

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

Nacote Creek Law Enforcement
Port Republic, NJ
July 16, 2018

ROLL CALL: Chairman: John J. Maxwell (Atlantic County)
 Vice Chairman: Walter L. Johnson III (Ocean County)
 Councilman: Walter Hughes (Monmouth County)
 Councilman: Vacant (Cape May County)
 Councilman: Vacant (Burlington County)

DEP Representatives: Jeffrey Normant, Bureau of Shellfisheries
 Kira Dacanay, Bureau of Shellfisheries
 Lloyd Lomelino, Bureau of Shellfisheries
 Brett Nicklow, Marine Enforcement

Mr. Normant read the State's compliance with the Sunshine Law and announced that the meeting would be recorded. Notice was filed with the Secretary of State Office and newspapers designated by the Department.

1. Total Revenue for May 2018: \$1,649.25
 Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund \$575.00
 Total Revenue for June 2018: \$34,209.54
 Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund \$588.00

2. Presentation of May 21, 2018 minutes for approval.

The May 21, 2018 minutes were presented for consideration on a motion by Mr. Johnson and approved unanimously by the council.

3. Applications for Transfer

LESSEE	APPLICANT	LOT #	SECTION	ACRES /FEET	LOCATION	MAP #
John Maxwell	Great Bay Oyster LLC, Thomas McAnney	230	B	792.0	Mullica River	1.1
Robert D. Fricke	Dale S. Parsons	1435	B	2.00	Middle Island	6.1
Marion Burke	Sloop Point Oyster, LLC	28	D	2.00	BB-Swan Pt.	1

All applications for transfer were approved on a motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Hughes.

4. Applications for Consideration

LESSEE	LOT #	SECTION	ACRES	LOCATION	MAP#
Charles Gehman	228	A	2.08	Ludlam Bay	1
George W. Mathis, Jr.	2200	B	2.04	Dry Bay	24.2
Nora Schuler	619	B	2.00	LEHB-Thompson Creek	6
Jordan LoPinto	618	B	2.00	LEHB-Thompson Creek	6
William Schugel	401.1	B	2.12	GB-Big Creek	10
Arthur Gant	7	D	2.00	BB-Swan Pt	1

Mr. Normant provided the Council with copies of the above lease applications. Messrs. Gehman, LoPinto, Schugel, and Grant and Ms. Schuler were present at the meeting. Mr. Mathis was absent. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7.25-24.6, lease applicants shall attend at least one of the two council meetings at which the Council reviews their applications. If the applicant fails to attend at least one of the meetings at which the lease application was discussed, the application shall be cancelled.

5. Applications for Decision

LESSEE	LOT #	SECTION	ACRES/FT	LOCATION	MAP#
Thomas Glenn	1029	A	2.08	Great Sound	5
Kevin Cummings	620	B	2.00	LEHB-Thompson Creek	6
Erik J. Gross	656	B	2.00	LEHB-Jeremy Point	6
W. Scott Card	29	D	2.00	BB-Swan Point	1

Mr. Gross was present at the meeting. Messrs. Glenn, Cummings, and Card were present at the last Council meeting. All applications for decision were approved on a motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Hughes. Mr. Normant informed the applicants they have 30 days to sign their lease agreements and pay the lease fees.

6. Old Business:

ENSP Update

On July 26, Bureau of Shellfisheries staff plan to meet with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) to discuss the Rose Cove shellfish leases. Mr. Maxwell asked who would be at the meeting. Mr. Normant informed him that Bureau staff would be present as well as Mr. Matt Gregg and Mr. Matt Hender.

BOEM New York Bight Update

Ms. Dacanay informed Council that Marine Fisheries Administration (MFA) had submitted updated comments to DEP regarding the Call for Information for the four Call Areas for offshore wind energy development in the New York Bight. MFA also held three public information sessions in Ocean City, Belmar, and Manahawkin seeking additional stakeholder feedback. She added that DEP had held pre-application meetings with lease holders for the wind energy area off Atlantic City. Mr. Maxwell asked about the timeframe for approval of the wind energy

projects. Ms. Dacanay informed him there are multiple phases to each project that include planning and analysis of wind energy areas, a competitive leasing process, site assessment, and construction and operations. The timeframe varies depending on the time lapsed in each individual phase. With respect to the Atlantic City leases, Ms. Dacanay stated that BOEM had just initiated the first steps which can take up to five years to complete. She added that going forward, additional estuarine specific issues may arise because of offshore wind projects with relation to cable routing and landfall locations.

7. New Business:

MFA State Appropriation

Mr. Normant discussed with Council MFA funding issues and the inability to hire new staff with the FY18 supplemental appropriation received last year. A number of recreational and commercial fisheries stakeholder groups had reached out to members of the legislature over concerns about staffing deficiencies within the MFA and the need to secure additional funding for FY19. As a result, Assembly Bill 4255 was introduced requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$1.2 million in FY19 for the MFA. The Bill was passed overwhelming in both the Assembly and Senate. The passed Bill was currently at the Governor's Office for signature. Several fisheries stakeholder groups had also submitted letters to the Governor's Office, including the NJ Marine Fisheries Council, requesting that the Bill be signed. A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to submit a joint letter with the Delaware Bay Section of the New Jersey Shellfish Council to the Governor's Office requesting that the FY19 supplemental appropriation be approved and to ensure that these monies become permanent part of the MFA budget in the future. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hughes and approved unanimously by Council.

November Shellfish Council Meeting

Mr. Maxwell stated that he would not be able to attend the November 17th Council meeting and suggested that the November meeting be moved to November 12th. A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to change the date of the November Council Meeting from November 17, 2018 to November 12, 2018 and was seconded by Mr. Hughes.

Green Bank School Update

Mr. Maxwell inquired about the status of the Green Bank School. Mr. Normant informed him he had not received any updates.

Department of Agriculture Update

Mr. Maxwell asked the audience if anyone had received an update or spoke to any staff at NJ Department of Agriculture regarding the Aquaculture Advisory Council. Mr. Scott Lennox stated he had not heard anything, however opined there was a need to hold an Aquaculture Advisory Council Meeting.

Having no further new business the meeting was adjourned on motion by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Hughes.

8. Date, time and place of next meeting:

DATE:	August 20, 2018
TIME:	7 PM
LOCATION:	Law Enforcement Office 360 New York Rd. Rte. 9 Port Republic, NJ 08241