

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ATLANTIC COAST SECTION OF THE NEW JERSEY SHELLFISHERIES COUNCIL

Nacote Creek Law Enforcement  
Port Republic, NJ  
August 20, 2012

Present were:                      Chairman:        Walter L. Johnson III        (Ocean County)  
   Vice Chairman: John Maxwell        (Atlantic County)  
   Councilman:     Walter Hughes                (Monmouth County)

Absent was:                        Councilman:     Oliver Twist III                (Cape May County)

State Representatives:         Jeffrey C. Normant, Bureau of Shellfisheries  
   Russell Babb, Bureau of Shellfisheries  
   Michael Celestino, Marine Fisheries Administration

Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order. Mr. Normant read the State's compliance with Sunshine Law. He announced that the meeting would be recorded.

1.        Total Revenue for June 2012:                                \$ 30,065.00  
            Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund:                \$ 1,917.00  
  
            Total Revenue for July 2012:                             \$ 1,353.00  
            Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund:                \$ 888.00

2.        June 18, 2012 Minutes

The minutes of the June 18, 2012 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Maxwell and a second by Mr. Hughes.

3.        Applications for Consideration

LESSEE	LOT #	SECTION	ACRES	LOCATION	MAP #
Denise Wagner	1042	A	2.00	Great Sound	5
Joseph Wagner Jr.	1040	A	2.00	Great Sound	5
Joseph Wagner Sr.	1043	A	2.00	Great Sound	5
Gerard Zodl	1039	A	2.00	Great Sound	5
James Pharo	401.1	B	2.85	GB-Big Creek	10
Tim Pharo	399	B	2.86	GB-Big Creek	10

Mr. Normant provided the Council with copies of the lease applications and the biological investigation reports. All applicants were present. Pursuant to leasing regulations, applicants must attend one of two meetings at which the Council reviews their applications. Leases located in the Great Bay-Big Creek area do not require a biological investigation as they were designated by regulation to be available for applicants that possess no other shellfish leases. A decision on the lease applications would be rendered at the next meeting.

4.        Applications for Decision

LESSEE	LOT #	SECTION	ACRES	LOCATION	MAP#
Robert Mayer	2350	B	1.66	Dry Bay	24.2
Leonard Prickett	301	A	2.00	Stites Sound	na
Rellie Prickett	302	A	2.00	Stites Sound	na
Michael Snyder	303	A	2.00	Stites Sound	na
Rosely Snyder	2574	B	2.00	Scull Bay	27
Glen Heuman	2502	B	1.99	Scull Bay	27
Michael Dear	2503	B	2.01	Scull Bay	27

Messrs. Heuman and Dear were present at this meeting. All lease applications were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Hughes and a second by Mr. Maxwell.

5. Applications for Transfer

LESSEE	APPLICANT	LOT #	SEC	ACRES	LOCATION	MAP #
Earl Huskey	William Avery	2207	B	2.42	Dry Bay	24.2
Earl Huskey	William Avery	2207.1	B	2.42	Dry Bay	24.2
Joseph Brooke	John Schriever	2252	B	1.95	Dry Bay	24.2
Joseph Brooke	John Schriever	2297	B	2.12	Dry Bay	24.2
Joseph Brooke	John Schriever	2252.1	B	0.50	Dry Bay	24.2

Without discussion, the lease transfer was unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Hughes and a second by Mr. Maxwell.

6. Old Business:

Mullica River Oyster Fall Oyster Season

Mr. William Avery inquired if there would be a fall oyster harvest season in the Mullica River. Mr. Normant stated that the Bureau would be assessing the oyster bed conditions in the early fall to determine if fall harvest season would be feasible and provide that information to the Council.

7. New Business:

NJ Department of Agriculture Update

Mr. Joseph Myers from the NJ Department of Agriculture (NJDA) provided Council with a brief update of the August 3, 2012 Aquaculture Advisory Council (AAC) meeting. A subcommittee was formed to look at the structure of the AAC and it was recommended to include the Chair of the Shellfisheries Council as a non-voting member of the AAC.

Mr. Myers informed the Council that the NJDA partnered with Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Rutgers University and Saint Joseph University to submit a grant proposal to the USDA for \$134,000 to look at marketing hard clams. The NJDA also partnered with Rutgers Cooperative Extension and Keystone Development Corp. to submit another grant application to the USDA to conduct a feasibility study on expansion of shellfish and seafood into the local foodmarket place.

Harvest Area Closures and Openings

Mr. Prickett inquired if the process to open and close waters to harvest shellfish had changed. Mr. Normant stated that the regulatory process to open and close waters for shellfish growing water classification was the same, but that the Commissioner had the authority to issue emergency closures and re-openings.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Twist and a second by Mr. Maxwell.

8. Date, time and place of next meeting:

DATE: September 17, 2012  
 TIME: 7 PM  
 LOCATION: Law Enforcement Office  
 360 New York Rd. Rte. 9  
 Port Republic, NJ 08241.