

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Executive Committee

*October 29, 2025
8:00 – 9:30 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 (*D. McKiernan*)
2. Board Consent
 - Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Meeting Summary from August 2025
3. Public Comment
4. Report from the Administrative Oversight Committee (*D. McKiernan*)
 - Presentation of FY25 Audit **Action**
5. Report of the Declared Interests and Voting Privileges Work Group (*R. Beal*)
6. Discussion on Notifying “Actions” on Meeting Agendas (*R. Beal*)
7. Report of the Legislative Committee (*A. Law*)
8. CARES Update (*R. Beal*)
9. Future Annual Meetings Update (*L. Leach*)
 - 2026 – Rhode Island
 - 2027 – South Carolina
 - 2028 – Massachusetts
 - 2029 – Pennsylvania
10. Other Business
11. Adjourn

The meeting will be held at Hyatt Place Dewey Beach (1301 Coastal Highway, Dewey Beach, Delaware; 302.864.9100) and via webinar; click [here](#) for details.

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

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

**The Westin Crystal City
Arlington, Virginia
August 6, 2025**

INDEX OF MOTIONS

1. Approval of Agenda by Consent (Page 1)
2. Move that the Executive Committee set up a working group to further develop suggestions to the declared interest policy and voting privileges with two Executive Committee members or their designee from each region. Motion by Mr. Clark; second by Mr. Green. Motion passed 12 -2-2-0.

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members

Carl Wilson, ME
Renee Zobel, 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

Mel Bell, SC LA proxy
David Borden, RI GA
Phil Edwards, RI AA proxy
Matt Gates, CT DEEP
Joe Grist, VA AA proxy
Doug Grout, NH GA
Gary Jennings, FL GA
Jeff Kaelin, NJ GA

Ray Kane, MA GA
John Maniscalco, NY AA proxy
Nichola Meserve, MA AA proxy
Eric Reid, RI LA proxy
Malcolm Rhodes, SC GA
David Sikorski, MD LA proxy
Megan Ware, ME AA proxy
Spud Woodward, GA GA

Staff

Bob Beal
Tina Berger
Lisa Carty
Toni Kerns

Alexander Law
Laura Leach
Madeline Musante
Geoff White

Guests

Max Appelman, NOAA
Chip Lynch, NOAA
Pat Geer, VMRC

Ron Owens, PRFC
Evelyn Strombom, NOAA

CALL TO ORDER

The Executive Committee of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened August 6, 2025 in the Jefferson Ballroom at The Westin in Crystal City, Virginia. The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m. by Chair Joe Cimino.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF SUMMARY MINUTES

The summary minutes from the May 7, 2025 meeting were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

DISCUSSION PAPER ON ESTABLISHING AND REVIEWING DECLARED INTERESTS

A lengthy discussion was held on the *Discussion Paper on Establishing and Reviewing Declared Interests*. It was decided that a work group was needed to flesh out this paper to further frame the Executive Committee discussion, and the following motion was made. *Move that the Executive Committee set up a working group to further develop suggestions to the declared interest policy and voting privileges with two Executive Committee members or their designee from each region.* Motion by Mr. Clark; second by Mr. Green. Motion passed 12 -2-2-0.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Legislative Program Coordinator Alexander Law presented an update on the President's FY26 Proposed Budget, the Senate's FY26 Commerce Justice and Science Appropriations Bill, and the House's FY26 Commerce Justice and Science Appropriations Bill, highlighting the differences between the three documents. He also provided a brief update on the SHARKED Act and the Sportfish Restoration Reauthorization Bill.

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. The Commission has established repayment plans with some of the recipients in New Jersey and Florida. Also, New Jersey continues to work through the adjudicatory hearing process for several recipients.

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; 2030 Georgia and 2031 Connecticut.

ADJOURN

The Executive Committee went into a closed session at 9:45 a.m. for a litigation update. The Executive Committee adjourned at 10:06 a.m.