

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

Meeting Name	Monthly Meeting of NJ Shellfisheries Council - Delaware Bay Section		
Meeting Date	August 3, 2010		
Meeting Time	6:00 PM		
Venue	Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory	City	Bivalve, NJ
Attendees	General Public		

Council	State Representatives	Haskin Research Lab
Scott Bailey, Cumberland Co.	James Joseph, DFW Shellfisheries	Eric Powell, Director
Warren Hollinger, Cumberland Co	Mike Celestino, DFW Shellfisheries	David Bushek, Research Professor
Steven Fleetwood, Cumberland Co.	Craig Tomlin, DFW Shellfisheries	
Richard Malinowski, Salem Co.		
Cape May / Salem Co. – Vacant		

Compliance with the Sunshine Law	Notice of this meeting was posted 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.	July 19, 2010
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Minutes	
February 2010	Presented for decision
May 2010	Presented for decision
July 2010	Presented for decision

The proceeding minutes were approved by the Council.

Revenue collected for June totaled \$27,979.00 and was itemized as follows:

License Type	Total	License Type	Total
Commercial Crab License	\$2,300.00	Dealers License	\$100.00
Commercial Shellfish License	\$550.00	Oyster Cultch Fees	\$23,294.00
Recreational Shellfish License	\$190.00	Oyster Dredge Vessel License	\$156.00
Juvenile Shellfish License	\$8.00	Net License	\$1,205.00
Non- Resident Shellfish License	\$40.00	Application Fees	\$136.00

Revenue collected for July totaled \$20,458.00 and was itemized as follows:

License Type	Total	License Type	Total
Commercial Crab License	\$700.00	Oyster Cultch Fees	\$18,496.00
Commercial Shellfish License	\$600.00	Oyster Dredge Vessel License	\$88.00
Recreational Shellfish License	\$190.00	Net License	\$294.00
Juvenile Shellfish License	\$10.00	Application Fees	\$78.00
Duplicate Fees	\$2.00		

Oyster Resource Development Account as of:

<i>August 3, 2010</i>		
Unexpended	\$537,047.12	Total dollars currently in account
Expended	\$0.00	Spent from account during FY'10
Pre-encumbered	\$0.00	Amount previously set-aside for preparation of term contracts (cancelled)
Encumbered	\$0.00	Amount obligated to vendors or planned services (e.g., contracting, transplants)
Uncommitted	\$537,047.12	Current free-balance (not obligated/encumbered to specific vendors, etc.)

Oyster Vessel Transactions

For Council's information, Thomas Reeves has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Louise Ockers</i> (License No. 89) to Port Norris Dry Dock LLC.
For Council's information, Thomas Reeves has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Janet R</i> (License No. 75) to Port Norris Dry Dock LLC.
For Council's information, Thomas Reeves has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Amanda Lauren</i> (License No. 27) to Ship John Oyster LLC.
For Council's information, Thomas Reeves has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Miss Lill</i> (License No. 73) to Ship John Oyster LLC.
For Council's information, Thomas/Todd Reeves has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Martha Meerwald</i> (License No. 17) to Shell Rock LLC.
For Council's information, Janet Reeves has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Linda W</i> (License No. 29) to Ship John Oyster LLC.

For Council's information Jenny King has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Grandpa's Girls</i> (License No. 97) to Gary K. Robbins
For Council's information Gary Robbins has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Jody Lynn</i> (License No. 39) to Gary K. Robbins
For Council's information Gary K. Robbins transferred oyster dredge vessel <i>Grandpa's Girls</i> (License No. 97) with one year to replace.
For Council's information Gary K. Robbins transferred oyster dredge vessel <i>Jody Lynn</i> (License No. 39) with one year to replace.
For Council's information Gary K Robbins substituted oysters dredge vessel <i>Grandpa's Girls</i> (License No. 97) for <i>Jody Lynn</i> .
For Council's information Gary K Robbins substituted oysters dredge vessel <i>Jody Lynn</i> (License No. 97) for <i>Grandpa's Girls</i> .
For Council's information Gary K Robbins replaced oysters dredge vessel <i>Jody Lynn</i> (License No. 39) with the <i>Jody Lynn</i> .
For Council's information Gary K Robbins has transferred oysters dredge vessel <i>Jody Lynn</i> and License No. 39 to Pack Rite Seafood.
For Council's information Gary K Robbins has transferred oysters dredge vessel <i>Grandpa's Girls</i> and License No. 97 to Pack Rite Seafood.
For Council's information Scott Sheppard has transferred the oyster dredge vessel <i>Carol Ann</i> (License No. 70) to Robert J Robbins.
For Council's information Robert J Robbins substituted the oyster dredge vessel <i>NJ5163FF</i> (License No. 3) for the vessel <i>Carol Ann</i> (License No. 70)
For Council's information Steve Fleetwood transferred oyster dredge vessel <i>Peter Paynter</i> (License No. 55) with one year to replace.
For Council's information Steve Fleetwood transferred oyster dredge vessel <i>Ringgold Brothers</i> (License No. 32) with one year to replace.
For Council's information Steve Fleetwood is placed oyster dredge vessel License No. 59 on to oyster dredge vessel <i>Vigilant</i> .
For Council's information Steve Fleetwood is substituted oyster dredge vessel <i>Ringgold Brothers</i> (License No. 32) for oyster dredge vessel <i>Peter R Paynter</i> (License No. 55).

1. Old Business

Direct Market Program

Mr. Tomlin stated that to date the industry had harvested just over 46,000 bushels and that approximately 29,000 bushels of the TAC remained. He noted that the catch per unit effort had been approximately 64 bushels per day, which was very similar to the 2009 figure and less than the two previous years (2007-08). He stated that 57 vessels had worked a total of 732 days.

Council Documents

Mr. Hollinger asked the Council if they had reviewed the four documents that he had presented (i.e., SAW-Proposed Appointment Process, Leasing Committee Recommendations, Authority Questions to Attorney General's Office and Leasing

Policy Document for Delaware Bay). Mr. Joseph stated that he had already sent the "Authority Questions" document to Trenton shortly after receiving it. Mr. Fleetwood asked that a decision on these documents be held over until the next Council meeting so that the Council could have time to put their comments together.

U.S.C.G. Booming Exercise – Maurice River

Mr. Tomlin informed the Council that the U.S. Coast Guard was no longer planning on conducting the previously scheduled oil booming exercise in the Maurice River during the month of August. This was in no small part due to their assets being currently occupied in the Gulf of Mexico with the BP Oil Spill.

Oyster Management Rule

Mr. Tomlin informed the Council that the Oyster Management Rules were officially adopted and in affect as of July 6, 2010. He noted that all members of the oyster industry were sent a letter informing them of the adoption. Mr. Tomlin added that a copy of the rules were available online on the Department's website as well as hard copies being made available at the Delaware Bay Office.

2. New Business

Administrative Consent Order Update

Mr. Tomlin stated that approximately 40 percent of the fleet's licenses has consolidated. He added that 19 vessels have been "retired" from the fishery and that 12 vessels now held more than one license. He noted that most of the constituents seemed very pleased with the consolidation process thus far.

HSRL-Budget

Dr. Powell stated that the Haskin Laboratory had recently been able to restore the money to conduct the stock assessment with the help of Assemblywoman Celeste Riley. He asked if the Council could send a letter of thanks to Ms. Riley for her help in restoring the monies.

Thank You Letter to Amy Cradic

Councilman Fleetwood asked the Council to draft a letter in order to thank Ms. Amy Cradic (Assistant Commissioner, DEP) for being instrumental in the process of creating the Administrative Consent Order that permits license consolidation within the oyster fleet.

Tagging Discrepancy

Councilman Fleetwood asked for clarification on how to tag a cage upon filling. He explained that it does not take much to have a cage at the end of the day come up short due to a lack of time or unforeseen occurrences. A lengthy discussion ensued. Mr. Joseph stated that he would contact enforcement and inform the Council on their ruling.

Letter to Tidelands Bureau

Councilman Hollinger asked for a copy of the letter sent by the Atlantic Coast Shellfisheries Council as well as the response letter from the Tidelands Bureau. Mr. Joseph stated that he would gladly pass these letters along. Lengthy conversation ensued.

Please be reminded that all shellfish leases must be renewed (in person) by December 31 each year. Bureau offices will begin accepting lease renewals beginning October 15 of each year.