

NEW JERSEY SHELLFISHERIES COUNCIL		Delaware Bay Section
<i>Meeting Minutes</i>		

Meeting Name	Monthly Meeting of NJ Shellfisheries Council - Delaware Bay Section		
Meeting Date	March 3, 2015		
Meeting Time	6:00 PM		
Venue	Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory	City	Bivalve, NJ
Attendees	General Public		

Council	State/Fed Representatives	Haskin Research Lab
Scott Bailey, Cumberland Co.	Jason Hearon, DFW Shellfisheries	David Bushek, Director
Steven Fleetwood, Cumberland Co.	Craig Tomlin, DFW Shellfisheries	Kathy Alcox, Field Researcher
Warren Hollinger, Cumberland Co.	Andrew Hassall, DFW Shellfisheries	Lisa Calvo, Aquaculture Prog.
Richard Malinowski, Cumberland Co.		
Cape May / Salem Co. – Vacant		

Compliance with the Sunshine Law

Notice of this meeting was posted November 19, 2014 with the Secretary of State's Office, State House, Trenton, NJ and the Bridgeton Evening News, and Daily Journal pursuant to L. 1975 c. 231.

Meeting minutes considered for approval: Approved

November 13, 2014

January 6, 2015 revised

Councilman Hollinger motioned to approve, and Councilman Malinowski seconded.

Revenue collected for January totaled \$8,585.00 and is summarized as follows:

License Type	Total	License Type	Total
Commercial Crab Pot	\$ 600.00	Commercial Shellfish	\$ 500.00
Nets	\$2259.00	Recreational Shellfish	\$ 50.00
Application Fees	\$ 126.00	Dredge Boat Renewal	\$ 530.00
AC Dredge	\$1100.00	Tonging Tags	\$1100.00
DB Dredge	\$1000.00	Area 1,2&3	\$ 84.00
Dealer/Shucker		Menhaden	\$1036.00

Revenue collected for February totaled \$3,694.00 and is summarized as follows:

License Type	Total	License Type	Total
Commercial Crab Pot	\$ 400.00	Commercial Shellfish	\$250.00
Nets	\$ 1288.00	Recreational Shellfish	\$ 50.00
Application Fees	\$ 96.00	Dredge Boat Renewal	\$ 84.00
AC Dredge	\$ 200.00	Tonging Tags	\$300.00
DB Dredge	\$ 200.00	Area 1, 2 & 3	\$ 50.00
		Menhaden	\$776.00

Oyster Resource Development Account:

Feb 27, 2015		
Unexpended	\$541,871.63	Budget authority less expenditures (<i>total spendable dollars currently in account</i>)
Expended	\$ 38,000.00	Total amount spent against the appropriation (<i>spent from account during FY'15</i>)
Pre-encumbered	\$0.00	Total outstanding requisitions processed against the appropriation (<i>Amount previously set-aside for preparation of term contracts - since cancelled</i>)
Encumbered	\$258,000.00	Total outstanding purchase orders processed against the appropriation (<i>Amount obligated to vendors or planned services (e.g., contracting, transplants)</i>)
Uncommitted	\$283,871.63	Amount available for pre-encumbrance, encumbrance, or expenditure (<i>Current free-balance that is not obligated/encumbered to specific vendors, etc.</i>)

Lease Ground Transactions (Decision) All approved.

Section	Lease Number	Acres	Lessee
ADZ4	1B	1.5	Atlantic Capes Fisheries
ADZ4	12B	1.5	Lauren Bishop**
ADZ2/3*	1	10	Edward Gaine
A	To be determined	190	Edward Gaine

* Section number to be determined.

** Present at Meeting

Councilman Hollinger motioned to approve Atlantic Cape Fisheries’ and Edward Gaine’s leases, Councilman Fleetwood seconded. Lauren Bishop arrived later in the meeting, and Councilman Malinowski motioned to approve her lease, and Councilman Hollinger seconded.

Old Business:

- 2014 Leased Ground Extensions, Non-renewed Ground Leases (Andrus, Moore, Smith), letters sent

Jefferey Moore was in attendance at the meeting. Councilman Hollinger motioned to extend the leases to Jefferey Moore and Louis Armand, and to vacate Richard Andrus, Sr. and Claire Andrus’ lease as well as Tim Smith’s lease. The leases were vacated since the lessees were not in attendance.

Section	Lease Number	Acres	Lessee
D	76	14	Richard Andrus, Sr. and Claire Andrus
C	197	13	Jeeferey Moore* and Louis Armand
C	306	21	Jeeferey Moore* and Louis Armand
C	475	16	Jeeferey Moore* and Louis Armand
D	464	30	Jeeferey Moore* and Louis Armand
D	555	15	Jeeferey Moore* and Louis Armand
A	137	46	Tim Smith

*Present at meeting

- 2015 Oyster Stock Assessment Workshop results

David Bushek presented the summary for the Stock Assessment Workshop. The summary included the conditions of Delaware Bay and its oyster stock, the harvest numbers for 2014, and the recommendations from the Workshop for the 2015 Direct Market oyster season. For further information, the summary can be found at the Haskin Research Laboratory website, <http://hsrl.rutgers.edu/SAWreports/index.htm>. Further discussion ensued.

- Direct Market Program

The Council took most of the SAW recommendations for the harvest quota. The SAW gave the following recommendations for the starting quota prior to a transplant: 26,982 bu. from the High Mortality 75th percentile, 21,926 bu. from the Shell Rock 60th percentile, and 21,774 bu. in the 75th percentile **OR** 26,520 bu. in the 100th percentile **WITH** a transplant to the Medium Mortality beds. The Council agreed upon the High Mortality and Shell Rock recommendations, and agreed with the recommendation for the 100th percentile with a transplant for the Medium Mortality beds. The total quota before transplants was 70,682 bu.

For transplant approximate values, the SAW made recommendations which the Council adopted as follows: a Medium Mortality 60th percentile transplant of 17,443 bu. to Shell Rock, and Low Mortality 40th percentile transplant of 9,042 bu. to Medium Mortality. These values would have a market equivalent value of approximately 6,197 bu. and 2,692 bu. respectively. The SAW also recommended a Very Low Mortality 40th percentile transplant of 1,824 bu. to Medium Mortality, which the Council declined.

Based on the SAW recommendations, the total potential quota was the following: High Mortality 75th percentile of 26,982 bu., Shell Rock 60th percentile of 21,926 bu. plus transplant (6,197 bu.), and Medium Mortality 100th percentile of 26,520 bu. plus transplant (2,962 bu.). Since the Council had declined the Very Low Mortality to Medium Mortality transplant, the total potential quota was 84,317 bu. with transplants. Councilman Fleetwood motioned to accept all of the Council's decisions, Councilman Hollinger seconded, and all approved.

Jason Hearon presented potential dates for the 2015 Direct Market. The timeline was the following:

Direct Market Program Sign-Up Period:	March 9, 2015 through March 19, 2015
Intermediate Transplant Sign-Up Period:	March 9, 2015 through March 19, 2015
Tags Available:	March 30, 2015 (please order batches of 200)
Direct Market Program Opens:	April 6, 2015
Direct Market Fishery Closes:	November 20, 2015
Intermediate Transplant Begins:	April 27, 2015

Councilman Bailey motioned to accept the dates as they were, and Councilman Hollinger seconded the motion.

- Shell Planting

Councilman Bailey brought up the topic of the 2015 shell planting. Through discussion, the Council decided on planting 50,000 bu. of shell planted on 3 grids, including 1 grid on Nantuxent, 1 grid on Benny Sands or Lower Shell Rock, and 1 grid on Ship John or Cohansey to total 150,000 bu. Councilman Bailey made a motion to accept, Councilman Hollinger seconded, all approved.

- Tonger Committee Meeting

The Tongers Committee Meeting will be held on March 18, 2015 at 2:00 PM at the Haskin Shellfish Laboratory. Mr. Hearon was to send out letters in the following week to notify people of the meeting.

- Leasing Committee Meeting

Councilman Hollinger asked about the next Leasing Committee Meeting. The meetings were ongoing, and as dates were set they were put on the Bureau of Shellfisheries website.

New Business:

- Bushel Tag Availability

Councilman Fleetwood made a motion to add the increased quota that was expected from the intermediate transplant to the initial quota. This would allow the harvesters to purchase their entire quota at one time. Mr. Hearon said that normally during a harvest season, transplants were required to be completed before the additional quota from transplants could be harvested. When the transplants concluded, the transplant quota is added to the harvest quota. This prevents the possibility of an overharvest in the event that the transplant does not get completed. After further discussion of pros and cons, Councilman Fleetwood retracted his motion.

- Shellfish Aquaculture Survey

Lisa Calvo introduced a Shellfish Aquaculture survey she had started 2 years ago. She asked the Council if the industry would be interested in taking the survey in relation to those who planted shell on their lease grounds, and had undergone shellfish enhancement efforts. The statistics are for the aquaculture industry and to track its growth, and the survey was anonymous. The Council said that some people would be interested in taking the survey. Further discussion ensued.

- Transplants

As in the past, Mr. Hearon discussed with the Council the concern of the number of boats that were needed for the transplant season. Further discussion ensued.

Adjourn	@ 7:30 PM		
The next meeting of the Council will be tentatively held on:		<u>OR</u>	In the library of the Haskin Shellfish Laboratory
April 7, 2015			