Land Office, P.O. Box 94095, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, (225) 342-9654, spoke for information only, and gave an overview of the State Land Office and provided a booklet, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Consideration of approval of the sale of University of New Orleans property located at 6601 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, LA, containing approximately 3.916 acres.

Lenny Kopowski, University of New Orleans, 4847 Revere Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (504) 606-8635, spoke for information only on the University of New Orleans property sale and provided an appraisal report, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Marco Perez, University of New Orleans, 2000 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, LA 70148, (504) 280-7171, spoke for information only on the University of New Orleans property sale.

Patrick Linn, University of New Orleans, 2000 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, LA 70148, (504) 280-6375, spoke for information only on the University of New Orleans property sale.

Representative Bishop offered a motion to approve the sale of University of New Orleans property located at 6601 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, LA, containing approximately 3.916 acres. Without objection, the sale was approved by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Chaney, Connick, Coussan, DeVillier, Guinn, Leopold, Lyons, McFarland, Miguez, Jim Morris, White, and Zeringue voted yea.

Department of Environmental Quality

Dr. Chuck Carr Brown, secretary, Department of Environmental Quality, 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-3950, spoke for information only and gave an overview of the department in a PowerPoint presentation.

Representative Leopold in the chair.

Karyn Andrews, Department of Environmental Quality, 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 219-3863, spoke for information only about the department.

Louisiana Chemical Association

Dan Borne', Louisiana Chemical Association, One American Place, Suite 2040, Baton Rouge, LA 70825, (225) 376-7660, spoke for information only about the association.

Gregory Bowser, Louisiana Chemical Association, One American Place, Suite 2040, Baton Rouge, LA 70825, (225) 376-7650, spoke for information only about the association.

Green Army

Russel Honore, GreenARMY, 14443 Memorial Tower Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 227-1527, spoke for information only and gave an overview of the GreenARMY in a PowerPoint presentation. He provided a handout, Exhibit C, which is included in the committee records.

Hays Town, GreenARMY, 1544 Stanford Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 752-6642, spoke for information only about the GreenARMY.

Representative Bishop in the chair.

Ann Rolfes, Louisiana Bucket Brigade, 2803 St. Phillip Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, (504) 484-3433, spoke for information only about the Louisiana Bucket Brigade.

Harold Schoeffler, 3502 E. Simcoe, Lafayette, LA 70501, (337) 254-4042, spoke for information only about the Sierra Club and the Louisiana Crawfish Producers.

Louisiana Environmental Action Network

Marylee Orr, Louisiana Environmental Action Network (LEAN), P.O. Box 66323, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 588-5059, spoke for information only and gave an overview of LEAN in a PowerPoint presentation. She provided a booklet, Exhibit D, which is included in the committee records.

Sierra Club, Delta Chapter

Haywood "Woody" Martin, Sierra Club, Delta Chapter (no address provided), Lafayette, LA, (337) 298-8380, spoke for information only and gave an overview of the Sierra Club in a PowerPoint presentation.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The committee adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Stuart J. Bishop
House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Date adopted: