

## **House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment**

Minutes of Meeting  
2023 Regular Session  
May 31, 2023

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan, chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan, chairman  
Representative Ryan Bourriaque, vice chairman  
Representative Rhonda Gaye Butler  
Representative R. Dewith Carrier  
Representative Mack Marcel Cormier  
Representative Adrian Fisher  
Representative Stephanie Hilferty  
Representative Timothy P. Kerner  
Representative Mandie Landry  
Representative Scott McKnight  
Representative Buddy Mincey, Jr.  
Representative Joseph A. Orgeron  
Representative Neil Riser  
Representative Troy D. Romero  
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Representative William "Bill" Wheat, Jr.

#### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robin Stalder, attorney  
Benjamin Westra, attorney  
Lacy Slaughter, committee administrative assistant

**ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Angela McKnight, sergeant at arms

**III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION****House Concurrent Resolution No. 128 by Representative LaCombe**

Representative LaCombe presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 128, which urges and requests the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to study wakeboard boats and their impact on fishing and properties on False River.

Mr. Patrick Banks, Wildlife & Fisheries, 2000 Quail Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, no zip code provided, (225) 765-2370, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 128.

Representative Riser offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 128 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 128 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Bourriague, Butler, Carrier, Fisher, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Romero, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

**House Concurrent Resolution No. 132 by Representative Brown**

Representative Brown presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 132, which directs the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to increase the number of tags available for commercial alligator hunting, reinstate the bonus tag program, and increase opportunities for recreational alligator hunting.

Representative Bourriague offered amendments to:

- (1) Change the resolution from directing the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to increase commercial and recreational hunting to urging and requesting the department, the Alligator Advisory Council, and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to study and make recommendations regarding alligator populations and markets as well as commercial, recreational, and nuisance hunting.
- (2) Add information regarding the alligator market.
- (3) Require the department to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate by Feb. 1, 2024.

Representative Bourriaque offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Bourriaque, Butler, Carrier, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Romero, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

Mr. Randall S. Myers, LDWF, 2000 Quail Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, no zip code provided, (225) 765-2805, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 132.

Mr. Jeb Linscombe, LDWF, Alligator Program Manager, 11430 Marlin Rd., Abbeville, LA 70510, (337) 794-9796, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 132.

Representative Romero offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 132 with amendments. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 132 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Bourriaque, Butler, Carrier, Cormier, Hilferty, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Romero, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

#### **IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **V. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Representative McKnight offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Coussan, Bourriaque, Butler, Carrier, Cormier, Hilferty, Kerner, McKnight, Mincey, Orgeron, Riser, Romero, and Schamerhorn voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Jean-Paul P. Coussan  
House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Date adopted: