

MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION BUSINESS MEETING
Hilton Garden Inn, Kitty Hawk, N.C.
Nov. 15-16, 2017

N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e) mandates at the beginning of any meeting of a board, the chair shall remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest under Chapter 138. The chair also shall inquire as to whether there is any known conflict of interest with respect to any matters coming before the board at that time.

N.C.G.S. 143B-289.54.(g)(2) states a member of the Marine Fisheries Commission shall not vote on any issue before the Commission that would have a "significant and predictable effect" on the member's financial interest. For purposes of this subdivision, "significant and predictable effect" means there is or may be a close causal link between the decision of the Commission and an expected disproportionate financial benefit to the member that is shared only by a minority of persons within the same industry sector or gear group. A member of the Commission shall also abstain from voting on any petition submitted by an advocacy group of which the member is an officer or sits as a member of the advocacy group's board of directors. A member of the Commission shall not use the member's official position as a member of the Commission to secure any special privilege or exemption of substantial value for any person. No member of the Commission shall, by the member's conduct, create an appearance that any person could improperly influence the member in the performance of the member's official duties.

Commissioners having questions about a conflict of interest or appearance of conflict should consult with counsel to the Marine Fisheries Commission or the secretary's ethics liaison. Upon discovering a conflict, the commissioner should inform the chair of the commission in accordance with N.C.G.S. 138A-15(e).

Nov. 15

2 p.m.

Call to Order*
Conflict of Interest Reminder
Roll Call
Approval of Agenda**
Approval of Meeting Minutes**

2:15 p.m.

Chairman's Report

- Letters
- Ethics Training Reminder
- 2018 Meeting Schedule

2:30 p.m.

Director's Report – Director Braxton Davis

Reports and updates on recent Division of Marine Fisheries activities

- Division of Marine Fisheries Quarterly Update
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission – Michelle Duval and Chris Batsavage
 - Sturgeon Benchmark Stock Assessment
 - Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Menhaden
 - Summer Flounder Commercial Quota Allocations – Chris Batsavage
 - Sustainable Fishery Management Plan for American Shad – Holly White
 - 2018 Cobia Season and Potential Management Measures – Steve Poland
 - **Vote on 2018 Season and Management Measures***
- Informational Materials
 - Landings Update for Red Drum and Southern Flounder
 - Protected Resources Update
 - Observer Program
 - Incidental Take Permit Updates
 - Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Update
 - South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Update
 - Highly Migratory Species
 - Preliminary Landings, January - June 2017

- License and Statistics 2017 Annual Report
 - Rulemaking Update
- 4 p.m. Committee Reports
- Nominating Committee
 - **Vote on slate of nominees for at-large seats for the Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils ****
 - Region 4 Proposed Strategic Habitat Area Nominations – Anne Deaton and Casey Knight
 - **Vote to send Region 4 Strategic Habitat Areas nominations out for advisory committee/public comment****
 - Finfish Advisory Committee
 - Northern Advisory Committee
 - Southern Advisory Committee
 - Blue Crab Fishery Management Plan Advisory Committee
- 6 p.m. Public Comment Period

Nov. 16

- 8:30 a.m. Shellfish Mariculture
- Remarks by Tom Looney, N.C. Economic Development Council and Todd Miller, N.C. Coastal Federation
 - Program Update – Steve Murphey and Anne Deaton
- 9:30 a.m. Fishery Management Plan Update – Catherine Blum
- Status of ongoing plans
- 9:45 a.m. Striped Mullet Update – Dan Zaph and Tracey Bauer
- 10:30 a.m. Rule Suspension Annual Update – Kathy Rawls
- 10:45 a.m. Coastal Habitat Protection Implementation Plan – Jimmy Johnson
- **Vote on Implementation Plan****
- 11:15 a.m. Issues from Commissioners
- 11:45 a.m. Meeting Assignments and Preview of February Agenda Items – Nancy Fish
- Noon Adjourn

2018 Meeting Dates

- Feb. 14-15** **Wilmington Area**
- May 16-17** **Morehead City/New Bern Area**
- Aug. 15-16** **Raleigh**
- Nov. 14-15** **Kitty Hawk**

** Times indicated are merely for guidance. The commission will proceed through the agenda until completed.*

***Potential Action Items*