

Draft Summary of the Executive Committee Meeting Webinar
January 26, 2022

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

**Virtual via
GoToMeeting
Arlington, VA
January 26, 2022**

For Review & Action by the Executive Committee May 4, 2022

INDEX OF MOTIONS

- 1. Approval of Agenda** by Consent. (Page 1)
- 2. Approval of Meeting Summary from October 20, 2021** by Consent. (Page 1)
- 3. Adjourn** by Consent (Page 1).

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pat Keliher, ME | Roy Miller, DE (GA Chair) |
| Cheri Patterson, NH | John Clark, DE |
| Dennis Abbott, NH (LA Chair) | Lynn Fegley MD |
| Dan McKiernan, MA | Bryan Plumlee, VA |
| Jason McNamee, RI | Kathy Rawls, NC |
| Justin Davis, CT | Mel Bell, SC |
| Jim Gilmore, NY | Spud Woodward, GA |
| Joe Cimino, NJ | Erika Burgess, FL |
| Kris Kuhn, PA | |

Other Commissioners/Proxies

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chris Batsavage, NC | Craig Pugh, DE (Leg. Proxy) |
| Tom Fote, NJ (GA) | Mike Luisi, MD DNR) |
| Pat Geer, VA (AA Proxy) | Nichola Meserve, MA DMF |
| Bill Gorham, NC (LA Proxy) | Eric Reid, RI (LA Proxy) |
| Doug Haymans, GA | David Sikorski, MD (LA Proxy) |
| Bill Hyatt, CT (GA) | Ritchie White, NH (GA) |
| Raymond Kane, MA (GA) | Renee Zobel, NH (AA Proxy) |
| Rob LaFrance, CT (LA Proxy) | |

Staff

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| Bob Beal | Jeff Kipp |
| Laura Leach | Dustin Colson Leaning |
| Toni Kerns | Kirby Rootes-Murdy |
| Tina Berger | Sarah Murray |
| Pat Campfield | Julie Simpson |
| Lisa Carty | Caitlin Starks |
| James Boyle | Anna-Mai Svajdlenka |
| Emilie Franke | Deke Tompkins |
| Lisa Havel | Geoff White |

Guests

Max Appelman, NOAA
Karen Abrams, NOAA
Gary Allred
Pat Augustine, Coram, NY
Jason Avila, Avila Global
Megan Barrow, NYS DEC
Linda Barry, NJ DEP
Alan Bianchi, NC DENR
Simon Brown, MD DNR
Jeff Brust, NJ DEP
Colleen Brust, NJ DEP
Colleen Bouffard, CT DEEP
Tony Butch
Yong Chen, Stonybrook
Nathan Cowen
Greg Cudnik
Jessica Daher, NJ DEP
Laura Dinghan, NOAA
Steve Doctor, MD DNR
Peter Fallon, Maine Stripers
Marianne Ferguson, NOAA
Cynthia Ferrio, NOAA
Jesse Hornstein, NYS DEC
Adam Kenyon, VMRC
Wilson Laney
Elizabeth Lange, NJ DEP
Dee Lupton
Chip Lynch, NOAA
Samantha MacQuesten, NJ DEP
Patrice McCarron, Maine Lobstermen
Steve Meyers
Mike Millard, US FWS
Chris Moore, CBF
Trish Murphey, NC DENR
Allison Murphy, NOAA
Brian Neilan, NJ DEP
Adam Nowalsky, Port Republic, NJ
George O'Donnell, MD DNR
Christian Olla
Derek Orner, NOAA
Willow Patten, NC DENR
Rachel Peabody, VMRC
Nicholas Popoff, US FWS
Will Poston, SGA
Jill Ramsey, VMRC
Somers Smott, VMRC
ElizaBeth Steifeneder, NYS DEC
George Sylvestre
Helen Takade-Heumacher, EDF
Mike Waine, ASA
Craig Weedon, MD DNR
Kelly Whitmore, MA DMF
Lowell Whitney, US FWS
Angel Willey, MD DNR
Chris Wright, NOAA

CALL TO ORDER

The Executive Committee (EC) of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened January 26, 2022 virtually via a GoToMeeting webinar. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Chair Spud Woodward.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with one addition; Near-term Staff Workload.

APPROVAL OF PROCEEDINGS

The summary minutes from the October 20, 2021 meeting were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

A lengthy discussion about the role of ASMFC in offshore wind energy along the Atlantic Coast was held. Several members endorsed the concept of the commission involvement for the following purposes; including 1) improved and timely sharing of information about processes and procedures related to siting, leasing, construction, and operation; 2) providing subject matter expertise regarding the science-based data and information used to evaluate environmental, social, and economic impacts; 3) evaluation of how siting of infrastructure might adversely affect fishery-independent surveys; 4) development of consistent approaches for mitigation and compensation; 5) advocacy for policy development and/or modification thereof that protects state interests and 6) evaluation of offshore wind energy in the larger context of marine spatial planning. Leadership and staff will develop a draft scope of work with an associated analysis of the capacity of ASMFC to address these tasks.

REMAINING CARES ACT FUNDS REALLOCATION

Mr. Beal presented information on member state responses to needs for unused CARES 1 funds. A unanimous decision was made to make available unspent funds to states that had further needs with the goal of zeroing out the remaining CARES 1 balance by the deadline of June 30, 2022. The details of the EC's decision will be forwarded to NOAA Fisheries for approval prior to implementation. The EC agreed this decision does not set a precedent for how any unused funds from CARES 2 will be allocated and spent.

APPEALS PROCESS

Mr. Beal presented the draft revisions to the appeals process policy. The ensuing discussion identified the need for further modification of the policy to reflect concerns of some members. The draft revised policy will be discussed at a future EC meeting.

STAFF WORKLOAD

The near-term workload of Commission staff was discussed. It is possible that there may need to be public hearings on four fishery management plan amendments/addenda between the winter and spring meetings. This will strain the capacity of staff especially considering that two veteran staff members have resigned. Possible mitigating measures include changing the timeline for some of the FMP actions and/or having management board actions originally scheduled for the May 2022 meeting occur at a meeting to be held in June 2022. This matter will be discussed during the ISFMP Policy Board meeting.

ADJOURN

The Executive Committee adjourned at 9:26 a.m.