



COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

JOINT MEETING OF THE MFC CRFC &
FUNDING COMMITTEE FOR THE NC CFRF



NOMINATING COMMITTEE



ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

STEPHEN W. MURPHEY
Director

Oct. 23, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

FROM: Chris Batsavage, Special Assistant for Councils

SUBJECT: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat Nominations for North Carolina

Issue

The N.C. General Statutes require the Marine Fisheries Commission to approve nominees for federal fishery management council seats for the governor's consideration, and that the statutes allow the governor to consult with the commission regarding additions to the list of candidates. The governor must nominate no fewer than three individuals for a federal fishery management council seat.

Findings

The Marine Fisheries Commission's Nominating Committee forwarded the following individuals to the Marine Fisheries Commission for the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat

- Jess Hawkins, retired fisheries manager, educator, and ecotour operator from Morehead City
- Chris Kimrey, charter boat captain from Morehead City
- Bob Lorenz, recreational angler and scuba diver from Wilmington
- Tom Roller, charter boat captain from Beaufort

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat

- Sara Winslow, retired fisheries biologist and manager from Hertford and the current N.C. at-large member on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
- Anna Beckwith, guide service owner from Morehead City
- Bill Gorham, fishing lure manufacturer owner from Southern Shores

Action Needed

The commission needs to approve nominees for the N.C. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat and the N.C. Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat.

For more information, please refer to:

- [The draft minutes from the Oct. 16, 2020 Nominating Committee Meeting](#)
- [The nominees' biographies](#)



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Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission
MFC Nominating Committee

FROM: Chris Batsavage and Dana Gillikin
Division of Marine Fisheries, DEQ

DATE: Oct. 29, 2020

SUBJECT: Marine Fisheries Commission Nominating Committee Meeting Minutes

The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Nominating Committee met on Friday, Oct. 16, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. via webinar.

The following were in attendance:

Committee members: Robert McNeill, James (Pete) Kornegay, Mike Blanton, Tom Roller
Staff: Chris Batsavage, Lara Klibansky, Dana Gillikin
Public: Anna Beckwith

Chairman McNeill called the meeting to order. The agenda was approved without modification.

Motion by Pete Kornegay to approve the October 23, 2019 meeting minutes. Seconded by Mike Blanton.

Roll Call Vote			
Commissioner	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mike Blanton	X		
James Kornegay	X		
Robert McNeill	X		
Tom Roller	X		

Motion passes unanimously.

Public comment

No public comment given at the meeting or received via email.

Review of N.C. General Statutes and federal Magnuson-Stevens Act requirements

Batsavage briefly reviewed the N.C. General Statutes pertaining to the selection of nominees for federal fishery management council seats. He stated that the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission must approve a slate of candidates for the governor’s consideration, and that the statutes allow the governor to consult with the commission regarding additions to the list of candidates. Batsavage also described the federal statutes and regulations pertaining to qualification of candidates and noted that the governor must submit

a list of no less than three nominees for an appointment. The commission will review the list of candidates approved by the committee at its business meeting via webinar on Nov. 19-20, 2020.

Review and selection of candidates for the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council at-large appointment and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council at-large appointment

Batsavage reviewed the bios of the candidates for the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council at-large seat, briefly describing the background and qualifications of each: Jess Hawkins, Christopher (Chris) Kimrey, Robert (Bob) Lorenz, and Thomas (Tom) Roller.

Batsavage then reviewed the bios of the candidates for the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council at-large seat, briefly describing the background and qualifications of each: Sara Winslow (incumbent), Anna Beckwith, and William (Bill) Gorham. Batsavage noted that Ms. Winslow is completing her second three-year term and is eligible for another three-year term.

After a brief discussion of the candidates, the committee made the following motions:

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat

Motion by Pete Kornegay to forward the names of Christopher Kimrey, Robert Lorenz, and Thomas Roller to the Marine Fisheries Commission for consideration for the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council at-large seat. Seconded by Robert McNeill. Motion withdrawn.

Motion by Mike Blanton to forward the names of Christopher Kimrey, Robert Lorenz, Jess Hawkins, and Thomas Roller to the Marine Fisheries Commission for consideration for the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council at-large seat. Seconded by Robert McNeill.

Roll Call Vote			
Commissioner	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mike Blanton	X		
James Kornegay			X
Robert McNeill	X		
Tom Roller			

Commissioner Roller recused himself. Motion passed.

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council At-Large Seat

Motion by Mike Blanton to forward the names of Sara Winslow, Anna Beckwith, and William Gorham to the Marine Fisheries Commission for consideration for the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council at-large seat. Seconded by Pete Kornegay.

Roll Call Vote			
Commissioner	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mike Blanton	X		
James Kornegay	X		
Robert McNeill	X		
Tom Roller	X		

Motion passes unanimously.

Motion by Mike Blanton to adjourn. Seconded by Tom Roller.
Meeting adjourned.

South Atlantic Council Candidates

Jess Hawkins Morehead City, NC

North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission Nominating Committee:

I would be honored to be considered by the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission (MFC) to serve on the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) in the upcoming at-large seat vacancy. I believe with my background and experience that I could serve effectively in that role representing North Carolina.

I have a Master of Science degree in biology and retired as a fisheries scientist with the NC Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) in 2006 after 30 years of service. I have served as Chief of Fisheries Management (the main research/management section of DMF), studying and conserving both state and federally managed species. The last 12 years of my career I was the Executive Assistant to the Director, working as the liaison with the MFC, developing rules and policies for North Carolina with extensive stakeholder input (approximately 100 meetings per year with advisors and MFC members.) I became quite familiar with fisheries issues facing North Carolina, including management of species occurring in federal jurisdiction. I represented the state in numerous meetings during controversial and difficult circumstances and at all times tried to conduct myself professionally. I have also worked with many of the leading fisheries scientists in our state.

After retiring from DMF, I was honored by an appointment to the MFC from 2007-2009, serving in an at-large seat. I thoroughly enjoyed my tenure and am excited to potentially serve our state on another body dealing with fisheries governance. I also received the Governor's Award of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine in 2006 and the Governor's Award as Wildlife Conservationist of the Year in 1994.

Since my retirement I have served as an educator at the NC Aquarium, teaching the public about ecology and conservation. I also was privileged to be hired as an instructor of marine fisheries ecology at Duke Marine Laboratory for three years. I currently co-teach marine fisheries ecology at NC State CMAST facility and have done so for five years. These opportunities have allowed me to track conservation policies and actions of many fisheries issues impacting North Carolina. I have also consulted on scientifically based issues involving fisheries conservation for stakeholder groups.

Recreational fishing is my main hobby and something I am passionate about. I grew up on the coast of North Carolina and have recreationally fished all of my life, fishing from Dare to New Hanover counties, both inshore and offshore. I have recreationally fished for many of the species under the jurisdiction of the SAFMC.

I also am president and owner of Crystal Coast Ecotours, where I provide people the opportunity to experience the wonderful natural resources of North Carolina. I have successfully operated this business for the last 10 years and we are ranked as the top outdoor activity in Morehead City by reviewers. I know how regulations and circumstances can affect recreationally important businesses. I hold a Master's Captain License from the US Coast Guard.

I would be honored to be considered for this opening. I have attached a resume with additional information.

Jess H. Hawkins III

South Atlantic Council Candidates

Mr. Christopher G. Kimrey, Morehead City, NC

Mr. Kimrey was enlisted in the United States Navy for 6 years and served as an electronics technician for 5 years, before being honorable discharged due to a service connected injury. He graduated with honors from Carteret Community College in 2003 with an Associates in Arts. He is a PADI Certified Rescue Diver and licensed U.S. Coast Guard Captain (OUPV).

Mr. Kimrey has owned and operated Custom Saltwater Taxidermy, creating replicas of fish for customers worldwide since 1997. For the past 15 years he has been a full-time saltwater fishing guide and owner and operator of Mount Maker Charters, based out of Atlantic Beach, NC. Mr. Kimrey has completed the first of 2 sessions of the Marine Resource Education Program with the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, and is scheduled to complete the 2nd session (currently on hold due to COVID-19).

Mr. Kimrey has been an active participant in several tagging projects with N.C. State University, and N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, which included a 3 year acoustic tagging project of Cobia and a 5 year anchor tagging project with weak fish. He was an active participant in the software pilot program for the For-Hire South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Pilot Project. He has attended various public forums at the State and Federal level pertaining to Marine Fisheries.

Mr. Kimrey has a life-long history of recreational and commercial fishing and a vast knowledge of saltwater fisheries. His charter fishing trips target a wide variety of species from the back waters to the Gulf Stream, including species managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. Many years of following State and Federal fisheries management plans, while spending 200+ days annually on the water gives him a unique and unbiased desire to pursue the conservation of our fisheries.

South Atlantic Council Candidates

Robert J. Lorenz, Wilmington, NC

Mr. Lorenz is a graduate of Florida Institute of Technology, B.S. Marine Biology. He completed a 29-year career in the pharmaceutical industry that started in research and development and culminated in manufacturing management. He held technical and management positions within major companies and start-ups. He maintained a consulting practice in pharmaceutical technical operations and manufacturing controls from 1998-2005. Mr. Lorenz's career expertise was to develop and improve manufacturing and business processes. He assured that processes complied with federal regulations, particularly as enforced by FDA, DEA, OSHA, and EPA. His specialty was to fix manufacturing operations that were under regulatory and business stress, including those operating within consent decrees and US Justice Department actions.

Mr. Lorenz maintains a lifelong interest in saltwater fishing, fisheries management, and the environment. He engages in volunteer work and activism for good stewardship of the ocean and ocean resources. He strives to maintain appropriate and pragmatic consumptive use of fisheries resources for enhanced economic and social vitality, with sufficient conservation to maintain sustainable ocean fisheries. He is an avid saltwater recreational fisherman and scuba diver.

Mr. Lorenz is the current Vice Chairman of the South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council (SAFMC) Snapper/Grouper Advisory Panel. In 2016 he was invited and participated in the SAFMC Citizen Science Design Program Workshop. During 2017 and 2018 he served as co-chair for a SAFMC Citizen Science Action Team that developed a program to recruit, orient and retain volunteers for SAFMC sponsored Citizen Science projects. In March 2019 he was a presenter with the SAFMC delegation that presented the Council's Citizen Science program to a national symposium held in Raleigh, NC. He is a current member on the SAFMC's Citizen Science Operations Committee and participated in the Scamp Grouper study pilot project design.

He completed the Marine Resources Education Program Science and Management training modules in 2016. The program educates qualified citizens to better understand and participate in federal fisheries and within the regional fisheries management councils.

For North Carolina fisheries, Mr. Lorenz was Chairman of the NCDMF Sea Turtle Advisory Committee 2011 through 2015. He served on the NCDMF Southern Fishery Advisory Committee 2014 - 2016. He currently serves as a recreational fishing representative from NC on the ASMFC Bluefish Advisory Panel.

Mr. Lorenz was a volunteer on fisheries projects that included SAV surveys, water/seine sampling, and tank and specimen maintenance at the NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher. He worked as crew on a shrimp boat and pulled a beach seine commercial fishing while completing university studies in Florida.

Mr. Lorenz has interests in business and personal investing. He was President of the Investors Roundtable of Wilmington for 2014 and 2016, and a board of governors' member for 8 years. He is currently a mentor for the UNCW Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. He is an active member within a non-profit, Wilmington Renaissance, who's mission is to assist in identifying and obtaining economic development and quality of life opportunities within the Wilmington, NC geographic area.

Mr. Lorenz has been a Wilmington area and New Hanover County resident since 2003.

South Atlantic Council Candidates

Mr. Thomas N. Roller

Mr. Roller is the owner and operator of Waterdog Guide Service. For the past 17 years, he has been a full-time nearshore and inshore light tackle and fly fishing guide operating along the Crystal Coast of North Carolina. Mr. Roller is a licensed U.S. Coast Guard captain with extensive knowledge of southeastern North Carolina's waterways, and spends over 200 days on the water annually with clients. Species managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, including Spanish and king mackerel, amberjack, and many snapper grouper complex species are important mainstays of his guiding business.

Mr. Roller is an active participant in fisheries management, attending meetings and providing input at the state, interstate, and federal levels. He is highly involved in the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council process and currently serves as a member of the Council's Cobia/Mackerel Advisory Panel and Systems Management Plan workgroup. In the past, he also served on the Citizen Science Advisory Panel as a member of the Education/Outreach Action Team. In addition, he has been a member of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Bluefish AP since 2015.

Mr. Roller is a strong advocate for informed involvement in the management process. In 2017 he completed the Gulf of Maine Research Institute's Marine Resource Education Program for the southeast region, participating in two in-depth workshops to advance his knowledge of fisheries science and management. He encourages students to learn about the fisheries management process and regularly serves as a guest speaker and informal mentor to graduate students in the marine science community. Mr. Roller also contributes on-the-water experience to support data collection for management and stock assessment. He volunteered as a field tester to refine the South Atlantic region's electronic for-hire logbook software, participates in multiple ongoing fish tagging and fin clip studies for the Division of Marine Fisheries, and has contributed to multiple university research studies.

Mr. Roller is also a longtime participant in North Carolina's state fisheries management process and served on the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission's Blue Crab and Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committees from 2017-2020. In January 2020, Mr. Roller was appointed by Governor Roy Cooper to the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission in the Recreational Industry Seat.

Mr. Roller is a founding member of the American Saltwater Guides Association, a coastwide organization with the mission of promoting sustainable business through marine conservation. He currently serves as an executive board member representing the state of North Carolina, and serves on the organization's policy committee. He was previously a member of the Executive Board of the Coastal Conservation Association of North Carolina from 2014 to January 2020 and served on the organization's Fisheries Committee as chairman from February 2016 to 2018. Mr. Roller received a B.A. in English and history from Duke University in 2003 and resides in Beaufort, North Carolina.

Mid-Atlantic Council Candidates

Sara Elliott Winslow, Hertford, NC

Ms. Winslow graduated from Perquimans County High School in Hertford, NC in 1973. She received a BS Degree in Marine Biology from UNC-Wilmington in 1978. Ms. Winslow began her career with the NC Division of Marine Fisheries in January 1979 as a Marine Fisheries Technician II in the Northern District Office in Elizabeth City. She worked on anadromous species projects until May 1982 when she was promoted to Biologist I where she served as the Project leader for a Shad and River Herring Federal Aid Project until June 1986 when she was promoted to Biologist II. In 1988, Ms. Winslow was promoted to the Northern District Biologist Supervisor position. In that capacity, she was responsible for overseeing biological staff and projects in N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries offices located in Elizabeth City, Manteo and Columbia. In December 2000, Ms. Winslow was promoted to Northern District Manager position where she was responsible for all regional N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries projects/programs and served as staff lead for the Northeast Advisory Committee. She also served on the division's Rules Advisory Team, the Management Review Team and participated in numerous division and N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission meetings and activities until her retirement in February 2011.

Ms. Winslow served as Project Leader for Phase II Striped Bass stocking and tag returns from 1980 to 2009. She served as Project Leader on N. C. Shad and River Herring projects where she was responsible for field sampling, data analysis and preparing project reports. She was responsible for reviewing and commenting on habitat alteration and coastal development permits (N.C. Division of Coastal Area Management Act, N.C. Division of Water Quality, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, etc.) for 23 years. During her career, she was involved with the development of several fishery management plans, including serving as the lead on the N.C. River Herring Fishery Management Plan, as well as co-lead and later mentor for the N.C. Estuarine Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan.

At the interstate level, Ms. Winslow served on Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Technical Committees for Shad and River Herring, Striped Bass and the Striped Bass Tagging Committee. For 21 of 23 years, Ms. Winslow participated in the Cooperative Winter Tagging Cruise, a collaborative effort among the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries and several other Atlantic coast states including Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey. As a cruise participant, she was responsible for data collection and tagging striped bass, summer flounder, red drum, Atlantic sturgeon, spiny dogfish and horseshoe crabs.

Ms. Winslow currently serves on the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Finfish and Northern Regional (Chair) Advisory Committees. Ms. Winslow was appointed to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (New York – North Carolina) in August 2015 – 2018 to represent North Carolina and has been re-appointed for her second term (August 2018 – 2021). In 2019/2020, she serves on the following Mid-Atlantic Council committees: Demersal and Coastal Migratory, Mackerel, Squid and Butterfish (Vice Chair), Ecosystem (Vice Chair), Bluefish and Executive. Ms. Winslow is currently serving as the Chair of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's River Herring and Shad Committee. In the past, she also served on the Protected Resources and Highly Migratory Species committees.

Ms. Winslow is a member of the Hertford United Methodist Church. She sings in the Chancel Choir and serves as Vice Chair of the Trustees, Chair of the Endowment Committee and Chair of the Scholarship Committee.

Ms. Winslow is a past President of the Perquimans County Jaycees, Top 10 Local Presidents of North Carolina Jaycees and past Chaplain of the North Carolina Jaycees. In 2012, she was awarded the North Carolina Order of the Long Leaf Pine award.

Currently, serves as Co-Chair of the Citizens for the Preservation of Hertford, currently membership of 80+ town and county residents.

Her hobbies are salt and freshwater fishing, hunting and gardening.

Mid-Atlantic Council Candidates

Mrs. Anna Beckwith, Morehead City, NC.

Mrs. Beckwith holds a B.S. degree in Environmental Science and Policy from Florida International University in Miami, FL and a M.S. degree in Biological Oceanography with a Minor in Geographic Information Science from N.C. State University in Raleigh, NC.

Mrs. Beckwith is currently finishing her third term on the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. Her current term ends August 2021. On the SAFMC she serves as an at-large seat and is chair of the Dolphin/Wahoo, and Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Committees. As Chair of the HMS Committee she also serves on the HMS Advisory Panel for the National Marine Fisheries Service and the ICCAT Advisory Committee. She attended the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) 2014, 2015 and 2016 annual meeting as part of the U.S. delegation. Mrs. Beckwith has also served as liaison to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and the Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council on numerous occasions. Mrs. Beckwith has also served as a Council representative on King Mackerel, Cobia, Blueline Tilefish and Red Snapper (currently on going) stock assessments

Mrs. Beckwith served on the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission from 2009 to 2015, serving as Vice-Chair from 2011 to 2015.

Mrs. Beckwith and her husband own Down East Guide Service, a North Carolina recreational fishing guide service and international travel agency for sport fisherman specializing in Costa Rica and Argentina. They are the managing partners of Dragin Fly Sportfishing based out of Los Suenos Marina Costa Rica.

Prior to 2007 Mrs. Beckwith taught Environmental Science and Biology at the high school level and sixth, seventh and eighth grade science in eastern North Carolina. She was a research consultant (post-graduate work) from 2004 through 2006 monitoring red drum spawning habitat using passive acoustics, water quality, and egg/larval monitoring in the Neuse River Estuary, Pamlico River, Pamlico Sound and Ocracoke Inlet.

Previous to pursuing her graduate degree Mrs. Beckwith was employed as Program Manager (1999-2001) for the American Farmland Trust in Washington, DC and was a marine fellow for The Nature Conservancy (1999).

Mid-Atlantic Council Candidates

William Gorham, Southern Shores, NC

Mr. Gorham is owner of Bowed Up Lures, a fishing lure manufacturer located in Dare County. Given Mr. Gorham's market area for his lure company, it gives him great insight into fisheries in both the Atlantic and Gulf states.

Mr. Gorham has been involved in the state and federal fisheries management for a number of years. He currently serves as the ongoing proxy for North Carolina's Legislative Appointee on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Mr. Gorham also served on the South Atlantic's Cobia sub panel and Citizen Science Advisory Committee.

Mr. Gorham was also appointed to participate in each step of SEDAR 58 cobia stock assessment.

Mr. Gorham has also assisted in stakeholder outreach and education on a variety of regulatory proposals.



JOINT MEETING
OF THE MFC COMMERCIAL
RESOURCES FUND COMMITTEE & THE
FUNDING COMMITTEE FOR THE N. C.
COMMERCIAL FISHING RESOURCE FUND



ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

STEPHEN W. MURPHEY
Director

October 28, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

FROM: William Brantley, Grants Program Manager, Administrative and Maintenance Services Section

SUBJECT: July 30, 2020 Commercial Fishing Resource Fund Committee Meeting

Issue

The N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Funding Committee met jointly with the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Commercial Fishing Resource Fund Committee at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 30, 2020 on WebEx to review and vote on re-publishing their Public Relations Request for Proposals (RFP).

Findings

The joint committees reviewed and approved re-publishing an RFP for the continuation of a public relations campaign.

1. **Public Relations Campaign** – This request for proposals is to continue a campaign to educate the public about North Carolina’s sustainable commercial fishing industry and about commercial fishermen participation in research and measures the industry has taken to reduce its environmental impact.

Action Needed.

For informational purposes only, **no action is needed at this time.**

For more information, please refer to the [CFRF Meeting Minutes](#) in this briefing book.



ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

STEPHEN W. MURPHEY
Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Commercial Resource Fund Committee and the Funding Committee for the N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund

FROM: William Brantley, Grants Program Manager
Division of Marine Fisheries, NCDEQ

DATE: August 5, 2020

SUBJECT: MFC Commercial Resource Fund Committee and Funding Committee for the N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund Meeting Minutes

The MFC Commercial Resource Fund Committee and the Funding Committee for the N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund met at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 30, 2020 through Webex. The following attended:

MFC Commercial Resource Fund Committee: Chairman Doug Cross, Sam Romano, Mike Blanton

Funding Committee for the N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund Members: Chairman Ernest Doshier, Glenn Skinner, Steve Weeks, Gilbert Baccus, and Doug Todd

Absent: Britton Shackelford

Public Comment: Public comment was received through webpage and US mail

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Chairman Ernest Doshier called the meeting to order for the Funding Committee for the N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund. Chairman Doshier asked Brantley to read the conflict of interest reminder, then inquired to any conflicts of interest. None were noted. Chairman Doug Cross called the meeting to order for the MFC Commercial Resource Fund Committee and inquired to any conflicts of interest. None were noted. Brantley conducted a roll call, all members were present with the exception of Shackelford.

The meeting agenda was then reviewed.

Chairman Cross approved the agenda, along with Romano and Blanton.

Chairman Doshier asked for approval of the agenda. All members present voiced approval.

Minutes from the June 30, 2020 MFC Commercial Resource Fund (CRF) Committee meeting and the Funding Committee for the N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Fund were reviewed.

Romano made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second from Blanton. Motion passed unanimously through roll call vote.

Weeks made a motion to approve the minutes. Todd seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously through roll call vote of present members.

Brantley briefed the committees on points from Session Law 2020-3 and read into the minute's options for the committees to consider as they seek to approve a six-month project extension for the NC Commercial Fishing Public Relations campaign. Brantley also noted that public comment had been received prior to the meeting and copies had been sent to members. This included one comment through the webpage, and one comment through email that had a photo attachment.

CFRF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) REVIEW

Public Relations Campaign

Chairmen Cross and Doshier asked for members to review a statement of work and proposal for continuation of the CFRF Public Relations (PR) campaign which was sent to the Committees due to an approved motion to request a proposal and statement of work for a 6-month extension of the current contract with 50% of the budget from 2020 under the current guidelines.

Motion by Romano to approve the six-month extension and statement of work, with a second from Blanton. Motion passed unanimously through roll call vote.

Weeks made a motion to approve the contract extension as proposed by SA Cherokee, LLC and Blue Red Marketing, with a second by Skinner. Motion passed unanimously through roll call vote of present members.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ISSUES

FY21 RFP Status

Skinner stated that the Committees did not receive any proposals for the Public Relations RFP, and that the firm that had conducted the campaign in the past did not realize there was a RFP opportunity. Weeks asked if two weeks was a sufficient time to publish the RFP. Blanton asked about the status of applications. Brantley stated that the Committees received six proposals that targeted water quality, one proposal did not state a target, and one that targeted diamondback terrapin. Blanton asked for discussion opening both RFP's for an additional two weeks.

Motion by Skinner that we repost the PR RFP for an additional two weeks as soon as possible, with a second by Weeks. Motion passed unanimously through roll call vote of present members.

Motion by Romano to mirror the motion of the funding committee, with a second by Blanton. Motion passed unanimously through roll call vote.

Public Relations External Usage

Skinner asked that in a future meeting, the Committees jointly discuss usage of the material from the Public Relations campaign. He stated that he would like to see a process put into place for other groups or media outlets to use the campaign material.

Proposal Review Schedule

Blanton stated concerns over the Crab Pot Cleanup proposal, and if approved, would they have time to get the contract approved for a January start. Brantley stated that they could try to keep the administrative pieces moving for a January start. Blanton stated he would like the Chairmen to consider hearing this proposal separately if their next meeting was going to be pushed into September/October.

Adjournment

Motion by Romano to adjourn. Second by Blanton. Motion passed unanimously through roll call vote.

Motion by Skinner to adjourn. Second by Todd. Motion passed unanimously through roll call vote of present members.

Meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

WB



ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

STEPHEN W. MURPHEY
Director

October 28, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

FROM: William Brantley, Grants Program Manager, Administrative and Maintenance Services Section

SUBJECT: October 27, 2020 Commercial Fishing Resource Fund Committee Meeting

Issue

The N.C. Commercial Fishing Resource Funding Committee met jointly with the N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission Commercial Fishing Resource Fund Committee at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 on Webex to review and vote on funding opportunities from their Comprehensive and Public Relations request for proposals (RFP).

Findings

The joint committees reviewed and approved one proposal from the Diamondback Terrapin objective and four proposals from the Water Quality objective. Two proposals from the Public Relations RFP are pending conditional approval.

Meeting minutes are being drafted and will be provided during the February 2021 MFC meeting.

Action Needed.

For informational purposes only, **no action is needed at this time.**