

Chairman's Report





**NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

COMMISSIONERS

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MICHAEL S. REGAN
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SAMMY CORBETT
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Harkers Island
JANET ROSE
Moyock
RICK SMITH
Greenville
ALISON WILLIS
Harkers Island

March 8, 2018

The Honorable Roy Cooper, Governor
State of North Carolina
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Governor Cooper:

During its Feb. 14-15 business meeting, the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission voted to request that you examine its current membership and make any needed changes to ensure the commission functions as intended. The motion and roll call vote are included below for your review.

Motion by Janet Rose that the commission send a request to Governor Cooper asking that he examine the current membership of this commission and, if need be, make changes to ensure this commission functions as intended. Second by Cameron Boltes.

Cameron Boltes	Yes
Mark Gorges	Yes
Pete Kornegay	No
Brad Koury	No
Chuck Laughridge	No
Janet Rose	Yes
Rick Smith	No
Alison Willis	Yes
Sammy Corbett	Yes

Motion carries 5-4.

The commission is a nine-member panel appointed by the governor to manage, restore, develop, cultivate, protect and regulate the marine and estuarine resources of the state. Members serve 3-year staggered terms, in seats that have specific occupational, income and residential requirements as set out in G.S. 143B-289.54. For your convenience, attached is a list of the Marine Fisheries Commission, along with the seats held, contact information, and appointment and expiration dates.

Page 2
Gov. Cooper

Thank you for your consideration of this request; please feel free to contact me if I may be of assistance to you in this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sammy Corbett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sammy Corbett, Chairman
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

SJC:ndf

Enclosure

cc: DEQ Secretary Michael Regan
DEQ Chief Deputy Secretary John Nicholson



NORTH CAROLINA MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Harkers Island

March 16, 2018

Dear Members of the North Carolina General Assembly:

At its Feb. 14-15 business meeting in Wrightsville Beach, the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission voted to recommend changes to the licensing structure for commercial fishermen. The motion and roll call vote are included below for your review.

Motion by Pete Kornegay to send a letter to the legislature recommending the below changes to fishing licenses. Second by Chuck Laughridge.

- 1) Develop a new commercial fishing license based on criteria to qualify current commercial license holders. Current license holders must demonstrate a minimal level of participation in the fishery as reported by landings (1,000 pounds of seafood products) or effort (15 trips) through the DMF trip ticket program during any two out of five continuous calendar years.**
- 2) Only allow license transfers or assignments to members of the immediate family or corporation of a licensed commercial fisherman.**
- 3) Create a Crew license for individuals to apprentice with commercial fishermen for 3 years after which time they would be eligible to purchase a standard commercial fishing license. The annual fee for the Crew license would be \$100.**
- 4) Cap the pool at 100 and establish a new pool to receive licenses that are not renewed each year. Any non-renewed licenses would be transferred into the new pool and used to fill new commercial fishing license demand for qualified applicants. Inactive licenses may be reactivated for a fee.**
- 5) Inactive Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses that do not have requirements set forth by the legislature would go back into a special pool and these licenses may be reissued to the original holder without going through the Eligibility Pool.**
- 6) Create a Heritage Standard Commercial Fishing License that families may want to maintain that are inactive that may be maintained for \$100 per year and may be reissued one time to a family member without going through the Eligibility Pool or any of the requirements listed above. If reissue is not wanted, a one-time fee of \$100 will retire that license number.**

- 7) **Graduation or completion of community colleges offering a commercial fishing program will be recognized as having served an apprenticeship eligible for an Eligibility Pool license.**

Roll Call Vote

Cameron Boltes	yes
Mark Gorges	yes
Pete Kornegay	yes
Brad Koury	no
Chuck Laughridge	yes
Janet Rose	no
Rick Smith	yes
Alison Willis	no
Sammy Corbett	no

Motion carries 5-4.

This action was preceded by a meeting of the commission's Standard Commercial Fishing License Eligibility Requirement Committee on Jan. 11, 2018. The minutes of that meeting are attached for your convenience.

Thank you for your consideration of this request; please feel free to contact me if I may be of assistance to you in this or any other matter.

Sincerely,



Sammy Corbett, Chairman
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

SJC:ndf

Enclosure

cc: DEQ Secretary Michael Regan
DEQ Chief Deputy Secretary John Nicholson
DEQ Legislative Affairs Director Anderson Miller
DMF Director Steve Murphey



ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

STEPHEN W. MURPHEY
Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marine Fisheries Commission

FROM: Nancy Fish
Division of Marine Fisheries

DATE: Jan. 31, 2018

SUBJECT: Standard Commercial Fishing License Eligibility Requirements Committee Meeting

The Standard Commercial Fishing License Eligibility Requirements Committee met at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018 at the Division of Marine Fisheries' Central District Office, 5285 Highway 70 West, Morehead City, NC 28557. The following attended:

Committee Members: Sammy Corbett – Chairman, Chuck Laughridge, and Mike Wicker

Staff: Steve Murphey, Dee Lupton, Nancy Fish, C.J. Alley, Col. Dean Nelson, Major Jason Walker, Kathy Rawls, Stephanie McInerny, Brenda Clark, Kevin Brown, Patricia Smith

Public: David Bush, Skip Conklin, David Sneed, Jan Willis, Bert Billings, Trish Murphey, Bradley Brown, Ken Seigler, Pam Morris, Adam Tyler

Media: Maureen Donald, Mike Shutak, Elizabeth Tew, Dillon Ray

Sammy Corbett, serving as chair, called the meeting to order, reminded commissioners of their duty to avoid any conflicts of interest and asked Nancy Fish to do the roll call.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mike Wicker to approve the agenda. Second by Chuck Laughridge.

Motion passes unanimously.

SCOPE AND PURPOSE

Chairman Corbett explained that at its November 2017, the commission passed a motion by Chuck Laughridge to ask the chairman to appoint a committee of commission members to develop a definition of a commercial fisherman, with staff support from the Division of Marine Fisheries, to bring an update back to the commission at its February 2018 meeting.

He said a similar initiative was undertaken in 2016 at the request of Representatives Bell and Dixon, but he was advised legislators felt those recommendations were too vague. Chairman Corbett explained he had been contacted by legislators again recently, asking for more detailed

recommendations from the commission. Chairman Corbett reminded the committee that changes to the license structure would have to be done by the General Assembly.

Chairman Corbett said he had initially said he would let any commissioner that was interested serve on this committee, but the commission's legal counsel advised the committee should have no more than three members and suggested that the vice-chair and scientist serve of the panel.

He said the meeting is just to discuss the criteria or eligibility requirements to hold a Standard Commercial Fishing License and that the committee was not going to discuss other topics. He also advised the committee was just going to make recommendations to present to the full Marine Fisheries Commission for consideration at its Feb. 14-15 business meeting in Wrightsville Beach.

DISCUSSION OF STANDARD COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE CRITERIA, ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS

Mike Wicker discussed the need for improved data collection and Chairman Corbett reminded him the meeting was just to discuss eligibility requirements for the Standard Commercial Fishing License and that issues like data collection could be discussed at the upcoming commission meeting.

Wicker said he'd like the Standard Commercial Fishing License to be for people to catch fish to sell and wanted to eliminate the license being used by someone to simply fill their freezer or to give fish to their friends.

Chairman Corbett reminded the committee that the Division of Marine Fisheries has previously stated that the division does not have the statutory authority to require Standard Commercial Fishing License holders to document fish they are not selling.

Chuck Laughridge said better defining a commercial fisherman had been an issue for years and it was needed to have a better handle on the number of participants that are taking a public trust resource.

Chuck Laughridge made a motion for the following requirements for holding a Standard Commercial Fishing License:

- 1. Must have 50 percent of earned income from the Trip Ticket Program as in the Fisheries Reform Act of 1997. There is already a statutory precedent for a commercial fisherman in the Fisheries Reform Act;**
- 2. A fisherman must have three dozen of 36 trip tickets per year;**
- 3. To address crew issues for folks who do not have trip tickets, but are bona fide commercial fishermen as crew or any commercial fishing interest in North Carolina or outside the state, proof of income from a commercial fishing operation, business, etc. doing business in North Carolina (crew) of \$10,000 or more per year.**

(The commission can decide if items 1, 2 and 3 are stand alone or a combination thereof)

- 4. Inactive Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses that do not have any of the above with a three-year running average, would go back into a special pool and these licenses may be reissued to the original holder subject to commitment to 1, 2 and/or 3 above without going through the Eligibility Pool.**
- 5. Create a Heritage Standard Commercial Fishing License that families may want to maintain that are inactive that may be maintained for \$100 per year and may be reissued one time to a family member without going through the Eligibility Pool or any of the 1,2 and 3 requirements listed above. If reissue is not wanted, a one-time fee of \$100 will retire that license number.**

Seconded by Mike Wicker.

Motion passed 2-0.

Chairman Corbett said nothing in the motion is etched in stone and these recommendations will serve as a starting point for discussions at the upcoming commission meeting being held Feb. 14-15 in Wrightsville Beach.

Meeting adjourned.



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March 28, 2018

Mr. Robert E. Beal, Executive Director
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200 A-N
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Mr. Beal:

I am writing on behalf of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission regarding the amendment to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan that primarily addresses the commercial summer flounder fishery. The summer flounder fishery has been a very important component of the state's commercial fishing industry for the last several decades. In 2016, North Carolina's commercial fishery landed 2,071,089 pounds of summer flounder with a dockside value of \$8,238,703. The summer flounder trawl fishery accounts for nearly all of the commercial summer flounder landings in North Carolina, and a total of 266 flounder trawl trips from 97 vessels landed summer flounder in our state in 2016.

The commercial allocations issue in this amendment is of utmost concern to the commission. North Carolina has the largest allocation of the commercial summer flounder quota based on its historic landings, and shore-based infrastructure and businesses were developed to support the state's commercial summer flounder fishery. We understand that the amendment is still under development, so we ask that proposed management measures concerning allocation include a broad range of options that considers the historic fisheries of the affected states.

Thank you for keeping this request in mind as the amendment to this plan is being developed and please know how much we appreciate the work you do on behalf of our Atlantic Coast fisheries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sammy Corbett".

Sammy Corbett, Chairman
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

cc: Steve Murphey, Director, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission



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March 28, 2018

Dr. Christopher M. Moore, Executive Director
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
800 North State St., Suite 201
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Dr. Moore:

I am writing on behalf of the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission regarding the amendment to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan that primarily addresses the commercial summer flounder fishery. The summer flounder fishery has been a very important component of the state's commercial fishing industry for the last several decades. In 2016, North Carolina's commercial fishery landed 2,071,089 pounds of summer flounder with a dockside value of \$8,238,703. The summer flounder trawl fishery accounts for nearly all of the commercial summer flounder landings in North Carolina, and a total of 266 flounder trawl trips from 97 vessels landed summer flounder in our state in 2016.

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Thank you for keeping this request in mind as the amendment to this plan is being developed and please know how much we appreciate the work you do on behalf of our Atlantic Coast fisheries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sammy Corbett".

Sammy Corbett, Chairman
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

cc: Steve Murphey, Director, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission



**TOWN OF NAGS HEAD RESOLUTION
OPPOSING ACTION TAKEN BY MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
WITHOUT ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE
RE: COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATION**

WHEREAS, commercial fishing is a vital part of North Carolina's history, heritage, and culture and represents a crucial component of the economy for the Town of Nags Head, Dare County, and other coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly has declared it to be the public policy of North Carolina that the hearings, deliberations, and actions of public bodies be conducted publicly - N.C.G.S. § 143-318.9; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) met on February 15, 2018 to consider proposed changes in the definition of a commercial fisherman prepared by a three member committee; and

WHEREAS, at that meeting, a previously un-seen proposal was presented to the MFC for consideration while the original proposal prepared by the three member committee was never considered or discussed; and

WHEREAS, the commission members and the public did not have a chance to review the un-seen proposal prior to the meeting; and

WHEREAS, although the Final Report from the Fishing License Review Taskforce clearly stated its recommendation that "no changes are needed to the existing definition" and only 10% of the public comments received were in support of changing the definition; and

WHEREAS, the MFC adopted the un-seen proposal changing the definition of a commercial fisherman without the chance for public input and without taking into consideration the 90% in favor of no changes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nags Head Board of Commissioners requests that the Marine Fisheries Commission repeal its action from their February 15, 2018 meeting to adopt a resolution modifying the definition of commercial fisherman.

Adopted this the 14th day of March 2018.

Benjamin Calhoun, Mayor
Town of Nags Head

ATTEST:

Carolyn F. Morris, Town Clerk



Board of Commissioners

Mark Mansfield, Chair
Robin Comer, Vice-Chair
Bob Cavanaugh
Jimmy Farrington
Jonathan Robinson
Bill Smith
Ed Wheatly



County Manager
Tommy R. Burns

Clerk to the Board
Rachel B. Hammer

March 20, 2018

The Honorable Governor Roy Cooper
Office of the Governor
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Governor Cooper:

The Carteret County Board of Commissioners, while sitting in regular session on Monday, March 19, 2018, adopted the enclosed Resolution asking that you examine the current membership of the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission to ensure that the Commission equitably balances commercial and recreational fishing interests in a way that does not benefit private interests or bring harm to others.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rachel B. Hammer
Clerk to the Board

/rbh
Enclosure

copy: Senator Norman W. Sanderson
Senator Richard Burr
Senator Phil Berger
Senator Harry Brown
Senator Thom Tillis
Representative Pat McElraft
NC House Speaker Tim Moore
Congressman Walter Jones
Sammy Corbett, Chairman, Marine Fisheries Commission ✓
Braxton Davis, Director, NC Division of Marine Fisheries
Michael S. Regan, Secretary, NCDEQ
Members, Carteret County Marine Fisheries Advisory Board

Board of Commissioners
Mark Mansfield, Chair
Robin Comer, Vice-Chair
Bob Cavanaugh
Jimmy Farrington
Jonathan Robinson
Bill Smith
Ed Wheatly



County Manager
Tommy R. Burns

Clerk to the Board
Rachel B. Hammer

RESOLUTION
ASKING NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR ROY COOPER TO EXAMINE THE CURRENT
MEMBERSHIP OF THE NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the State's Marine Resources are a public trust, the owners of which are the 10.2 million residents of the state living from Murphy to Manteo; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Fisheries Reform Act of 1997 established the legal framework for the management of fisheries for the benefit of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission is comprised of designated seats designed to balance user group interests among recreational, commercial, science, and at-large fisheries stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission, whose members are appointed by the Governor, are responsible for adhering to the Fisheries Reform Act in following due process, incorporating stakeholder input, and making science-based decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has exhibited a pattern of willfully disregarding stakeholder input, scientific expertise, and proper legal process and procedures in favor of interest group agendas; and

WHEREAS, improperly-made decisions by the Commission threaten food security for the State and Country, and jeopardize the economic vitality of coastal communities and the occupational viability of commercial fishing families and associated businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Carteret County Board of Commissioners has long advocated that the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission serve the public interest by managing the State's fisheries resources for the benefit of all citizens in a way that provides fair and equitable treatment of both commercial and recreational fishing interests in an open and transparent way.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Carteret County Board of Commissioners strongly urges North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper to examine the current membership of the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission and if need be, to make changes to ensure that this Commission equitably balances commercial and recreational fishing interests in a way that does not benefit private interests or bring harm to others.

ADOPTED, this the 19th day of March 2018.



Rachel Hammer, Clerk to the Board



Mark Mansfield, Chairman
Carteret County Board of Commissioners





TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Post Office Box 1719, 102 Town Hall Drive
Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina 27948
252-449-5300
www.kdhnc.com

March 20, 2018

Mayor
SHEILA F. DAVIES, PhD

Mayor Pro Tem
MIKE HOGAN

Commissioners
TERRY L. GRAY
BRANDI H. RHEUBOTTOM
JOHN L. WINDLEY

Town Manager
DEBORA P. DIAZ

Assistant Town Manager
SHAWN R. MURPHY

Town Clerk
MARY E. QUIDLEY

Town Attorney
CASEY C. VARNELL

North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission
c/o Nancy Fish
N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries
3441 Arendell Street
Morehead City, NC 28557

REF: Enclosed resolutions

Dear Commission Members,

At its March 12, 2018, meeting, the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners adopted the following resolutions:

- Resolution Asking North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper to Examine the Current Membership of the NC Marine Fisheries Commission.
- Resolution Opposing Any Adverse Change in the Definition of a Commercial Fishing Operation

A copy is included for reference. Thank you for your continued service to the citizens of Kill Devil Hills and North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Sheila F. Davies, Ph.D.,
Mayor

Encl.

c: Governor Roy Cooper
Dare County Board of Commissioners
Dare County Municipalities
file



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

RESOLUTION ASKING NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR ROY COOPER TO EXAMINE THE CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the State's Marine Resources are a public trust, the owners of which are the 10.2 million residents of the state living from Murphy to Manteo; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Fisheries Reform Act of 1997 established the legal framework for the management of fisheries for the benefit of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission is comprised of designated seats designed to balance user group interests among recreational, commercial, science, and at-large fisheries stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission, whose members are appointed by the Governor, are responsible for adhering to the Fisheries Reform Act in following due process, incorporating stakeholder input, and making science-based decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has exhibited a pattern of willfully disregarding stakeholder input, scientific expertise, and proper legal process and procedures in favor of interest group agendas; and

WHEREAS, improperly-made decisions by the Commission threaten food security for the state and country, and jeopardize the economic vitality of coastal communities and the occupational viability of commercial fishing families and associated businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners has long advocated that the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission serve the public interest by managing the State's fisheries resources for the benefit of all citizens in a way that provides fair and equitable treatment of both commercial and recreational fishing interests in an open and transparent way.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners strongly urges North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper to examine the current membership of the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission and if need be to make changes to ensure that this Commission equitably balances commercial and recreational fishing interests in a way that does not benefit private interests or bring harm to others.

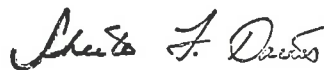
Adopted this the 12th day of March, 2018,

[SEAL]



ATTEST:


James Michael O'Dell
Deputy Town Clerk



By: _____
Sheila F. Davies, Ph.D.
Mayor



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

RESOLUTION OPPOSING ANY ADVERSE CHANGE IN THE DEFINITION OF A COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATION

WHEREAS, the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted a resolution on January 31, 2018 opposing any change in the definition of a commercial fishing operation; and

WHEREAS, the Marine Fisheries Commission at their Wrightsville Beach meeting voted 5 to 4 to change the criteria that was previously under consideration and approve a redefinition of commercial fishing; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's new criteria identified seven qualification components including a requirement that commercial license holders demonstrate a minimum level of participation by documenting 1000 pounds of landings through the trip ticket program during any of the two out of five continuous calendar years; and

WHEREAS, the new criteria advanced by the Marine Fisheries Commission would have an adverse impact on those who now engage in commercial fishing and already suffer because of government overregulation that imposes severe quotas and unnecessary restrictions on fishing seasons, limits, and gear forcing many to take on additional jobs and engage in part-time businesses in order to support their families; and

WHEREAS, imposing an arbitrary level of participation would unfairly have a harsh and punitive effect on coastal communities hit by hurricanes and other natural disasters where many commercial license holders, whose income generating season may have been entirely wiped out by a storm, are forced to temporarily divert their time and talents to other business enterprises; and

WHEREAS, no other professional license issued by the State dictates a level of participation in order for its holders to qualify; and

WHEREAS, additionally the new criteria would create a requirement that all individuals wanting to engage in commercial fishing must first complete a 3 year apprenticeship or graduate from a community college commercial fishing program before being eligible to purchase a standard commercial fishing license; and

WHEREAS, the imposition of an apprenticeship requirement would unfairly penalize those with an entrepreneurial spirit willing to invest their skills and resources in the commercial fishing industry. This requirement is counterproductive to economic development principles and would only serve to thwart individuals wanting to pursue their dream of creating a small business in our coastal communities; and

WHEREAS, the definition of what constitutes commercial fishing in North Carolina has been determined by the General Assembly and has long been established in section 113-168 of North Carolina's General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, over seven years ago, in October of 2010, the Marine Fisheries Commission empaneled a Fishing License Review Taskforce, which examined in detail the requirements for holding a commercial fishing license and concluded that the definition contained in the General Statutes was adequate and therefore there was no real need to modify the definition of what constitutes a commercial fisherman; and

WHEREAS, furthermore, the Final Report from the Fishing License Review Taskforce clearly stated its recommendation that "no changes are needed to the existing definition;" and

WHEREAS, the effort that is underway by the Marine Fisheries Commission to redefine Commercial Fishing is a misguided attempt to fix something that is not broken and would jeopardize coastal communities whose economy and wellbeing are dependent upon both full-time and part-time commercial fishermen and would have an adverse impact on young entrepreneurs wishing to enter the commercial fishing industry.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners supports the definition of commercial fishing that has been determined by the duly elected members of the North Carolina General Assembly and reflected in the North Carolina General Statutes.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners strongly opposes any adverse change in the definition of commercial fishing and urges the North Carolina General Assembly to take no action that would harm the hard working North Carolinians who put fresh seafood on American tables.

Adopted this the 12th day of March, 2018.

[SEAL]



By: _____

Sheila F. Davies, Ph.D.
Mayor

ATTEST:

James Michael O'Dell
Deputy Town Clerk



NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 27255
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 814-0700
Fax: (919) 715-0135

KIM WESTBROOK STRACH
Executive Director

OCTOBER 26, 2017

TIPS FOR THE ONLINE ETHICS EDUCATION PROGRAM COMPATIBILITY ISSUES.

Please share this information with your Agency's covered employees and the members of your Boards and Commissions:

Computers with Windows 10

- Use Microsoft Edge & Microsoft Internet Explorer
- May also work with Foxfire
- Program does **not** work with Google Chrome

Mac Computers

- Use Firefox to open Online Education; if audio does not work, right click "No Audio" button and allow microphone so that audio works.

Computers with Windows 7 & 8

- Use Internet Explorer as your browser

If the above suggestions do not resolve the problem for the person, we recommend they use a computer at a public library, Community College or University as the program seems to run fine on these computers. **NOTE: individuals are required to complete the ethics education PRIOR to their education due date even if they encounter problems with the online program.**

INDIVIDUALS MUST FULLY COMPLETE THE ONLINE PROGRAM.

Many people are not fully completing the online ethics education program. If within a few minutes after you "completed" the online program you do not receive an emailed certificate of completion from us, you probably have **not** fully completed the program. **If one fails to fully complete the online program, we cannot credit them with completing the required ethics education training.**

To complete the program, when one comes to the slide that says "Congratulations," they **MUST** click on the box that says "complete program." Clicking on this box brings them to a form where they enter identifying information and "certify" that they have taken the complete program. After providing this information, they need to click on the "submit" button; we are then notified of their completion, their record is updated and they will be emailed a certificate of completion from us.

If you or any of your people have any questions, please contact us at (919) 814-3600.



NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 27255
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Phone: (919) 733-7173
Fax: (919) 715-0135

KIM WESTBROOK STRACH
Executive Director

State Board of Elections and State Ethics Commission Merged into One New State Board

On June 1, 2017, a panel of superior court judges dismissed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Session Law 2017-6, the [state law](#) creating the Bipartisan State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement (State Board). The new State Board merges the N.C. State Board of Elections and the N.C. State Ethics Commission and assumes duties formerly overseen by these two agencies, along with lobbying compliance carried out by the Secretary of State. Though parties to the lawsuit may seek additional review on appeal, for now, the consolidated State Board is the agency to enforce North Carolina's elections, ethics and lobbying laws.

Currently, the ethics staff and the election staff of the State Board are housed in different buildings. However, the goal is for all staff to be housed in one building by September 1, 2017. **So, the ethics staff will be moving soon, but until then we will remain at our present location at 424 North Blount Street in Raleigh and our direct telephone number remains 919-814-3600.**

Although the State Board is a new entity, the State Government Ethics Act (Ethics Act) remains in effect and applies to the same individuals as it did prior to this merger. **The duties and obligations of the Ethics Act remain, including the *SEI filing requirements and the Ethics Education training requirements*.** In addition, the duties of Agency Heads, including Board Chairs, and those of Ethics Liaisons remain the same.

If you have questions or need additional help, please feel free to contact us at 919.814.3600

Sue Lundberg, Education Attorney - Gretchen Aycock, SEI Attorney

2018 Meeting Planning Calendar

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- MFC
- ASMFC
- SAFMC
- MAFMC
- State Holiday
- Southern Flounder FMP

- Southern Regional AC
- Northern Regional AC
- Finfish AC
- Habitat and Water Quality AC
- Shellfish/Crustacean AC
- Blue Crab FMP