

MINUTES FO THE MEETING OF THE
NJ FISH AND GAME COUNCIL

Rutgers Eco-Complex
Bordentown, NJ
July 20, 2011

The regular meeting of the Fish and Game Council was held on the above date.

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 am by Acting Chairman Burke.

The following was read aloud by Acting Chairman Burke: In accordance with P.L. 1975, c. 231 notice of this meeting was filed with and posted at the office of the Secretary of State and sent to the designated newspapers of the Division, the Newark Star Ledger and the Atlantic City Press on July 11, 2011.

Roll call was taken. In attendance were:

Acting Chairman Dave Burke
Councilwoman Barbara Brummer*
*(9:45 arrival from the ENSAC Meeting)
Councilman Agust Gudmundsson
Councilman Jeffrey Link
Councilman Robert Puskas
Councilman Dan Van Mater

Absent: Councilman Philip Brodhecker**
Councilman John Messeroll**
**these Councilmen were in attendance at the
Joint Council's Meeting

Division employees included Anthony Petrongolo, Lisa Barno, Mark Leonard, Carole Kandoth, Miriam Dunne and others.

Several members of the public were also in attendance.

Acting Chairman Burke advised that a quorum of members was present and that if necessary, Councilwoman Brummer was in the building at the Endangered and Non-Game Species Advisory Committee meeting.

Minutes from the May 10, 2011 meeting were reviewed. **A motion was made by Councilman Puskas, seconded by Councilman Van Mater to approve the minutes as presented. A vote was taken with all in favor, none opposed.**

Acting Chairman Burke asked if anyone wished to make public comment on the agenda items for today; the vote on the amended tentative New Jersey 2011-2012 Migratory Bird Season –

Youth Waterfowl Hunting Dates and the review of public comments and agency response and vote on amendments to the Game Code. There was no one wishing to make public comment.

Dates for the New Jersey 2011-12 Migratory Bird Seasons – Youth Waterfowl Hunting Dates were distributed and reviewed by Supervising Biologist Kandoth. After review and discussion of the information presented, **a motion was made by Councilman Van Mater, seconded by Councilman Gudmundsson to approve the proposed waterfowl hunting season dates. A vote was taken with all in favor, none opposed.**

Supervising Biologist Kandoth next reviewed the information that she had previously sent to the Council regarding amendments to the Game Code. She noted that 454 total comments regarding the proposed amendments were received, with the majority of those being sent to the Division's website. It was also noted that there was a low attendance at the Game Code Hearing in May.

Each of the proposed amendments was reviewed, and any comments received were noted.

After review of the proposals, there was some discussion on the information given today with regard to the APR (antler point restriction) rule and how it relates to hunters with disabilities. This matter may be considered for change in the next Game Code cycle.

Supervising Biologist Kandoth also reviewed comments that were received that were not relative to the Game Code.

After hearing the information presented today, **a motion was made by Councilman Puskas, seconded by Councilman Gudmundsson to accept the proposed changes to the Game Code. A vote was taken with all in favor, none opposed.**

A motion to accept the Game Code in its entirety was made by Councilman Puskas and seconded by Councilman Gudmundsson. A vote was taken with all in favor, none opposed.

Acting Chairman Burke noted that there would be no Bureau or Committee reports given today, and that the meeting would move on to the Joint Councils Meeting from here.

The August and September Council meetings were discussed with regard to who was able to attend and whether or not there would be a quorum. Acting Chairman Burke noted that the new President of the New Jersey Quail Project, Steve Smith, would like to give a short presentation to the Council, and this may be scheduled for the September meeting.

Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries Chief Barno asked to give a brief update to the Council on the status of the Fish Code, which is scheduled to be published in the August 1st Register. The public hearing is scheduled for the evening of September 13 at 7 pm at the Central Region Office. Since this was the same day as the regularly scheduled Fish and Game Council meeting, Acting Chairman Burke suggested that the meeting time be moved to 1 pm. (Councilwoman Brummer arrived at 9:45 am). Hearing the suggested time change, Councilwoman Brummer noted that the ENSAC would like to hold their meeting that day at 9 am and would be having a presentation from the Lanza Company on the use of horseshoe crabs for medical purposes, and

all who were interested were welcome to attend. The Fish and Game Council meeting will be at 1 pm on September 13, and the ENSAC meeting will tentatively, at this time, be a 9 am on September 13.

Acting Chairman Burke asked if there was any additional public comment. Hearing none, he noted that the meeting would now break and reconvene at the Joint Council's Meeting. All were in favor.

The regular meeting of the New Jersey Fish and Game Council recessed at 9:47 am, and reconvened to hear the presentations to the Joint Council's meeting. The meeting of the Joint Council's collectively adjourned at 12:15 pm, concluding the Fish and Game Council meeting as well.