



Delta Agriculture Research & Sustainability District
205 Hancock St.
St. Joseph, LA 71366
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Minutes

January 12, 2022 3:00pm (Virtual Meeting)

Join Zoom Meeting>>>[Jan 12th Quarterly Meeting Link](#)

Minutes

3:05 Meeting Called to Order by Chair Dadakis

I. Prayer Dr. Botley led prayer

II. Roll Call

Chairwoman conducted Roll Call

Members in attendance

Chairwoman Jackie Dadakis

Sen. Glen Womack

Rep. Francis Thompson

Rep. C. Travis Johnson

Brandon Davis

Cameron Meshell

James Gray

Tyronne Walker

Dr. Traci Birch

Dr. Gary Kennedy

Faye Matthews

Dr. John Sutherlin

Dr. Melissa Cater

Leah S. Cullins

Dr. Les Guice

Lynncal Bering

Dr. Deshoin York

Bobby Skeen

James Davis

Todd Parker

Guests:

Steven Cinelli

John Stewart

Chester Wilson & Lily Jonsek

III. Approval of Minutes

Faye Mathews asked that roll call names be added to the minutes going forward

Dr. Sutherlin requested spelling correction of name in minutes

T.Parker motioned to accept minutes with additions

James Gray 2nd

IV. Chair

Chairwoman discusses the goal of getting organized and establishing committees in order to be established by July 1st to receive funding.

A. University Committee

B. Budget Committee

C. Chairwoman explained the purpose of the two committees needed right away, University & Budget. After explaining she expressed that members could sign up for their present but could also be added later.

J. Gray asked about other partnerships with universities and other committees. The Chairwoman expressed this list is not exhaustive, it is to get started.

Dr. Birch asked about details about how the universities could work together. Madam Chair asked Dr. Kennedy to expound a document he proposed that could guide on how university partners could work together.

Chair volunteered to serve on the Budget Committee

Members signed up for committees in the chat

Budget

Gary Kennedy

Faye Mathews

University

James Gray

Gary Kennedy

Traci Birch

DeShoin York

Tyrone Walker

Melissa Cater

Dr. Sutherlin asked do we need any financial disclosure documents to be filed in order to serve on the committees

Vice Chair Johnson said he would check with the Board of Ethics and report back.
Discussion amongst members about possible conflicts and examples.
Dr. Kennedy added they may need to have a discussion with the Ethics board

Vice Chair Johnson reiterated he will look into it to make sure all members were in compliance

V. New Business:

Chair introduced two presenters that were present at the meeting for the board to gain more information about possible future projects.

A. DARSD Long-haul Broadband-

Chester Wilson presented about Wireless Broadband, Connectivity issues and the presenter took questions from the board

Member – James Gray expressed concern about possibly not being eligible for funding until July

Vice Chair Johnson introduced California Growth Group and stated they had met with the Governor already and he expressed he is ready to move forward with projects that benefit sustainability

B. Renaissance Project

California group presents about the benefits of hemp and how it could revitalize the Delta area. The presenter expounds on how bringing technology and economics can bring about a rebirth to the community

C. Davis Farms -Southern University

Vice Chair Johnson discusses the research trials taking place between Davis Farms and Southern University and how they are waiting to get the results.

VI. Old Business'

None at this time

VII. Public Comments

None at this time

VIII. Adjournment

4:32 Motion to Adjourn Brandon Davis

2nd James Gray

4:33pm Meeting Adjourned