



# Louisiana Advanced Aviation and Drone Advisory Committee

## Louisiana Advanced Aviation and Drone Advisory Committee (LAADAC) Meeting Minutes

**Date:** August 9, 2023

**Time:** 10:00am to 12:00pm

**Location:** Louisiana House of Representatives, House Committee Room 1

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Mr. Brandt called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

### Committee Members Present:

Mr. DaCoda Bartels, Sergeant Jonathan (John) Kemp, Mr. Robert (Bobby) Moore, Mr. George Rey, Ms. Nancy Clement, Dr. Balaji Ramachandran, Mr. Scott Gammel, Mrs. Andrea Dupre' and Mr. Bradley (Brad) Brandt. Quorum met due to 9 out of 15 committee members being present. (8 out of 15 members must be present to make a quorum). Welcomed new members Andrea Dupre' (who replaced Joshua Alford) and Ms. Nancy Clement (who replaced Dr. James Dire) to LAADAC committee.

### Call for Additional Agenda Items:

Mr. Brandt asked if anyone had any items they'd like to add to the agenda.

Items added:

- Vote for new secretary for LAADAC Committee
- New committee chairs for Task Group 2 and Task Group 3 and a new member for task group 2.

If no volunteers for these positions will assign roles after the meeting.

- Federal Aviation Administration Droning on Events
- Advanced Air Mobility Ecosystem Report
- Federal Aviation Administration Facts Sheet 2023
- Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization
- Federal Incentives

Motion made by Mr. Rey and seconded by Mr. Bartels to add the items named to the agenda. Motion carried.

### Vote for New Secretary:

Secretary: Andrea Dupre'

*Nomination made by Mr. Rey and seconded by Mr. Bartels for Mrs. Dupre' to replace Joshua Alford (who no longer is appointed to the LAADAC committee), as LAADAC Secretary. No other nominations' were made—and all votes were "Yea"—vote approved for Mrs. Andrea Dupre' to replace Joshua Alford as LAADAC Secretary.*

### Approval of Minutes and Meeting Discussion:

Motion made by Mr. Moore and seconded by Mr. Gammel to approve the minutes from the January 2023 LAADAC meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Rey and seconded Dr. Ramachandran to approve the meeting discussion from the May 2023 LAADAC meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.



# Louisiana Advanced Aviation and Drone Advisory Committee

## Legislative Actions

A. Official name change passed during the regular Legislative session—bill was proposed by Rep Owens to change the name of the committee from the Louisiana Drone Advisory Committee to the Louisiana Advanced Aviation and Drone Advisory Committee (LAADAC) as well as extended the terms of the committee to 2026—bill passed and was signed into law by Governor Edwards.

## B. Annual Legislative Report

Reports must be filed 30 days prior to the start of the regular legislative session.

- i. Report is due to the Legislature committee by February 9, 2023.
- ii. LAADAC committee meeting on January 17, 2023 to approve the report and then route to DOTD Secretary for approval
- iii. For DOTD approval purposes reports need to be sent to DOTD Secretary by January 18, 2023

Mr. Rey: Hard Legislative items that LAADAC committee would like to submit. House and Senate have a limit on how many bills that they can usually put forward—depending on how many action items we'd like to put forward, we need to have an iron-clad list of items for November meeting. Will propose three legislative items to bring forth to the committee in November to vote on to present to the legislators during the upcoming session.

Dr. Ramachandran: Would like to suggest that December meeting be held within the first 10 days of Christmas (because December 20 is too close to Christmas)—and to come up with some action items at the November meeting so that during the December meeting can finalize some items.

## Task Group Reports:

As part of the Louisiana Transportation plan that the department is currently working on (5 different plans)--one of the standalone reports is the Aviation or Airport System Plan report. There are a number of different white papers and tasks that the consultant working on the Aviation program are looking at including some of the statistics of UAS usage in the state. Early next fall will be able to report findings from consultant.

- a. Task Group 1 – sUAS Drone Statistics in LA – **(Gammel)**: No items at this time but will have good statistics to present at next LAADAC meeting.
- b. Task Group 2 – Econ. Devel. Impact of Unm. Systems for Air, Ground, & Maritime – **(Vacant)**: No group members had anything to report
- c. Task Group 3 – Leg. & Exec. Impacts Hindering Growth of UAS in LA – **(Vacant)**: No group members had anything to report
- d. Task Group 4 – Leg. & Exec. Impacts Hindering Public Safety of UAS in LA – **(Champagne)**: Chairman absent. No group members had anything to report.
- e. Task Group 5 – Efforts to Implement Counter UAS to Protect Critical Infrastructure – **(Rey)**: Presentation was provided
- f. Task Group 6 – Develop a Baseline of Unm. Maritime Systems Development in LA – **(Landry)**: Chairman absent. No group members had anything to report.
- g. Task Group 7 – Develop a Baseline of Electrification of Aviation Development in LA – **(Rey)**: Presentation was provided.



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## New Business:

1. Authorize LAADAC vice-chairman Rey to develop language for 14:337 and present it to the LAADAC committee at the next LAADAC meeting in November.

Motion made by Sgt. Kemp and seconded by Dr. Ramachandran. Motion carried.

2. Authorize LAADAC vice-chairman Rey to reach out and begin discussions with the State Fire Marshall's office to set up a meeting regarding the electrification of aircraft.

Motion made by Mr Moore and seconded by Mr. Gammel. Motion carried.

3. Call for government to begin looking into adding a FD increase to Aviation Division within the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to handle AAM and Drone-Specific requirements on behalf of the LAADAC committee.

Motion made by Dr. Ramachandran and seconded by Mr. Bartels. Roll call vote required.

**Yea:** Mr. Bartels, Sgt. Kemp, Mr. Moore, Mr. Rey, Ms. Clement, Dr. Ramachandran, Mr. Gammel, Ms. Dupre'

**Abstain:** Brandt

*Yea vote is to allow vice-chairman Rey to move forward to proceed with developing the language and present this language at the next LAADAC meeting in November. Nay vote is not to allow the development of the language. Abstain is to not vote at all.*

With 8 "Yea" votes, "O" Nay votes, and 1 "Abstain" vote motion approved.

4. Emergency response to develop a program in conjunction with GOSEPH and the Louisiana State Police to train agencies and pre-qualified agencies to be able to fly a drone during a disaster (will fall under Task Group 4).

Motion by Mr. Rey, seconded by Mr. Gammel. Motion carried.

5. Review of Report Advanced Air Mobility Ecosystem reports that Louisiana Economic Development (LED)—was brought to chairman Brandt and vice-chairman Rey for advisory from LAADAC—Sgt. Kemp also advised from a legal aspect.
6. International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Symposium September 9-11, 2024 in Montreal, Canada for awareness and educational standpoint.

## Next Board Meeting:

Mr. Brandt informed LADAC that next meeting would be on November 15, 2023.

## Adjournment:

Motion made by Mr. Rey and seconded by Ms. Dupre' to adjourn LADAC meeting. Motion passed unanimously—Meeting adjourned at 11:58am.