

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Executive Committee

*August 6, 2025
8:00 – 10:00 a.m.*

Draft Agenda

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

A portion of this meeting will be a closed session for Committee members and Commissioners only.

1. Welcome/Call to Order (*J. Cimino*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Meeting Summary from May 2025
3. Public Comment
4. Legislative Update (A. Law)
5. Review Discussion Paper on Establishing and Reviewing Declared Interests (*R. Beal*)
6. Future Annual Meetings Update (*L. Leach*)
 - October 26 – 30, 2025 – Dewey Beach, Delaware
 - 2026 – Rhode Island
 - 2027 – South Carolina
 - 2028 – Massachusetts
 - 2029 – Pennsylvania
 - 2030 – Georgia
7. Other Business
8. ***Closed Session***
 - Litigation Update (*R. Beal*)
 - Update on CARES Act Repayment Progress (*R. Beal*)
9. Adjourn

The meeting will be held at The Westin Crystal City (1800 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA; 703.486.1111) and via webinar; click [here](#) for details.

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

**The Westin Crystal City
Arlington, Virginia
May 7, 2025**

INDEX OF MOTIONS

1. Approval of Agenda by Consent (Page 1)
2. **Move to approve the FY26 proposed budget as presented at this meeting.**
Motion made by Mr. Haymans and seconded by Mr. Clark. Motion passes by unanimous consent.

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members

Carl Wilson, ME
Cheri Patterson, NH
Dennis Abbott, NH (LA Chair)
Dan McKiernan, MA, Vice Chair
Jason McNamee, RI
Bill Hyatt, CT
Marty Gary, NY
Joe Cimino, NJ, Chair
Kris Kuhn, PA

Roy Miller, DE (GA Chair)
John Clark, DE
Lynn Fegley, MD
Jamie Green, VA
Chris Batsavage, proxy for Kathy Rawls, NC
Ben Dyar, SC
Doug Haymans, GA
Erika Burgess, FL

Other Commissioners/Proxies

Carolyn Belcher, GA LA Proxy
David Borden, RI GA
Pat Geer, VMRC AA proxy
Gary Jennings, FL GA
Jeff Kaelin, NJ GA

Ray Kane, MA GA
Eric Reid, RI LA proxy
Malcolm Rhodes, SC GA
Spud Woodward, GA GA
Renee Zobel, NH F&G

Staff

Bob Beal
Alexander Law

Laura Leach
Madeline Musante

CALL TO ORDER

The Executive Committee of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened May 7, 2025 in the Jefferson Ballroom at The Westin in Crystal City, Virginia. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chair Joe Cimino.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF SUMMARY MINUTES

The summary minutes from the February 5, 2025 meeting were approved with one correction. Bill Hyatt was present representing Connecticut, not Justin Davis.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

FY26 BUDGET

Mr. McKiernan presented the proposed FY26 Commission budget which was reviewed by the Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC). Mr. Reid asked if the Commission used a sweep account over weekends; the response was no. Mr. Haymans moved approval of the budget; Mr. Clark seconded the motion. This motion passed unanimously.

Board Voting and Virtual Participation

A lengthy discussion was held on the Discussion Paper on Declared Interests and Voting Privileges. The Paper focuses on three issues: 1) Declared Interests, 2) Voting Privileges, and 3) Virtual and Hybrid Meeting Participation. The discussion focused on issues 1 and 2. Staff was asked to draft options for modifying the criteria for qualifying for an interest in a fishery. Staff will also develop further options related to voting privileges for consideration at the Summer Meeting.

For Review and Action by the Executive Committee August 6, 2025

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Legislative Program Coordinator Alexander Law presented an update on the Sportfish Restoration reauthorization effort, the status of the FY25 federal budget and NOAA's development of that budget, the status of the FY26 budget and submission of appropriations requests, and a summary of the recent fisheries Executive Order.

CARES UPDATE

Mr. Beal provided an update on the status of the remaining issues with New Jersey and Florida CARES payments due to be repaid after audits found funds made some more than whole or they were ineligible to receive funds.

FUTURE ANNUAL MEETING LOCATIONS

Mrs. Leach provided an update on future Annual Meeting locations. October 26 -30, 2025 the Annual Meeting will be in Dewey Beach, Delaware; in 2026 Rhode Island; 2027 South Carolina; 2028 Massachusetts; 2029 Pennsylvania and 2030 Georgia.

OTHER BUSINESS

Staff was directed to send a letter to the Secretary of Commerce indicating the Commission is uniquely positioned to support the administration's priorities of Cooperative Research and improvements to recreational data collection. .

ADJOURN

The Executive Committee went into a closed session at 9:38 a.m. for a litigation update and the Executive Director's annual review. The Executive Committee adjourned at 10:25 a.m.