

House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

Minutes of Meeting
2018 Regular Session
May 1, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Stuart J. Bishop, chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Stuart J. Bishop, chairman
Representative Robert E. Billiot
Representative Terry R. Brown
Representative Patrick Connick
Representative Jean-Paul P. Coussan
Representative Phillip R. DeVillier
Representative Jerry Gisclair
Representative John E. Guinn
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative Jack G. McFarland
Representative Blake Miguez
Representative James H. "Jim" Morris
Representative H. Eugene Reynolds
Representative Malinda B. White
Representative Jerome "Zee" Zeringue

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative James K. Armes, III
Representative Franklin J. Foil
Representative Christopher J. Leopold, vice chairman

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 520 by Senator White

Senator White presented Senate Bill No. 520, which authorizes the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development to transfer certain state property in Tangipahoa Parish.

Representative Bishop offered amendments to:

- (1) Add authority for the commissioner of administration to transfer or lease property in St. Martin Parish; and
- (2) Make technical changes.

Representative Bishop offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Connick, Coussan, DeVillier, Gisclair, Guinn, Lyons, Magee, McFarland, Jim Morris, Reynolds, White, and Zeringue voted yea.

Representative Terry Brown offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 520 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 520 was reported with amendments by a vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Connick, Coussan, DeVillier, Gisclair, Guinn, Lyons, Magee, McFarland, Jim Morris, Reynolds, White, and Zeringue voted yea.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 65 by Senator Fannin

On behalf of Senator Fannin, Representative McFarland presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 65, which requests the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to update the Caney Creek Reservoir waterbody management plan on an annual basis.

Representative McFarland offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 65 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 65 was reported favorably by a

vote of 15 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Connick, Coussan, DeVillier, Gisclair, Guinn, Lyons, Magee, McFarland, Jim Morris, Reynolds, White, and Zeringue voted yea.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 60 by Representative Garofalo

Representative Garofalo presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 60, which establishes the Public Access to Waterways Task Force.

Representative Bishop offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 60 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 60 was reported favorably by a vote of 16 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Connick, Coussan, DeVillier, Gisclair, Guinn, Lyons, Magee, McFarland, Miguez, Jim Morris, Reynolds, White, and Zeringue voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Consideration of approval of the sale of surplus property from the Louisiana Workforce Commission located at 121 Convention Street, Baton Rouge, LA in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Mr. Jonathan Robillard, office of state lands, no address provided, (225) 342-4575, spoke for information only and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Representative Lyons offered a motion to approve the sale of surplus property located at 121 Convention Street in Baton Rouge, LA. Without objection, the motion to approve the sale of surplus property was approved by a vote of 14 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Terry Brown, Coussan, DeVillier, Foil, Gisclair, Guinn, Lyons, Magee, McFarland, Jim Morris, Reynolds, and White voted yea.

Oversight of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission approved rule that would add a non-native species of sturgeon to the approved Domesticated Aquatic Organisms list thereby allowing an aquaculture operation for non-native sturgeon in Louisiana.

Mr. Patrick Banks, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, no address provided, (225) 765-2370, spoke for information only on the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission rule.

Mr. Robert Bourgeois, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, no address provided, (225) 610-3706, spoke for information only on the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission rule.

Mr. Michael St. Martin, 3495 Bayou Black Drive, Houma, LA, (985) 857-3572, spoke in support of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission rule.

Ms. Elizabeth Knecht, Ledet's Louisiana Seafood, LLC, 1814 Williams Avenue, Natchitoches, LA 71457, (318) 332-6096, spoke in support of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission rule.

Ms. Karen Gautreaux, The Nature Conservancy, P.O. Box 4125, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, (225) 258-6982, spoke in opposition to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission rule.

Ms. Rebecca Triche, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, 337 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 344-6707, spoke in opposition to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission rule.

Representative Connick offered a motion to find the rule acceptable, to which Representative DeVillier objected. The secretary called the roll, and the motion to find the rule acceptable failed to pass by a vote of 4 yeas and 12 nays. Representatives Terry Brown, Connick, Magee, and McFarland voted yea. Representatives Bishop, Billiot, Coussan, DeVillier, Gisclair, Guinn, Lyons, Miguez, Jim Morris, Reynolds, White, and Zeringue voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 for information only and 1 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date adopted: