

NEW JERSEY BOAT REGULATION COMMISSION MEETING

Spray Beach Yacht Club

23rd & Long Beach Blvd, NJ 08008

May 12, 2021

I. **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Acting Chairman Ed Harrison Jr.

Shaun Blick

Bruce Strigh

Leonard Mangiaracina

Roland Gehweiler Jr.

Philip Weisbecker Jr.

STAFF

DAG Vivek Mehta

Tpr I A. Guido

Office of the Attorney General

NJSP, Marine Services Bureau

ATTENDEES

Ed Harrison III

Melissa Danko

Marine Trades Assoc. of NJ

Marine Trades Assoc. of NJ

II. **SUNSHINE LAW ANNOUNCEMENT (OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW)**

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM by Acting Chairman Ed Harrison Jr., at which time Acting Chairman Ed Harrison Jr. announced that this meeting is being held in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, known as the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was given by annual notice filed with the Secretary of State, the Department of Law and Public Safety website, the New Jersey State Police website and it was posted at State Police Headquarters, West Trenton, NJ.

III. **MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETING**

Minutes from the March Boat Regulation Commission meetings were approved via motion, seconded and voted in favor by all members.

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IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **PFD Mandatory Wear during specific times and PWC passenger location requirements:**

A discussion over the mandatory wear of Personal Floatation Devices (PFD) during specific times (I.E., Seasonal). Members conducted their own research. Requested more research to compare with neighboring States and their PFD regulations. NY has similar regulation to what NJ is attempting to move forward with. Members request more data from USCG stats and NASBLA stats.

- **Passenger requirements on PWC:**

Members agreed that passenger requirements should be further reviewed where no person shall be located between the operator and the steering controls if they do not possess a Boating Safety Certificate. Members agreed for a draft to be drawn up for this regulation and presented at next meeting.

- Board Members discussed the condition of members' terms. DAG Mehta advised they are on a 4 year term. Currently, all members' terms have expired and are in holdover status. The members serve at the Governor's pleasure.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- Commission members reviewed and approved the Sussex County Rowing Club Application for Boat Regulation Waiver.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members from the Marine Trades Association request that the mandatory wear of a PFD year round would have a negative response within the boating community and requested we look into mandatory wear during specific times of the year. They were advised it was never intended to be a year round regulation.

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VII. **EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION**

Acting Chairman Ed Harrison Jr. expressed his appreciation to the providers of the facility.

VIII. **AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Review research with the mandatory wear of the PFDs with neighboring States.
Review Draft in regards to passenger requirements on a PWC.

IX. **DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next Boat Regulation Commission meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place at 10:00AM on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, at the Lake Hopatcong Yacht Club, 75 N. Bertrand Rd., Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856.

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned via motion by attending members.