

House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Minutes of Meeting
2025 Regular Session
May 29, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Brett F. Geymann, chair of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Brett F. Geymann, chair
Representative Jacob Braud
Representative Marcus Anthony Bryant
Representative R. Dewith Carrier
Representative Kimberly Landry Coates
Representative Jason Brian DeWitt
Representative Jessica Domangue
Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Timothy P. Kerner
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Jacob Jules Landry
Representative Shane Mack
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Joseph A. Orgeron, vice chair
Representative Neil Riser
Representative Jerome Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Lauren Ventrella

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robin Stalder, attorney
Jennifer Winkler, legislative analyst
Brandy Ladmirault, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Cheryl Domino, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Resolution No. 36 by Representative Geymann

Representative Geymann presented House Resolution No. 36, which approves the annual state integrated coastal protection plan for Fiscal Year 2026, as adopted by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board.

Gordon Dove, CPRA, no address provided, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 36.

Clay Parker, CPRA, no address provided, spoke for information only on House Resolution No. 36.

Glen Ledet Jr., CPRA, 150 Terrace Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA, no zip code provided, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 36, presented a PowerPoint entitled "Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Plan, Integrated Ecosystem Restoration and Hurricane Protection in Coastal Louisiana", and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records. He also provided information on the CPRA.

Gordon Dove, CPRA, presented a PowerPoint entitled "Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion 75,000 CFS", and provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Gordon Dove, CPRA, presented a PowerPoint entitled "Alternative Medium Diversion at Myrtle Grove with Dedicated Dredging (MDMG), Engineering & Construction Congressionally Authorized in 2007 WRDA (Water Resources Development Act) Bill as Submitted by Corps of Engineers Chief's Report", and provided a handout, Exhibit C, which is included in the committee records.

Gordon Dove, CPRA, presented a PowerPoint entitled "Louisiana Coastal Area (LCA) Plaquemines Parish, LA, Medium Diversion With Dedicated Dredging at Myrtle Grove, Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Document", and provided a handout, Exhibit D, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Riser in the chair.

David Camardelle, Town of Grand Isle, 134 Camardele Street, no city, state, or zip code provided, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 36.

M. Larry Richard, Iberia Parish President, 300 Iberia Street, New Iberia, LA 70560, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 36.

Keith Hinkley, Plaquemines Parish President, no address provided, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 36.

Amy Ybarlzabal, St. Tammany Parish, 158 Frenchmen, no city, state, or zip code provided, spoke in support of House Resolution No. 36, and read a letter from Mike Cooper, president of St. Tammany Parish.

Katie G. Daniel, Environmental Defense Action Fund, 3801 Canal Street, Suite 400, New Orleans, LA, no zip code provided, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 36.

Kristi Trail, Pontchartrain Conservatory, P.O. Box 6965, Metairie, LA 70009, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 36.

Lauren Bourg, National Audubon Society, 3801 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 36.

Simone Maloz, Restore the Mississippi River Delta, 3801 Canal Street, Suite 400, New Orleans, LA 70119, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 36.

Charles Sutcliffe, National Wildlife Federation Action Fund, 2537 Terrace Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in opposition to House Resolution No. 36.

Representative Domangue offered a motion to report House Resolution No. 36 favorably, to which Representative Orgeron objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Resolution No. 36 was reported favorably by a vote of 12 yeas and 3 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Bryant, Coates, DeWitt, Domangue, C. Travis Johnson, Kerner, LaCombe, Mack, McCormick, and Riser voted yea. Representatives Carrier, Orgeron, and Zeringue voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 13 in support, 1 for information only, and 1 designee of an elected official in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Resolution No. 36.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 75 by Representative Riser

Representative Riser presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 75, which creates the Chronic Wasting Disease Task Force.

Johnathan Bordelon, LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries, 669 Highway 1192, Mandeville, LA 71351, spoke for information only on House Concurrent Resolution No. 75.

Representative Dewitt offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 75 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 75 was reported favorably by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Domangue, Kerner, McCormick, and Riser 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

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Dewitt offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Geymann, Braud, Carrier, Coates, Dewitt, Domangue, Kerner, McCormick, and Riser voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Brett F. Geymann
House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Date adopted: