

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

Date: January 15, 2025 **Time:** 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Location: Louisiana House of Representatives, House Committee Room 1

Mr. Brandt called the meeting to order at 1:07pm. Mr. Moore led the committee in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee Roll Call:

<u>Committee Members Present:</u> Representative Jeff Wiley, Mr. Thomas Mule, Mr. DaCoda Bartels, Mr. Andy Brown, Mr. Robert (Bobby) Moore, Mr. Michael (Mike) Boykin, Mr. Lee Broom, Mr. George Rey Sr., Ms. Nancy Clement, Ms. Andrea Dupre' and Mr. Bradley (Brad) Brandt.

Quorum met due to 11 out of 15 committee members being present. (8 out of 15 members must be present to make a quorum).

Approval of Updated Agenda:

Mr. Brandt advised that agenda for today's meeting was recently updated to include additional items and called for a motion to approve and adopt the updated agenda. Motion made by Mrs. Dupre and seconded by Mr. Brown to adopt updated agenda. Motion carried.

Mr. Brandt welcomed Rep. Wiley to the committee and allowed Rep. Wiley to say a few words.

Mr. Brandt addressed the audience members on procedure to request to speak later during the public comment portion of the meeting.

Call for Additional Agenda Items:

There were no additional agenda items added.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from September 2024 were reviewed. Motion made by Mrs. Dupre' and seconded by Mr. Rey to approve the September 2024 minutes. Motion carried.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- a. Counter Drone Technology: Chair is Mr. Rey, who gave a PowerPoint presentation and also provided hard copy report.
- b. Public Safety: Chair is Mr. Moore, who gave a verbal report.
- c. Vertiports/Advanced Air Mobility/Economic Impact: Chair is Ms. Dupre, who gave a verbal presentation and also provided hard copy report.



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Governor Landry recently signed executive order JML 24-116, which granted the Louisiana Highly Automated Large-Unmanned Aircraft Systems (L-UAS) Commission to develop L-UAS infrastructure and flight operation center. Mr. Rey plans to go back to the Governor's office to have counter-drone protocols inserted in the executive order.

Subject Matter Expert Briefing:

Louisiana Vertiports and AAM Strategic Plan: Mr. Bradley Brandt and Mr. Joshua Duplantis from DOTD Office of Multimodal Commerce: Mr. Brandt and Mr. Duplantis spoke on vertiport development throughout the state—will be putting together strategy to inspect/install vertiport sites. Technical papers are being developed for advanced air mobility. Draft scope for advanced air mobility strategic plan being finalized for advertisement.

Motion made by Thomas Mule and seconded by Andrea Dupre to recommend that LAADAC put together a public service campaign for drone pilots and the general public who want to do the right thing and also for those who don't want to do the right thing and the consequences'. Motion carried.

Motion made by Andrea Dupre and seconded by Thomas Mule for LAADAC to include a recommendation in the Legislative Report to instruct the Secretary of DOTD and the Commissioner of Multimodal Commerce to progress a platform in allocating the necessary resources to advance a statewide strategic plan for the development of vertiports and advanced air mobility to foster and grow this new technology. Motion carried.

Motion made by Dacota Bartels and seconded by Andrea Dupre for LAADAC to include a recommendation in the Legislative Report to urge the Secretary of DOTD and the Commissioner of Multimodal Commerce to contract with a professional grant writer for the sole purpose of applying for and securing federal funding to develop Louisiana's advanced air mobility and vertiport infrastructure. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Mr. James Polk from St. Charles Parish OHSEP presented information on updating RS 14:327-Obstructing a Fireman with suggested revisions.

Motion was made by Andy Brown and seconded by George Rey to include the suggested revisions for RS 14 357 in the LAADAC Legislative Report to be submitted to the legislature. Roll call vote was taken:

I's: Dupre, Clement, Rey, Broom, Boykin, Moore, Brown, Bartels, Mule, Wiley

Nay: None; Abstain: Brandt. Motion carried.



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New Business:

FAA guidance for media to get out to the general public in regards to Super Bowl LIX on drones. Will also put up on DOTD website and GOSEPH various media mediums.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Rep. Wiley and seconded by Mr. Rey to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 2:59pm.