

**Freeport Shellfish Commission
Meeting
January 11, 2018**

Attendees: Chris G., Jared L., Nora H., Dale (Chopper) S., Karl O., and Charlie T. (Marine Resource Conservation Officer)

Meeting Commenced: At 6:37 pm.

Motion #1: Karl moved to approve the November minutes. Jared seconded. All voted in favor.

Motion #2: Karl moved to amend the December minutes to reflect the fact that he attended the December meeting. Chris seconded. All approved. Jared moved to approve the December minutes as amended. Karl seconded. All voted in favor except Nora who abstained because she was not present at the December meeting.

Public Comment: No member of the public commented.

Marine Resource Conservation Officer's Report: Charlie reported that he has been doing the biotoxin testing over that last month or so. Also, DMR suggested that the Commission could give conservation points for additional testing of this type (but not fecal testing). Charlie has engaged some clambers in additional testing. Biotoxin levels are coming down, and hopefully the flats will be reopened in approximately one week.

Charlie raised the issue of brushing. Discussion about the need for permits occurred. Harpswell cut Christmas trees in half and staked them down in the mud as a brushing effort. Harpswell is going to try some netting this year based on some past experience in Brunswick. However, in Brunswick, the area that was netted was not closed to harvesting so it was hard to determine how effective the netting/brushing technique was. There was no actual measurement of effectiveness. It is possible that permits may be needed for this activity particularly if it involves netting.

Regarding water sampling and the testing that we had done a few months ago, Charlie reported that Little River tested well and reported on some issues in other areas. Charlie will continue testing in certain areas at his discretion.

Charlie investigated surveys to some extent by looking at what Yarmouth had done in the past. Yarmouth's goal with surveys is to determine how many harvesters a Cove can support. Further discussion of surveys occurred.

Charlie reported that there is a Vibrio training in Bath that anyone could attend to get some pollution training. The training is January 24th at 5:30 pm at 192 State Road, West Bath. It is an activity that could be worth conservation points. There is a second training in Boothbay.

Clean Water Surcharge: The Commission discussed revisiting the earlier decision to suspend the water quality fund license surcharge. The Commission decided to revisit this issue next month. Charlie will solicit further input from the harvesters on this topic in advance of the next meeting.

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Freeport Community Center 6:30 PM

Call to order

Determination of Quorum

Reading of November minutes and approval

Reading of minutes from last meeting

Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Open to public comment

(3 minute per person limit please)

New business from public comment to be considered for future meetings

Close meeting to public comment

Marine Resource Officer report

Old Business

Text for Clean water fee change (Nora)

Survey Methodology Progress – Dale

Continued Discussion of Senior License Ordinance license Change

Continued conversation of Brushing for conservation points

Consideration for New business

Adjournment