

# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

## Executive Committee

*May 6, 2026  
8:00 – 9:00 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 (*D. McKiernan*)
2. Board Consent
  - Approval of Agenda
  - Approval of Meeting Summary from February 2026
3. Public Comment
4. Consider Approval of FY2027 Budget (*L. Leach*) **Action**
5. Update from the Declared Interests and Voting Privileges Work Group (*R. Beal*)
6. Legislative Update (*R. Beal*)
7. CARES Update (*R. Beal*)
8. Future Annual Meetings Update (*L. Leach*)
  - November 8 – 12, 2026 – Newport, Rhode Island
  - 2027 – South Carolina
  - 2028 – Massachusetts
  - 2029 – Pennsylvania
9. Other Business
10. Conduct Executive Director Performance Review (Closed Session)
11. Adjourn

This 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**

**Westin Crystal City  
Arlington, Virginia  
February 4, 2026**

## INDEX OF MOTIONS

1. Approval of Agenda by Consent (Page 1)

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **Committee Members**

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

Roy Miller, DE (GA Chair)  
John Clark, DE  
Michael Luisi, MD  
Joe Grist, VA  
Chris Batsavage, proxy for Kathy Rawls, NC  
Ben Dyar, SC  
Doug Haymans, GA, Vice Chair  
Jeff Renchen, proxy for Jessica McCawley, FL

### **Other Commissioners/Proxies**

David Borden, RI GA  
Phil Edwards, RI DEM  
Matt Gates, CT DEEP  
Angela Giuliano, MD DNR  
Doug Grout, NH GA  
Jesse Hornstein, NY DEC

Gary Jennings, FL GA  
Jeff Kaelin, NJ GA  
John Maniscalco, NY DEC  
Nichola Meserve, MA DMF  
Eric Reid, RI LA Proxy  
David Sikorski, MD LA Proxy

### **Staff**

Bob Beal  
Toni Kerns  
Lisa Carty

Alexander Law  
Laura Leach  
Madeline Musante

### **Guests**

Max Appelman, NMFS  
Sam Duggan, NOAA  
Jason Joyce, NEFSA  
Chip Lynch, NOAA  
Shanna Madsen, CBF  
Ron Owens, PRFC  
Will Poston, CBF  
Ray Rowell, CCCFA  
Mike Waine, CCA

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Executive Committee (EC) of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened February 4, 2026, in the Jefferson Ballroom at the Westin Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chair Dan McKiernan.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented and approved by consent.

**APPROVAL OF SUMMARY MINUTES**

The summary minutes from the October 29, 2025, meeting were approved as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was public comment regarding on-demand gear research, specifically concerning safety at sea issues and the current payment strategy may introduce bias in overall results. This issue was further discussed later in the week at the ISFMP Policy Board.

**REPORT OF THE DECLARED INTERESTS AND VOTING PRIVILEGES WORK GROUP**

Mr. Beal and Ms. Kerns reported the Declared Interests and Voting Privileges work group had met and made good progress on declared interest, but no formal progress on voting privileges yet. The work group is exploring the development of Best Management Practices (BMPs) on voting. The work group is discussing the pros and cons of establishing the BMPs as advisory or mandatory. The work group will present a final report to the Executive Committee in May.

**NOTIFYING ACTIONS ON MEETING AGENDAS**

Mr. Beal reported on the issue of “notifying actions” on meeting agendas. The EC agreed to add language at the beginning of board agendas to notify the public action may be taken on any

*For Review and Action by the Executive Committee May 6, 2026*

items included on the agendas. The agendas will continue the current process of identifying “action” and “possible action” items.

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Legislative Program Coordinator Alexander Law presented an update on recent legislative activity, including the contents of the FY26 Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Bill. He also provided a brief update on several pending fishery bills.

**CARES UPDATE**

The Commission received an extension through 12.4.26 on the CARES cooperative agreement to continue to collect funds from those who received funds deemed ineligible.

**FUTURE ANNUAL MEETING LOCATIONS**

Mrs. Leach provided an update on future Annual Meeting locations. November 8 -12, 2026 Rhode Island DEM Marine Fisheries will host the Annual Meeting at the Viking Hotel in Newport, Rhode Island. Future Annual Meeting locations are: 2027 South Carolina; 2028 Massachusetts; 2029 Pennsylvania; 2030 Georgia and 2031 Connecticut.

**ADJOURN**

The Executive Committee adjourned at 9:00 a.m.