

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Executive Committee

February 3, 2021

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Webinar

Draft Agenda

The order in which these items will be taken is subject to change;
other items may be added as necessary.

1. Welcome/Introductions (*P. Keliher*)
2. Committee Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Meeting Summary from October 2020
3. Public Comment
4. Update on Second Round of CARES Act Assistance (*R. Beal*)
5. Legislative & Appropriations Update (*R. Beal*)
6. Future Annual Meetings Update (*L. Leach*)
7. Other Business/Adjourn

**MEETING SUMMARY OF THE
ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Virtual via GoToMeeting
Arlington, VA
October 21, 2020**

INDEX OF MOTIONS

- 1. Approval of Agenda by Consent. (Page 2)**
- 2. Approval of Meeting Summary from August 5, 2020 by Consent. (Page 2)**
- 3. “On behalf of the AOC, move acceptance of the FY20 Audit as presented.” (Mr. Woodward on behalf of the AOC) Motion passed unanimously. (Page 2)**
- 4. Adjournment by Consent (Page 2)**

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members

Pat Keliher, ME	Roy Miller, DE (GA Chair)
Cheri Patterson, NH	Kris Kuhn, PA
Dennis Abbott, NH (LA Chair)	Bill Anderson, MD
Dan McKiernan, MA	Steve Bowman, VA
Jason McNamee, RI	Chris Batsavage, proxy for Steve Murphey, NC
Maureen Davidson, proxy for Jim Gilmore, NY	Mel Bell, proxy for Phil Maier, SC
Joe Cimino, NJ	Spud Woodward, GA
John Clark, DE	Jim Estes, FL

Other Commissioners/Proxies

Thad Altman, FL (LA)	Nichola Meserve, MA DMF
Doug Haymans, GA (AA)	Eric Reid, RI (LA Proxy)
Raymond Kane, MA (GA)	Malcolm Rhodes, SC (GA)
Mike Luisi, MD DNR	Ritchie White, NH (GA)

Staff

Bob Beal	Geoff White
Laura Leach	Max Appelman
Tina Berger	Jeff Kipp
Pat Campfield	Sarah Murray
Toni Kerns	Deke Tompkins

Others

Alan Bianchi

Alison Colden

Monty Deihl

Sheila Eyster, USFWS

Cynthia Ferrio

Pat Geer, VMRC

Zoe Goozner, Pew Trusts

Zach Greenberg, Pew Trusts

Melanie Griffin

Shanna Madsen, VMRC

Mike Millard, USFWS

Chris Moore, CBF

Allison Murphy, NOAA

Derek Orner, NOAA Fisheries

Rich Pendleton

Nicholas Popoff, USFWS

Jill Ramsey, VMRC

Alexi Sharov, MD DNR

Melissa Smith

Helen Takade-Heumacher, USFWS

Sherry White, USFWS

Chris Wright, NOAA

Renee Zobel, NHF&G

CALL TO ORDER

The Executive Committee of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened virtually via a GoToMeeting webinar October 21 2020. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Chair Pat Keliher.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved, with the addition of a question regarding the Law Enforcement Committee.

APPROVAL OF PROCEEDINGS

The summary minutes from the August 5, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Mr. Woodward presented the report of the Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC) who met via conference call in advance of the Annual Meeting. The AOC reviewed the draft FY20 Audit and forwarded it to the Executive Committee with the following motion: **On behalf of the Administrative Oversight Committee, move acceptance of the FY20 Audit.** Motion by Spud Woodward. Motion passed unanimously.

MSC RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS

Staff provided a progress update on its activities to improve the Commission's public input and advisory panel processes. Recent efforts have focused on the public input portion of staff's charge, including posting presentations on documents

currently out for public comment on the Commission's YouTube channel and webpage (e.g. Black Sea Bass Draft Addendum XXXIII) to increase the opportunities available to stakeholders to understand the issues and submit public comment. Staff is also working on developing a draft survey as a template to be used to solicit public input on draft management documents. The survey is still under development and will be shared with ISFMP staff to get further input before the survey is presented to the Executive Committee for its review. The survey is a "bare bones" approach, essentially converting the draft addendum language into a simple survey. Based on direction from the Executive Committee, staff will also review the Commission's current public comment guidelines to see whether any changes need to be made as Board meetings and public hearings have moved to a webinar format. Staff continues to explore ways to improve the advisory panel process, including possibly combining advisory panels to improve engagement; establishing an overarching advisory panel, composed of diverse user groups, gear types and geographic scope to provide advice on fisheries management issues across the board; and finding ways to better utilize state advisory groups. Longer term efforts to improve both processes include creating more public-friendly management documents and educational materials regarding the Commission's fisheries management process.

CARES ACT UPDATE

Mr. Beal provided an updated on the status of state spending plans and the distribution of CARES Act fishery disaster funds. Details were provided on the direction from NOAA Fisheries on how the states and potential

recipients should calculate revenue lost and determine if the federal assistance will make them “more than whole”. States were also updated on the information Commission staff would need in order to distribute payments as well as data states would need to provide to support a future audit.

ANNUAL MEETINGS UPDATE

Mrs. Leach reported the 80th Annual Meeting will be conducted in Long Branch, New Jersey in October 2021. Following meetings will be held: 2022: North Carolina; 2023 – Maryland; and 2024 – Delaware.

PENNSYLVANIA’S MEMBERSHIP ON NON-DIADROMOUS BOARDS

Mr. Beal gave an update on the status of the Pennsylvania’s membership on the Atlantic Menhaden Management Board. Mr. Beal and the Commission’s legal counsel Sean Donahue, is drafting a memo with regard to Pennsylvania’s membership that reviews the Commission’s guiding documents and provides a recommended plan future participation by the Commonwealth. A

question was raised regarding the legal defensibility of allowing Pennsylvania to continue to participate on the Board. Staff responded that the memo will detail any potential risks. The Committee also discussed the need to have the ISFMP Policy Board make the final decision on this issue given its role in determining which states have a declared interest in each species.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. McNamee inquired about the status of a coordinator for the Law Enforcement Committee and Mr. Beal noted that one would be hired.

Mr. Cimino asked about the requirement for NOAA Standard Terms & Conditions be provided to and adhered by all fisheries participants receiving CARES Act funds. Mrs. Leach found that to be incorrect information.

ADJOURN

The Executive Committee adjourned at 8:48 a.m.