

PROCEEDINGS
of the
ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
54TH ANNUAL MEETING
BUSINESS MEETING

November 2, 1995
Hawthorn Suites Hotel
Charleston, South Carolina

Accelerated Data Processing Systems, Inc.
1511-A Penman Road
Jacksonville Beach, Florida 32250

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Hawthorn Suites Hotel Charleston, South Carolina

October 29 - November 2, 1995

BUSINESS MEETING

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The Business Meeting of the 54th Annual Meeting of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened in the True Laurel Room of the Hawthorn Suites Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina, Thursday afternoon, November 2, 1995, and was called to order at 1:46 o'clock p.m. by Chairman Gordon C. Colvin.

CHAIRMAN GORDON C. COLVIN: We will now open the Annual Business Meeting of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and I will ask the executive director to call the roll of the states.

(Whereupon, the roll call was taken by Executive Director John Dunnigan.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOHN DUNNIGAN: Mr. Chairman, 12 of the 15 state delegations to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission are represented here,

and you have a quorum.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Thank you, Mr. Executive Director.

At this point, the agenda calls for public comment. Are there any of our guests who wish to address the Commission at this time? Thank you.

We will now have the report of the executive director.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DUNNIGAN: Mr. Chairman, thank you very much. I had planned on saying a couple of different things, but I'm going to be real quick. I want to highlight a couple of issues that I think are important for all of us.

First of all, as the chairman said at lunch yesterday, we are in a time right now -- as a result of what the Commission has done over the last couple of years, we've gotten a lot of attention, sometimes perhaps not all of it welcome. But a lot of people that we deal with are focusing on the ASMFC.

I understand how that happens. I think we have to be attentive now to try and make sure that they don't lose sight of the fact of the states. The

Commission is an important organization. It's a tribute to the states that we come together. But let's continually remind people that we are effective, not because we are some wonderful institution; we are effective because of the states that are committed to making the program work.

Secondly, I have had a number of people ask me what I see coming down the road. A couple of years ago, we talked about cooperative management in the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Law. Now we've talked about a Statistics Program. My view is that the states in the Commission at this point ought to be in for a period of consolidation in building.

I don't see any major new initiatives that we're going to have to figure out a way to wrap ourselves around. I think we have plenty of work just continuing to build with the items that we have had.

I think the Management Program continues to need some attention. I think that we clearly have a lot of work to do on statistics. We've built some good working partnerships with the Federal Government.

For those of you that might be wondering

what is coming at us next, I don't see that there are any major new directions and initiatives that we will be needing to address over the next couple of years. I think our energy ought to and should be spent on consolidating and building good foundations for those initiatives that we have undertaken in the last couple of years.

Thirdly -- and this is the last point, Mr. Chairman, that I will make -- your staff has been extremely fortunate in the last year to recruit the kind of individuals that we have been able to bring to work for you. The new staff members that we have brought together are uniformly of extremely high quality. They are very dedicated.

I was worried what it was going to be like, bringing a lot of new people into this process at this time and essentially telling them, "You've got the ball; run with it." They have picked up that ball, they have run with it, and I think you are being well served, not only by the staff that's been with us for a long time, but very much so by a lot of the new people that we've been able to bring in.

Let me emphasize in this regard also that in the restructuring of the ASMFC staff over the last year, the responsibilities of the other senior managers in the program have increased remarkably. And by that I'm referring to the ISFMP director, George Lapointe; to the Science and Research director, Dr. Lisa Kline; and to the director of Administration, Laura Leach. The four of us now comprise the senior staff.

I am delegating to them lots of authority and responsibility to carry out programs. I hope that will give me a greater opportunity to deal with broader issues of overall direction and planning for the Commission's activities and representation of the Commission and being able to deal even more effectively up on Capitol Hill.

These senior managers, along with the new staff, are working very hard, and they are making my life a lot easier. And I really appreciate all of the efforts that they have been putting in there.

Mr. Chairman, if anybody has any questions about the Commission in general and where we're going and future directions, I'd be glad to answer them. And I

certainly, from the staff's standpoint, want to thank all of you for the support that you continually give to us as we try to serve you. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Thank you, Jack.

Are there questions regarding the executive director's report? Thank you.

It's now incumbent on me to offer a report on behalf of the Executive Committee. I, too, will be as brief as I can be, and we will have recommendations for action by the Commission on two issues.

The Executive Committee met this morning, continuing into this afternoon, and heard a number of reports from staff and from committees, including notably the report of the Legislators and Governors' Appointees, the Administrative Oversight Committee, the Statistics Committee, and the Legislative Committee and the Management and Science Committee.

I need to report to you that the Executive Committee took certain actions during that meeting, including the following. Notably, the Executive Committee approved on behalf of the Commission the State-Federal Memorandum of Understanding on the

development of a Cooperative Coastwide Fisheries Statistics Program and authorized the executive director, on behalf of the Commission, to execute that agreement.

The Executive Committee also heard an extensive report from the Legislative Committee, and part of that report was offered jointly by the Legislative and Habitat Committees relative to legislative positions on the Clean Water Act and related issues. The Executive Committee approved a significant number of legislative positions on matters relating to federal legislation and appropriations issues.

The Executive Committee report will detail those positions which have been adopted on behalf of the Commission by the committee.

The Executive Committee voted to accept the audit on recommendation of the Administrative Oversight Committee.

And the Executive Committee further passed a motion directing the staff to review in consultation with the AOC the issue of state arrears and requested a report at the next meeting on suggested remedies, including possibility of recommending changes to the

Rules and Regulations with respect to state participation in Commission functions as regards dues arrears.

We will have more to report on that at the spring meeting.

Lastly, the Executive Committee deliberated on staff recommendations for revisions to the Commission's Rules and Regulations, in which regard I have two motions to offer to the Commission at this time. The Executive Committee did discuss at some length the proposed staff changes and the recommendations of the AOC on changes to the Rules and Regulations, and have directed that there be further comment and review of those proposals, but is reporting and recommending two changes at this time.

I will move them separately. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I move that the Commission adopt the staff recommended revision to Article III, Section 1 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations as attached to the staff memorandum to commissioners dated October 19th, 1995. That deals with the subject of quorum.

That is a motion on behalf of the Executive Committee, and it is before the floor of the

Commission for discussion and comment at this time. Is there discussion on the motion? There being no discussion, we'll take the vote. All in favor, please signify by saying Aye; opposed, same sign. Abstentions? Motion carries, and the Rules and Regulations are modified in that respect.

The second motion. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I move to replace Article IV, Section 3 with the staff recommended replacement presently numbered Section 2, but which will be renumbered Section 3, Executive Director, from the staff recommendations dated October 19th, 1995.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, that motion is before the Commission. Is there discussion on the motion? Seeing none, we'll take the question. All in favor, please signify by saying Aye; opposed, same sign. Abstentions? The motion carries.

That concludes the report of the Executive Committee. Are there any questions with respect to the report of the Executive Committee?

We need a motion to accept the report of the Executive Committee. Moved by Dr. Sandifer. Is

there a --

MR. PHIL COATES: Second.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Seconded by Mr. Coates.

On the motion. All in favor, please signify by saying Aye; opposed, same sign. The motion carries.

We now have on the agenda the report of the ISFMP Policy Board. The Policy Board met yesterday afternoon, and resumed its meeting this morning and discussed a great number of issues as detailed on the agenda, and on which we will be pleased to entertain questions.

There is only one action item resulting from the Policy Board's activities that needs to be brought before the Commission at this time. That is an action item with respect to a question of compliance with respect to the Weakfish Management Plan. There's a motion being prepared to be put up.

The Weakfish Board did bring a recommendation of a finding of noncompliance to the ISFMP Policy Board. The Policy Board did accept that recommendation, and brings forward to the Commission at this time a recommendation that there be a Commission

determination that the State of Maryland is in noncompliance with respect to the Commission's Fishery Management Plan for Weakfish.

The specifications of that motion will appear on the screen as soon the staff is able to do so. I'm not going to read the motion unless somebody wants me to. It is in front of us. That motion is hereby offered on behalf of the ISFMP Policy Board. It does not need a second, I'm told.

This motion is before the Commission for discussion. Commissioner Alden.

MS. ROBIN ALDEN: Mr. Chairman, I abstained from the vote on the Executive Committee and the Policy Board earlier. I just want to state that the reason I did this is that the State of Maine has no interest in weakfish, and that I personally have not been involved in the Commission long enough to be involved in any of the weakfish discussions.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Thank you.

Is there any further discussion on this motion? Do any of the commissioners wish to be heard with respect to this issue at this time? In that case,

we'll take the question. Without objection, we will take a voice vote, one person please voting for each state delegation. Without objection, that's how we'll proceed. All in favor, please signify by saying Aye; opposed, same sign. Abstentions. The State of Maine abstains. The motion carries. The staff will carry out the appropriate correspondence.

I would also like to report at this time that we have a second follow-up motion to report and to recommend with respect to this action. That motion will now be displayed. The motion displayed is offered, recommended for approval by the full Commission by the ISFMP Policy Board. The motion is on the table. Is there discussion on the motion? Seeing none, we'll take the question. All in favor, please signify by saying Aye; opposed, same sign. Abstentions? The State of Maine abstains. The motion carries.

That concludes the recommendations of the ISFMP Policy Board. The Board does not have further action for the Commission. The Board will be happy to entertain any questions that members of the Commission wish to inquire at this time.

Seeing none, we will proceed to the report of the Law Enforcement Committee, and call on Colonel Brewer to make that report.

COL. DONALD BREWER: Our committee chairman, Bob Babula, had to catch an earlier flight, so it's chair-elect, and he gave me the honor of presenting the Law Enforcement Committee report. But as a good manager and delegator, I want to delegate that to Tom Meyer, who works with the National Marine Fisheries Service and is our permanent law enforcement liaison, which we are really pleased to have. He's going to be our liaison and our secretary.

So Tom, I'll let you go ahead and present the report.

MR. TOM MEYER: The Law Enforcement Committee met on October 31st, 1995 and November 1st, 1995 in Charleston, South Carolina. All states were in attendance. That's the first time. We're happy with that. Other members and guests included the National Marine Fisheries Service, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U. S. Coast Guard.

We believe the hundred percent attendance

was due to the interest on the part of the Law Enforcement Committee to participate in the decision making process of the ASMFC. It also shows the value of ASMFC funding for travel expenses to get our members to the various places.

The first issue was striped bass. The committee discussed the enforceability of the National Marine Fisheries Service's proposed rule change to open the EEZ to the taking of striped bass. Comments will be sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service.

The second is liaison representative to the Fishery Management Boards. The committee assigned members to attend and participate at the Management Board meetings. I've been asked to make sure that people know when the time is for the meetings and they're able to attend, or will make sure that somebody else can replace them.

Interjurisdictional enforcement issues. The committee discussed the interstate transportation and sale of fish issues requested by Chairman Gordon Colvin in his April 26th, 1995 memo to the Commission. This was the priority memo. After a long discussion, a

subcommittee was formed to address the issue. We probably spent an hour and a half just discussing the issue.

Aquaculture. The committee has taken the initiative to begin to monitor the development of aquaculture issues. Ann Colbert, a forensic investigator from National Marine Fisheries Service lab here in Charleston, explained to the committee the laboratory's capabilities of tracking and identifying marine species through protein analysis. She encouraged the states to utilize her facilities with their particular problems with species identification. We're pretty excited about that area. The possibilities are tremendous.

Funding sources. The committee discussed potential funding avenues to assist them with their law enforcement duties in enforcing the various FMPs. The committee, for the third year, discussed National Marine Fisheries Services' MOUs and the use of asset forfeiture funds. To date, none of the states have been able to obtain use of the funds, and the National Marine Fisheries Service has failed to provide a clear procedure as to how a state could access the funds, although National Marine Fisheries Service has provided training

opportunities at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center through use of these funds.

The committee discussed the allocation of the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act monies. The Law Enforcement Committee was disappointed to learn that although enforcement has been identified as one of the five primary areas to receive funding under the act, that less than ten percent of the funds were committed to enforcement. In fact, only six states saw fit to commit any money to their law enforcement agencies.

In light of the expanding responsibilities of law enforcement resources to fishery management plans, the committee passed the following motion: The Law Enforcement Committee formally requests that the Executive Committee direct the states to allocate a minimum of 20 percent to the law enforcement needs when preparing the Atlantic Coastal Fishery Cooperative Management Act grant applications.

A subcommittee was formed to find possible funding sources available to law enforcement outside of ASMFC.

I have a couple of updates. The estimate of enforcement effort needed for fishery management plans. Larry Kelly from New York and Steve Koska from U. S. Coast Guard in New York reviewed a staffing model that was developed by modifying a Coast Guard fishery enforcement staffing model. The model needs more fine-tuning to better reflect the state staffing needs. A subcommittee was appointed to complete the task of creating a fishery enforcement staffing model.

The second update, fishery regulation data base. Larry Kelly from New York demonstrated a sample pilot data base on information and laws from a few states. The committee agreed that there was a need for such a data base and recommended that the Law Enforcement chair meet with National Marine Fisheries Service and Fish and Wildlife Service representatives to discuss development, maintenance and funding of a nationwide data base of all fishery regulations.

U. S. Coast Guard, Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service continue to offer their support, and discussed various fishery cases that they've been working on within the various states.

The U. S. Coast Guard updated the committee on available training and how to access Coast Guard surplus equipment.

National Marine Fisheries Service updated the committee on the process of detecting the use of bleach to remove eggs from lobsters.

New business. The Law Enforcement Committee requests that language be incorporated in fishery management plans that prohibit the use of fish picks in culling fish. In addition, the issue of filleting or fish mutilation should be addressed in those FMPs for fish having minimum size limits.

We held an election for new officers. The new chair is on my right, and Bill McKeon from Mass. was elected as the vice-chair.

The Law Enforcement Committee would like to thank the ASMFC for its continuing support in recognition of the integral role that the Law Enforcement Committee plays in the effective implementation of the Commission's fishery management plans. We especially want to thank ASMFC for providing a liaison person to the Law Enforcement Committee.

We especially want to thank South Carolina representatives for treating us as well as they have. We really appreciate that. You really made us feel at home, and sometimes that's hard to do, so thank you very much.

This concludes our report. Respectfully submitted, Robert A. Babula, chairman, ASMFC Law Enforcement Committee.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Thank you, Tom and Wayne.

Are there questions on the Law Enforcement Committee report? Mr. Borden.

MR. DAVE BORDEN: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I had the good fortune of attending a portion of the committee meeting as it pertained to the asset forfeiture account. I just thought I'd share my observations, which will take about a minute. As everyone around the table knows, this has been a major concern of the Commission, and in fact, we suggested legislative changes in order to expedite this last year.

I was, to be totally candid, horrified by the lack of progress on this particular issue as the discussion evolved, and that's not directed at the Law

Enforcement Committee. There seems to be a whole series of governmental bureaucratic reasons why this money can't be funneled down to the states to accomplish some of the tasks that we all know need doing.

I was very heartened this morning by Rollie Schmitten's comments at the morning session that he feels that we need to get on with this process of developing these MOUs and funneling some of those asset forfeiture funds directly to the state enforcement agencies. And my suggestion is that we capitalize on that good will and allow the chairman to send a letter to Mr. Schmitten, essentially compliment him for his initiative in this regard and request that he immediately schedule a meeting of appropriate state and federal officials to break through the log jam of issues.

I would be more than happy to make that as a motion if you think it's required.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: It may not be. Let me suggest that, unless there is objection, I would propose that Mr. Borden's recommendation be favorably acted on, and that the staff include the chair of the Law Enforcement Committee in those discussions with the

Service, assuming they're able to schedule them. So without objection, we will so proceed. And I thank you for bringing that up, Dave. That is truly an important issue, and indeed Mr. Schmitten's remarks this morning were most welcome. I know they were to the Law Enforcement Committee.

Are there are other questions of the Law Enforcement Committee?

MR. NELSON: Do we need to act on their recommendation on -- my sense was that was a recommendation in looking at a percentage of the funds going to --

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: I was just about to address that fact by saying that it would be my intention to refer that recommendation to the Executive Committee for their appropriate consideration and action. I think that's the most appropriate thing to do.

There were also recommendations that the committee made relative to certain fisheries management and enforcement issues that I would request the staff convey to the appropriate ISFMP board chairs and Plan Development Teams for their consideration in development

of fishery management programs and recommendations.

I think that probably is an appropriate disposition of the committee's recommendations. If there's a desire to take further action, the floor is open.

COL. BREWER: One thing: I saw some smiles when he talked about a fish data base with all the regulations. Well, it's not quite all the regulations. Gordon knows, and I'm sure those of you that are officers who go to a very large fish market -- you know, we have the Fulton Fish Market -- you may get in there and find different marine fish or inland fish that are from another state.

And very often, you know, we've gotten a call like two or three weeks after we saw, like yellow perch or some other species in a market, we got a call saying it was an illegal act. You couldn't sell them from Michigan, for example, yellow perch. Well, it's too late; they're gone.

So what we need is a system where fish species that have restriction on sale or size limit for sale, that type of thing, that's the information we want

to put on a machine so the officers can get that machine over to a computer system, a data system.

So that's what we're looking at, those species of fish that there's some type of restriction on for fishing or sale. And we want to do it across the nation. And that alone is going to be a huge project, but we want to try it and we want to have a contact person, two for each state. So it certainly would help us out.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Thank you.

Anything further for Law Enforcement?

Thank you.

At this point, we'll recognize Commissioner Goldthwait for a report of the Resolutions Committee.

SENATOR JILL GOLDTHWAIT: As the sole surviving member of the Resolutions Committee, we have three resolutions to present to you today. The first is in regard to the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program, or the Wallop-Breaux Program, and apparently there have been instances and proposals to divert some of that money into other ongoing federal programs. And this resolution is one which urges the U. S. Congress to

refrain from spending program funds to support ongoing federal programs and/or incompatible activities which could undermine the integrity of this federal aid in sport fish restoration.

I'll allow you a minute to look that over as you receive it, and be happy to attempt to answer any questions that you have.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: It is noteworthy that this is a joint resolution of Sport Fish Restoration and Legislative Committees. Does everybody have the resolution in question? In order to consider the resolution in question, a motion to suspend the Rules is in order. Moved by Mr. Cupka, seconded by Commissioner Alden.

There are, I understand, three resolutions to be put before us. Is it the pleasure of the mover and the seconder that the Rules be suspended for consideration of all three resolutions? It is, that this motion on the floor is to suspend the Rules for all three resolutions and allow their consideration at this meeting.

Is there discussion on the motion to

suspend the Rules? All in favor, please signify by saying Aye; opposed, same sign. Motion carries. The Rules are suspended.

The recommendation of the Resolution Committee is before the body. Is there a motion to adopt the resolution at this point?

SENATOR GOLDTHWAIT: I so move.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: So moved on behalf of the Resolutions Committee. Discussion on the motion? Seeing no discussion, we'll take the question. This is on the resolution offered by the Sport Fish Restoration and the Legislative Committees in support of the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program. All in favor, please signify by saying Aye; opposed, same sign. Abstentions. Motion carries. The resolution is adopted.

SENATOR GOLDTHWAIT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The second resolution is offered by the Management and Science and Legislative Committees in support of funding for Atlantic fisheries research vessels. There has been a proposal to eliminate funding for the vessels in the NOAA fleet, which conduct the long-term fisheries surveys. And this resolution urges

the U. S. Congress to support the continuation of these long-term surveys, including support for the necessary vessels, which are vital to the management of the resource.

I'd be glad to answer any questions, and I would move the resolution on behalf of the Resolutions Committee.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Motion is on the floor on behalf of the Resolutions Committee. The Rules being suspended, the motion is in order. Is there discussion on the motion? Seeing none, we'll take the question. All in favor, please signify by saying Aye; opposed, same sign. Abstentions. Motion carries, and the resolution is adopted.

SENATOR GOLDTHWAIT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is a resolution which I would like to read in its entirety, in appreciation to the State of South Carolina for hosting the 54th Annual Meeting of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. And it is a pleasure, on behalf of the Resolutions Committee and my colleagues, Polk Kellam and Ed Conklin to present a motion to the much-deserved State of South Carolina.

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina, through its Department of Natural Resources, Division of Marine Resources, families, friends, and the people of Charleston, have provided exceptional, warm, Southern hospitality to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; and

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina has developed and perfected, through great and long tradition, a thoroughly delightful bounty of seafood delectables cooked in the low country style, and has made them available in great abundance to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; and

WHEREAS, we have been saved from gastronomic self-destruction only by virtue of being in a city that has great historic value, balmy weather, and is safe, beautiful and pleasantly walkable; and

WHEREAS, in addition to culinary delights, our South Carolinian hosts have regaled us with spirits, song and decorations exceeding our expectations; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina has introduced the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, through our visit, to a unique local dialect and cultural

heritage which only Bill Hogarth can translate; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources has shown its deep concern for all fishery managers by nominating one of its own as the 1995 ASMFC Poster Person, who we understand, "will fish for food;" and

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina, in preparing for the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, has broken new ground in the realm of "urban fishing" opportunities through the Colonial Lake Stocking Project, soon to be renowned among Charleston anglers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission expresses its heartfelt appreciation to South Carolina for a wonderful stay which we shall all fondly remember.

(Applause)

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Well, we very much appreciate the work of the Resolutions Committee. I understood it took you some time to concoct such a unique and certainly well-deserved tribute to our host state.

We appreciate your efforts, and we thank you.

At this time, we will recognize Commissioner Coates for the report of the Nominating Committee.

MR. COATES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Nominations Committee, consisting of Commissioners Shipman, Targett and myself, met yesterday, and as a result of those deliberations are pleased to offer the following slate of candidates for the 1995-96 ASMFC year. For chairman, Gordon Colvin from New York, and for vice-chairman, Dr. Paul Sandifer from South Carolina. And I so move.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Thank you. Mr. Dunnigan will conduct the election of officers.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DUNNIGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Nominating Committee has nominated Gordon Colvin from New York to be the chairman of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission for 1996. I now declare the floor open for any other nominations. If there are no other nominations, is there a motion to close nominations?

(Motion made and seconded from the floor.)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DUNNIGAN: Moved by Senator Gunther, seconded by Mr. Cupka. Is there any objection? Without objection, nominations are closed, and the floor will ask for a nomination to elect Mr. Colvin by acclamation. Moved by Senator Gunther, seconded by Mr. Freeman. All in favor. Mr. Colvin is elected chairman for 1996.

The Nominating Committee has nominated Dr. Sandifer as the vice-chairman of the Commission for 1996. The Chair will declare the floor open for any additional nominations.

MR. ANTHONY J. VERGA: Move that nominations be closed.

SENATOR GUNTHER: Second.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DUNNIGAN: Moved by Mr. Verga, seconded by Senator Gunther that nominations be closed. Is there any objection? Nominations are closed, and the Chair will ask for a nomination to elect Dr. Sandifer by acclamation.

MR. COATES: So move.

MR. FREEMAN: Second.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DUNNIGAN: Moved by Mr.

Coates, seconded by Mr. Freeman. Is there any objection? Dr. Sandifer is elected to serve another year as vice-chairman of the ASMFC.

Gentlemen, congratulations. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Thank you. We look forward to another year just as great as this one has been.

At this point, we arrive at other business on the agenda of the Commission. Is there any other business to come before the Commission this afternoon? Commissioner Shipman.

MS. SHIPMAN: Not really other business, but while we're saying thanks and giving accolades, I think it'd be appropriate that the Commission thank Rollie Schmitten for attending this meeting. In my recollection, it's the first time we've had an assistant administrator from Fishery attend two consecutive meetings of the Commission.

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: That's right. That's good. And I'm sure we will all find our opportunities to express our appreciation to Rollie for that, and indeed, that's the first time I recall it happening, and his

presence here was most welcome and informative.

Any other business to come before us?

Motion to adjourn?

(Motion made and seconded from the floor.)

CHAIRMAN COLVIN: Without objection, we stand adjourned.

(Whereupon, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 o'clock p.m., November 2, 1995.)

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