

Marine Fisheries Commission Business Meeting

AGENDA

New Bern Convention Center, New Bern, North Carolina

February 19-21, 2019

N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e) mandates at the beginning of any meeting of a board, the chair shall remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest under Chapter 138. The chair also shall inquire as to whether there is any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the board at that time.

N.C.G.S. 143B-289.54.(g)(2) states a member of the Marine Fisheries Commission shall not vote on any issue before the Commission that would have a "significant and predictable effect" on the member's financial interest. For purposes of this subdivision, "significant and predictable effect" means there is or may be a close causal link between the decision of the Commission and an expected disproportionate financial benefit to the member that is shared only by a minority of persons within the same industry sector or gear group. A member of the Commission shall also abstain from voting on any petition submitted by an advocacy group of which the member is an officer or sits as a member of the advocacy group's board of directors. A member of the Commission shall not use the member's official position as a member of the Commission to secure any special privilege or exemption of substantial value for any person. No member of the Commission shall, by the member's conduct, create an appearance that any person could improperly influence the member in the performance of the member's official duties.

Commissioners having questions about a conflict of interest or appearance of conflict should consult with counsel to the Marine Fisheries Commission or the secretary's ethics liaison. Upon discovering a conflict, the commissioner should inform the chair of the commission in accordance with N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e).

Wednesday, February 19

6:00 p.m. Public Comment Period

Thursday, February 20

8:30 a.m. Call to Order*
Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
Swearing in of New Commissioner
Conflict of Interest Reminder
Roll Call
Approval of Agenda **
Approval of Meeting Minutes**

8:45 a.m. Public Comment Period

9:30 a.m. Chairman's Report
Overview of Briefing Materials
Letters
Ethics Training and Statement of Economic Interest Reminder
2020 Meeting Schedule
Commission Committee Assignments
Shellfish Lease Aquaculture Review Committee Update
Presentation of Service Plaques for Past MFC Commissioners

10:30 a.m. Committee Reports

- Habitat and Water Quality Advisory Committee
- Joint Meeting of the MFC Commercial Resources Fund Committee and the Funding Committee for the N. C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund

Thursday, February 20 continued...

- 10:40 a.m. Rulemaking Presentation - Shawn Maier
- 11:00 a.m. **Potential Action to Begin Rulemaking for Small-Mesh Gill Nets – Steve Murphey****
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break
- 1 00 p.m. Fishery Management Plans
- Status of Ongoing Plans – Catherine Blum
 - Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3 – Jason Rock, Corrin Flora
 - Overview of Departmental and Legislative Review
 - Plan for Implementation
 - **Vote on final adoption of Blue Crab FMP Amendment 3****
 - Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3 – Mike Loeffler, Anne Markwith
 - Summary of public comment received during scoping period
 - Overview of potential management strategies and plan timeline
 - Presentation of draft FMP goals and objectives
 - **Vote on FMP goal and objectives****
 - Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Amendment 2 – Chris Stewart, Kim Harding, Jason Rock
 - Summary of public comment received during scoping period
 - Overview of potential management strategies and plan timeline
 - Presentation of draft FMP goals and objectives
 - **Vote on FMP goal and objectives****
- 3:45 p.m. Rulemaking Update – Catherine Blum
- 15A NCAC 03 - Marine Fisheries
 - 2019/2020 rulemaking cycle
 - Overview of public comments received
 - **Vote to approve 15A NCAC 03M .0509 (Tarpon) and 03O .0108 (License and Commercial Fishing Vessel Registration Transfers) ****
 - Rulemaking Update Continued
 - 2020/2021 rulemaking cycle
 - **Vote on preferred management option for Shrimp Fishery Management Plan Amendment 1 Special Secondary Nursery Area Issue Paper**** – Chris Stewart
 - Oyster Sanctuary Rule Change Issue Paper update
 - 15A NCAC 18A - Sanitation
 - Readoption schedule update

** Times indicated are merely for guidance. The commission will proceed through the agenda until completed.*

***Probable Action Items*

Marine Fisheries Commission Business Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 20 continued...

- 4:15 p.m. Director's Report – Director Steve Murphey
Reports and updates on recent Division of Marine Fisheries activities
- Information Paper Regarding Recreational Hook and Line Modifications – Steve Poland
 - **Potential Action to Begin Rulemaking for Recreational Hook and Line Modifications****
- 5:30 p.m. Recess

Friday, February 21

- 9:00 a.m. Director's Report Continued – Director Steve Murphey
- Division of Marine Fisheries Quarterly Update
 - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission – Chris Batsavage
 - Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Update – Chris Batsavage
 - South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Update – Steve Poland
 - Highly Migratory Species
 - Bluefin Tuna Update
 - Protected Resources Update
 - Observer Program
 - Incidental Take Permit Updates
 - Rules Suspension Update – Kathy Rawls
 - **Vote to approve suspension of 15A NCAC 03M.0511****
 - Landings Update
 - Red Drum
 - Southern Flounder
- 11:00 a.m. Shellfish Aquaculture Update
- Shellfish Lease Program Overview
 - User Conflict Study Update – Jacob Boyd, Mike Graven
 - **Vote to approve proposed language for rulemaking to address user conflict as required by Shellfish Aquaculture Bill (Senate Bill 648, S.L. 2019-37) ****
 - Relay Program Update
- 11:30 a.m. Issues from Commissioners
- 11:45 a.m. Meeting Assignments and Preview of Agenda Items for May Meeting – Lara Klibansky
- 12:00 p.m. Adjourn

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***Probable Action Items*