

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
ATLANTIC COAST SECTION OF THE NEW JERSEY SHELLFISHERIES COUNCIL

Nacote Creek Law Enforcement
Port Republic, NJ
March 19, 2012

Present were:

Chairman:	Walter L. Johnson III	(Ocean County)
Vice Chairman:	John Maxwell	(Atlantic County)
Councilman:	Walter Hughes	(Monmouth County)
Councilman:	Oliver Twist III	(Cape May County)

State Representatives:

Jeffrey Normant, Bureau of Shellfisheries
 Russell Babb, Bureau of Shellfisheries
 Michael Celestino, Bureau of Shellfisheries
 Gustavo Calvo, Bureau of Shellfisheries
 Kira Dacanay, Bureau of Shellfisheries

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order. Mr. Normant read the State's compliance with Sunshine Law. He announced that the meeting would be recorded.

1.	Total Revenue for January 2012:	\$ 2,625.86
	Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund:	\$ 1,882.00
	 Total Revenue for February 2012:	 \$ 1,967.94
	Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund:	\$ 540.00

2. January 9, 2012 Minutes

The minutes of the January 9, 2012 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Maxwell and a second by Mr. Twist.

3. Applications for Transfer

LESSEE	APPLICANT	LOT #	SEC	ACRES	LOCATION	MAP #
William Hallam Jr	William M. Huderwitz	372	B	2.35	GB-Cape Horn	10
William Hallam Jr	William M. Huderwitz	385	B	6.67	GB-Cape Horn	10
Robert M. Yorke	John Schriever	2262.1	B	1.02	Dry Bay	24.2
Robert M. Yorke	John Schriever	2262.2	B	1.02	Dry Bay	24.2
John J. Maxwell	Walter L. Johnson III	2235	B	2.41	Dry Bay	24.2
James McAnney	Thomas J. McAnney	316	B	5.44	GB-Cape Horn	10
James McAnney	Thomas J. McAnney	324	B	2.12	GB-Cape Horn	10
James McAnney	Thomas J. McAnney	338	B	3.27	GB-Cape Horn	10
James McAnney	Thomas J. McAnney	317	B	2.48	GB-Cape Horn	10
James McAnney	Thomas J. McAnney	337	B	3.55	GB-Cape Horn	10
James McAnney	Thomas J. McAnney	403	B	5.46	GB-Cape Horn	10
Michael Martin	Sidney Martin	107	A	1.97	Great Egg Harbor	10

Without discussion, the lease transfers were approved on a motion by Mr. Twist and seconded by Mr. Hughes. Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Johnson abstained from voting on the lease transfer for lease 2235 from Mr. Maxwell to Mr. Johnson.

4. Applications for Consideration

LESSEE	LOT #	SEC	ACRES	LOCATION	MAP#
Emerson Duarte	2574	B	2.00	Scull Bay	27
Richard Went	2560	B	2.00	Scull Bay	27

Mr. Normant provided the Council with copies of the applicant's lease application. Messrs. Duarte and Went were not present. Pursuant to leasing regulations, applicants must attend one of two meetings at which the Council reviews their applications.

5. Applications for Decision

LESSEE	LOT #	SEC	ACRES	LOCATION	MAP#
William Bartle	1048	A	2.02	Great Sound	5
George Simmons	1097	A	2.03	Great Sound	5
Eric Parker	1098	A	2.00	Great Sound	5
Thomas C. Daffin	1047	A	2.00	Great Sound	5
John Daffin	1092	A	2.00	Great Sound	5
Paul Felder	1096	A	2.00	Great Sound	5
Thomas J. Daffin	1046	A	2.01	Great Sound	5
Joseph Brooke	1045	A	2.01	Great Sound	5
Tyler Roesch	1044	A	2.00	Great Sound	5
William Avery	46	B	1.97	GB- Graveling Pt.	1
Daniel McFarland	2349	B	2.00	Dry Bay	24.2

Mr. Parker was present at this meeting. All of the other applicants were present at the previous meeting. The lease applications were approved on a motion by Mr. Hughes and a second by Mr. Twist.

6. Old Business:

Barnegat Bay Shellfish Enhancement Committee

Mr. Babb stated that the Bureau received funding dedicated for hard clam and oyster restoration work in Barnegat Bay as part of the permit renewal for the Exelon Corporation, which operates the Oyster Creek Nuclear Power Plant on Barnegat Bay. Mr. Babb stated that the Bureau requested that the Council convene a Barnegat Bay Shellfish Enhancement Committee to provide input on a tentative proposal to enhance hard clam and oyster habitat in Barnegat Bay, particularly with regard to advice on site selections. Mr. Johnson stated that he had provided a few names of commercial shellfishermen to Mr. Babb whom he thought would be helpful in serving on the Committee. Mr. Babb stated that he initially wanted to have recreational representatives at this committee meeting, but had decided to hold a separate meeting with academia and recreational shellfishermen. Mr. Johnson requested that that meeting includes one recreational shellfishermen not affiliated with ReClam the Bay. Mr. Babb read the Council's committee charge. Mr. Johnson inquired on timelines for spending the Exelon funds. Mr. Babb stated that he was not aware of any specific timelines, but would inquire with DEP officials that were involved with the Exelon funding. Mr. Gef Flimlin inquired on the possibility to establish harvest area closures on enhancement sites. Mr. Babb stated that the closures of areas to shellfishing on the Atlantic Coast did not appear to be supported by specific language in the shellfish statute or regulations as it was on Delaware Bay. Mr. Babb stated that the subject of harvest area closures merit further investigation and discussion.

7. New Business:

2012 Ethics and Financial Disclosure Forms

Mr. Normant reminded council members that the deadline for submission of ethics and financial disclosure forms was May 15, 2012.

Introduction of New Bureau Biologist Kira Dacanay

Mr. Normant introduced the new Bureau biologist Ms. Kira Dacanay. Ms. Dacanay was previously with the Division of Land Use Regulation where she was involved in coastal regulation and aquaculture-related land use policy. She will be conducting hard clam surveys along the coastal bays as well as handling waterfront development reviews in Barnegat Bay. Mr. Johnson welcomed Ms. Dacanay.

January 27, 2012 Aquaculture Advisory Council meeting

Mr. Maxwell inquired items that had been discussed at the January 27, 2012 Aquaculture Advisory Council (AAC) meeting. Mr. Babb stated that he provided an update on proposed state aquaculture permits. Mr. Flimlin stated that he updated the Council on efforts to add shellfish to the specialty crop designation in the Farm Bill. Dr. Calvo stated that he provided an update on the status of the Aquaculture Development Zones in Delaware Bay. A review of ex-officio and appointees to the AAC was also discussed.

Vibrio Management Plan

Mr. Maxwell inquired on the status of the *Vibrio* Management Plan. Mr. Babb stated that the plan would likely be finalized in May 2012. He stated that the typical timing restrictions for handling shellfish products would go into effect on the first or second Monday in June. Mr. Babb stated that Ms. Cali Alexander with the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services would probably update the Council on this subject at the April meeting.

Route 72 Bridge

Mr. Celestino updated the Council on proposed mitigation measures relating to the Route 72 bridge construction project. Mr. Celestino asked the Council of their thoughts on NJDOT's proposal to allow clam harvest in certain areas that are likely to be impacted prior to commencement of construction activities. The Council opined that it would be better to mitigate for loss of habitat.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Twist and a second by Mr. Hughes.

8. Date, time and place of next meeting:

DATE: April 16, 2012
TIME: 7 PM
LOCATION: Law Enforcement Office
360 New York Rd. Rte. 9
Port Republic, NJ 08241