



Louisiana Drone Advisory Committee (LADAC)

Louisiana Drone Advisory Committee (LADAC) Meeting Minutes

Date: August 24, 2021

Time: 1:30pm to 3pm

Location: Louisiana State Capitol Building, House Committee Room #6

Mr. Brad Brandt (DOTD Director of Aviation) called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm, and asked Madam Secretary Joseph to conduct a roll call.

Committee Members Present: Honorable Patrick McMath, Honorable Kendricks (Ken) Brass, Honorable Robert Owens, Mr. George Rey, Trooper Leland (Corky) Dwight, Mr. Andy Brown, Mr. Stanley Ard, Mr. Nathan McBride, Mr. DaCoda Bartels, Dr. Balaji Ramachandran, Mr. Scott Gammel, Mr. Joshua Alfred, and Mr. Bradley (Brad) Brandt. Quorum met due to 13 out of 15 committee members being present. (8 out of 15 members must be present to make a quorum).

Proxies: Mr. Thomas (Mike) Johnson attended as proxy for Mr. Robert (Bobby) Moore; Dr. Jacqueline Richard attended as proxy for Dr. Kristine Strickland.

Mr. Brandt explained and discussed ACT 328 created by Governor John Bel Edwards, which establishes the LADAC. This was the first LADAC meeting, so asked members to introduce themselves.

Mr. Brandt presented a draft Committee Charter to be considered. Mr. Brandt explained the charter would assist the committee in focusing its efforts to ensure development and promotion of the unmanned industry continues through the leadership of those involved with the LADAC.

Mr. Rey made a motion to amend the LADAC charter to include naming committee chair, vice-chair and secretary. Motion seconded by Mr. Bartels. Motion approved.
No objections or nominations made for new LADAC chair, so Mr. Brandt will remain LADAC chair.

Motion made by Dr. Ramachandra and second by Mr. Alfred to nominate Mr. Rey as vice-chair. Motion approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Rey and seconded by Dr. Ramachandran to nominate Mr. Alfred as LADAC secretary. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Rey to nominate Mr. Bartles as LADAC-FAA Liaison. Motion was not seconded. A new Motion made by Mr. Ard and seconded by Mr. Brown to nominate Mr. Gammel as LADAC-FAA Liaison. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Rey and seconded by Mr. Ard to adopt the amended charter. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brandt and Mr. Rey discussed the sub-committee development structure. The Sub-committees will be developed by Mr. Rey and over next few weeks and will be transmitted to the LADAC committee members for review prior to the next meeting. By November meeting task group and sub-committees will be presented for approval.



Louisiana Drone Advisory Committee (LADAC)

Mr. Brandt discussed the legislative report protocols and requirements. The LADAC will be required to submit a report to the House and Senate Transportation Committees on actions required under ACT 328. This report will need to be submitted to the Secretary of DOTD for approval prior to submission to the legislative bodies.

Motion made by Mr. Ard to get legal opinion from DOTD to see if we can have drone highways inside DOTD right of way. Mr. Dwight made a motion to get an additional legal opinion from the FAA. Motions on the floor were not seconded, therefore they were not carried. Mr. Ard amended his motion to seek DOTD and FAA legal opinions about the impact of drone highways on right-of-ways. Dr. Ramachandran seconded amended motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brandt informed LADAC that next meeting will be held on November 16, 2021 at 1:30 pm. Motion made by Mr. Ard and seconded by Mr. Rey to adjourn LADAC meeting. Motion passed unanimously— Meeting adjourned at 2:57 pm.