

Bossier Parish Advisory Leadership Council Meeting
March 22, 2013

The Bossier ALC met at 11:45 a.m., opening with lunch from Subway. Members in attendance included Jon Lowe, Julian Whittington, Donnie Leflett, Pat Stinson, Bob Brotherton, Christi Turner, Sonja Bailes and Tanya Bearden. Bossier Extension staff members in attendance included Jeannie Crnkovic, Katherine Ervin and Ricky Kilpatrick.

After lunch, Ricky began the meeting with everyone introducing themselves and giving their affiliation with the parish Extension program. New ALC members were given a little background as to the purpose and function of this group. Ricky passed out flyers listing Bossier Extension highlights for the 2012 calendar year. While looking over these highlights, ALC members were asked to think of issues and topics that the Bossier Parish Extension office should consider for the future. A good discussion followed, and several concerns and ideas were raised, including:

- The need for a facility to have rodeos, clinics, parish livestock shows, etc. As big as the horse industry is in our parish, we still don't have a public facility to fill this need. Several neighboring parishes have such facilities, and it is disappointing that Bossier doesn't.
- We need an educational program on invasive species for homeowners, landowners and the general public in Bossier Parish. The problem with tallowtree, giant salvinia and others continues to grow. The Red River National Wildlife Refuge is working through an Invasive Species grant to do an inventory and spraying for some of these problems. The Extension Service needs to provide some educational information to go along with this.
- Similarly, the feral hog problem continues to grow. The Extension Service has provided several landowner seminars on feral hog control measures over the past few years, but perhaps something more action-oriented could be coordinated. The USDA recently funded an aerial hog shoot, killing over 400 feral hogs on the Red River and Ouachita refuges. About half of these hogs had pseudo rabies. Maybe the Extension Service could get with landowners and farmers in the parish and region to coordinate a similar activity on a large area of private landholdings.
- Comments were made that the Bossier Extension agents are doing many great things, but that we still need more publicity for our programs and accomplishments.

Ricky expressed appreciation for the ALC members giving their valuable time to contribute to our programming efforts and for serving as advocates for the Bossier Parish Extension program. He also stated that the our Bossier Parish Police Jury, Bossier Parish School Board and Bossier City Council are very much appreciated for providing over 20% support for our parish Extension office. Additionally, the police jury provides our office space and facilities, which is among the best in the state.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Submitted by:



Ricky Kilpatrick
Parish Chair