

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

Nacote Creek Law Enforcement
Port Republic, NJ
May 15, 2017

Present were: Vice Chairman: Walter L. Johnson III (Ocean County)
Councilman: Walter Hughes (Monmouth County)
Councilman: Vacant (Cape May County)
Councilman: Vacant (Burlington County)

Absent were: Chairman: John J. Maxwell (Atlantic County)

DEP Representatives: Jeffrey C. Normant, Bureau of Shellfisheries
Kira Dacanay, Bureau of Shellfisheries
Jenny Tomko, Bureau of Shellfisheries
Lloyd Lomelino, Bureau of Shellfisheries
Brett Nicklow, Marine Law Enforcement
Robert Schuster, Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring

Mr. Normant read the State's compliance with the Sunshine Law and announced that the meeting would be recorded. Notice was filed with the Secretary of State Office and newspapers designated by the Department.

1. Total Revenue for March 2017: \$ 1,281.27
Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund \$ 1,214.00

Total Revenue for April 2017 \$ 1,037.50
Shellfisheries Law Enforcement Fund \$ 939.00
2. Presentation of March 20, 2017 minutes for approval

Mr. Johnson requested approval of the March 20, 2017 meeting minutes be tabled until the next meeting since Mr. Hughes was not present at that meeting.

3. Applications for Consideration

LESSEE	LOT #	SECTION	ACRES	LOCATION	MAP#
Luke Williams	1011	A	1.86	Great Sound	5
Sky T. Glenn	1012	A	2.25	Great Sound	5
Sandra Williams	1013	A	1.75	Great Sound	5
Stephen O'Connor	1014	A	2.03	Great Sound	5
Gary Williams	1015	A	1.87	Great Sound	5
Robert Williams	1016	A	2.11	Great Sound	5
Elyssa Glenn	1027	A	2.16	Great Sound	5
Leroy Frost	116.1	B	2.01	GB-Graveling Pt	1
Brianna Frost	118	B	2.02	GB-Graveling Pt	1
Steven Frost	121	B	2.27	GB-Graveling Pt	1

Lisa Brosnan	20	D	2.00	Swan Point	1
Michael Brosnan	21	D	2.00	Swan Point	1
Marion Burke	28	D	2.00	Swan Point	1

All applicants were present at the meeting. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7.25-24.6 lease applicants shall attend at least one of the two Council meetings at which the Council reviews their applications.

4. Applications for Decision

LESSEE	LOT #	SECTION	ACRES	LOCATION	MAP#
Matthew Matusky	115	B	2.16	G.B.-Graveling Pt.	1
L.E.H. Oysters, LLC Theodore Gerike	137	B	2.37	G.B.-Graveling Pt.	1
Robert Fricke	1435	B	2.00	Middle Island	6.1
Dale S. Parsons	1436	B	2.00	Middle Island	6.1
Richard Derrickson	2019	B	2.00	Widgeon Bay	3.2

Messrs. Frick and Parsons were present at this meeting. Messrs. Derrickson, Gerike and Matusky were present at the last meeting. All applications were unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Hughes and a second by Mr. Johnson. Mr. Normant informed the applicants they have 30 days to sign their lease agreements and pay the lease fees.

5. Old Business:

Mordecai Island Research Lease

At the March meeting, a proposal was made by Mr. Tumas for a new research lease for the Rutgers Cooperative Extension on behalf of Re-Clam the Bay along Mordecai Island in Little Egg Harbor Bay. Upon review of the area, Mr. Normant informed Council that the Bureau had no issues with the proposal. A motion to approve the research lease was made by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Johnson.

Leasing Committee

Mr. Normant suggested that the Council hold a full Leasing Committee meeting in June to discuss options that could be temporarily incorporated in the Leasing Policy since the proposed shellfish regulatory package had been placed on hold due to the pending administration change. The Leasing Committee meeting will be open to the public. Ms. Tomko was looking into a date that would not conflict with the committee members' harvest activities.

MFA licensing Office Update

Mr. Normant informed the Council that the Nacote Creek Licensing Office remain closed on Mondays and Fridays for the time being due to staffing issues within the leasing office. Two part-time Agency Service Representatives (ASR) had been hired and were currently being trained. Marine Fisheries Administration staff will also be interviewing for a new full time ARS. Once the new full time and part time ASR staff are fully trained, the Office would be re-opened on Fridays.

Hard Clam Relay Regulations

Mr. James Jenks inquired about rule updates with hard clam relay program. Mr. Schuster informed Mr. Jenks that the Bureau of Marine Water Monitoring (BMWM) had recently updated the relay regulations in the Shellfish growing waters classification rules so that they comply with the Model Ordinance. Mr. Schuster stated that the BMWM would also be revisiting the rules for amendments. Mr. Normant stated that there would be public comment period for any proposed rule changes. Mr. Johnson requested that Mr. Jenks be included for comments in regard to amendments to the relay rules by the BMWM.

6. New Business:

Vibrio Management Plan

Mr. Schuster stated that BMWM has released to the public the *Vibrio* Control Plan for 2017. There were no substantial changes to the document from the previous year. The document could be found at the following link : <http://www.nj.gov/dep/bmw/Reports/nj2017vibrioplan.pdf>.

Hydrographic Survey

Mr. Parsons inquired about when hydrographic surveys would be conducted at Middle Island. Mr. Normant stated that the Bureau's Trimble GPS unit used for hydrographic surveys was no longer functional and that they were in the process of purchasing two new updated Trimble GPS units. Once the Bureau acquires the new unit, staff could resume performing hydrographic surveys of the lease corners.

Research Lease

Mr. Chuck Gehman, a teacher at Middle Township High School, requested a new research lease in Jenkins Sound, Cape May County. Mr. Gehman presented the proposal to Council. Mr. Normant stated the Bureau did not have any issues with the proposed project and location. A motion to approve the research lease 1R Section A was made by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Johnson.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Johnson.

7. Date, time and place of next meeting:

DATE: June 19, 2017
TIME: 7 PM
LOCATION: Law Enforcement Office
360 New York Rd. Rte. Port Republic, NJ 08241