

BARATARIA-TERREBONNE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 27, 1996 MINUTES

**I.A Roll Call**

Dr. Steve Mathies presided over the meeting since the Chair and Vice-Chair had not been selected. Dr. Mathies called the meeting to order. The roll was called and the following members were present.

**Management Conference Members Present:**

Jimmy Antoon, LA Department of Health & Hospitals  
Phil Boydston, Louisiana Landowners Association  
Ann Burruss for Mark Davis, Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana  
Jack Caldwell, LA Department of Natural Resources  
Kirk Cheramie, Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary Foundation  
Paul Coreil, LSU Agricultural Center  
Vince Cottone for Beau Weber, Louisiana Association of Coastal Anglers  
Cullen Curole, Lafourche Parish  
Michael Dagg, LUMCON  
Dennis Demcheck, U.S. Geological Survey  
Ted Falgout, Greater Lafourche Port Commission  
Karen Gautreaux, Governor's Office of Coastal Activities  
Dale Givens, LA Department of Environmental Quality  
Donald Gohmert, U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Roland Guidry, Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office  
Ron Harrell, Louisiana Farm Bureau  
Sue Hawes for Colonel Conner, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
John Hils, U.S. Coast Guard  
Pete Jones for Clyde Giordano, Plaquemines Parish  
Barbara Keeler for Jane Saginaw, U.S. EPA Region 6  
Leslie Kent, LA Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism  
Randy Lanctot, Louisiana Wildlife Federation  
Jane Ledwin for David Fruge, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Al Levron, Terrebonne Parish  
Steve Loga, Commercial Fisheries  
Mike Lyons, Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association  
Earl Melancon, Nicholls State University  
Butch Stegall, LA Department of Agriculture & Forestry  
John Trowbridge, Louisiana Science Teachers Association  
M.B. Watson, LA Department of Wildlife & Fisheries  
Ken Wells, American Waterways Operators  
Marnie Winter, Jefferson Parish

**Management Conference Members Absent:**

Don Briggs, Louisiana Independent Oil & Gas Association  
Paul Cancienne, Assumption Parish  
Windell Curole, Louisiana Association of Levee Boards  
Wallace Ellender, American Sugar Cane League  
Vic Lafont, South Louisiana Economic Council  
Earl Matherne, St. Charles Parish  
Marylee Orr, Louisiana Environmental Action Network  
Cecil Picard, LA Department of Education

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Kevin Reilly, LA Department of Economic Development  
Craig Roussel, South Central Planning & Development Commission  
Rickey Ruebsamen, U.S. national Marine Fisheries Service  
Brad Spicer, Louisiana Association of Conservation Districts  
Doug Svendson, Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association

### **Guests:**

Dave Cvitanovich, Plaquemines Parish Government  
Rod Emmer, Rodney E. Emmer & Associates  
Karen Fernandez, President, LA Chapter, American Planning Association  
Steve Gammill, LA DNR  
Louis Johnson, LA DEQ  
Quin Kinler, US NRCS  
Linda Levy, LA DEQ  
Don Lirette, Terrebonne Fisherman Organization  
Alan Matherne, LCES  
David Moore, Environmental Education & Resource Program, UNO  
Kay Radlauer, Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana  
Denise Reed, LUMCON  
Jim Rives, LA DNR  
Stephen Smith, T. Baker Smith & Son  
Kerry St. Pé, LA DEQ  
Mike Wascom, CCEER, LSU

### **II.A Status of the Program**

Dr. Mathies discussed how the original Management Conference was formed and the various agencies, entities, and organizations represented. He also explained the time consuming, labor-intensive process used during the five year planning phase of the Program.

### **II.B Status of Ongoing Projects**

Dr. Mathies described briefly the status of the following ongoing projects.

1. Volunteer Vegetative Plantings - 6 planting projects to be completed by Mid-October 1996.
2. Priority Problems Televised Video Series - rough cut to be completed in November 1996.
3. Self-guided Field Trip Handbook - final draft to be completed by January 1997.
4. Teachers Guide for "Haunted Waters,.." video - draft guide is in the process of being reviewed by a committee of teachers and representatives of the educational community.
5. Estuary Recreational Handbook - the final is due in March 1997.
6. Environmental Technology Exposition - scheduled for April 11-12, 1997 at Nicholls State University.
7. Freshwater Drinking Resources - final map and final project report to be completed by December 1996.
8. Wetlands Education Campaign - final report to be completed by April 1997.
9. Estuary Education Campaign - contract to be executed by November 1996.
10. BTNEP Public Outreach and Education - contract to be executed by November 1996.
11. State of the Estuary Symposium and Festival - a very successful symposium was held in August 1996. The festival is scheduled for the Spring 1997. Some Management Conference members suggested that the festival be held in May 1997 due to the fact that May is "National Wetland" month.

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12. Newsbulletin - was a good tool during the planning phase. However, the contractor is not ready to produce newsbulletins at this time.  
Contract is to be canceled. How to use the money allotted for this contract will be decided in the near future. One suggestion was that the BTNEP place articles in various newsletters that are already established. A decision as to how the money allotted for this contract should be expended will be decided in the near future.

At this time Dr. Mathies introduced Ms. Karen Fernandez, President of the LA Chapter, American Planning Association (APA). Ms. Fernandez presented the "1996 President's Award" to Mr. Dale Givens in recognition of the BTNEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). Mr. Givens commended everyone for their diligent, time consuming work on the CCMP. With regard to the "President's Award", Mr. Givens read a statement from Governor Foster which expressed his congratulations to everyone involved.

### **III.A&B      Administrative Procedures & Structure for the New Management Conference**

Copies of the proposed administrative procedures were distributed to the Management Conference. Mr. Kirk Cheramie stated that he and several other people had reviewed the original Administrative Procedures and then revised them to reflect the implementation phase of the Program. Mr. Cheramie then pointed out the similarities and differences between the original and the proposed Administrative Procedures. After much discussion, the Management Conference decided to postpone adopting the proposed Administrative Procedures. A group was formed to review the proposed procedures and to work with other agencies to revise them. The group will then submit revised administrative procedures to the Management Conference at the next meeting. Until that time, the original administrative procedures will stay in affect.

### **III.C      Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair**

Nominations were submitted for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. Anonymous ballots were counted. Mr. Windell Curole was elected as Chair and Mr. Dale Givens was as elected Vice-Chair.

### **III.D      Program Office Operation**

Dr. Mathies announced that his contract with the State would end on September 30, 1996 and that he had accepted the position of Deputy Secretary at the LA Department of Natural Resources. There was some discussion on the operation of the BTNEP office and the process to be used to hire a new director. The Management Conference decided that the office will operate as it has done in the past and that the newly elected Chair, Windell Curole, and the original Policy Committee representatives should participate with LA Department of Environmental Quality in the "hiring process" for an Interim Director and a permanent Program Director.

### **IV.      The meeting was adjourned.**