

**Freeport Shellfish Commission
Meeting
December 7, 2017**

Attendees: Malcolm M., Jared L., Chris Grimm. and Charlie T. (Marine Resource Conservation Officer)
Meeting Commenced: At 6:30 pm

Public Comment:

Public questions for DMR in regards to Toxin closure.

DMR explained it was the NH coast and Cape Elizabeth all the way to Harpswell. Current sampling was worse than expected especially considering the temp. DMR will continue to test and report.

MRCO Report:

Charlie water samples from Falls Point, Cove RD, Wistlers Cove. It takes about a month to turn the samples these days as the labs are very busy usually should be 2 week turn. Total cost per cycle is about \$250. Charlie will collect next set of samples at his discretion. Should have indicative results by next meeting.

Survey Progress: Dale continues to work on refining and defining what we will do for a productive survey this year. Will plan on binary sampling (Spat – yes/no, # above/below threshold) Stopping when collection hits dead mud. Survey needs to be repeatable to be useful. Mapping by Charlie of results discussed. Charlie will talk with Chris, an independent consultant to talk about what he thinks for survey footage. Dale and Charlie will discuss when a survey is possible and report next meeting for such.

Senior Licence Discussion Continued: Dale wants 10 year minimum service to qualify. Question of legality for such brought up. C Grimm again suggested length of previous license. Discussion will continue.

Brushing: DMR reports very few towns do brushing. Other issue is Army Corps permits for such. General feeling seems to be they are ok with it as long as it's limited in scope. DMR suggested talking with Dave Wilson out of Harpswell. C Grimm said he would contact Dave. Discussion that brushing may enhance green crabs. Possibility of trying a small area with dead mud this spring, March time frame.

New Business:

Looking for additional sign for Winslow park. No dissent. Charlie would look into it as well.

New town council Liaison present and introduced himself.

Motion: Adjournment by Dale. All voted in favor. **Meeting Adjourned: 8:00**

**Freeport Shellfish Commission
Meeting
November 9, 2017**

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

Meeting Commenced: At 6:30 pm.

Motion #1: To amend the October minutes to change \$6,350 to \$6,000 in the Treasurer's Report. With the amendment, the October minutes were approved, with all voting in favor.

Public Comment: There was one question about when results of the water quality testing that we had recently approved.

Marine Resource Conservation Officer's Report: Charlie reported that the Sewer Treatment Plant malfunctioned at Falls River, resulting in the closure of entire Harraseeket River. Charlie also reported that he had completed the water quality testing and that the results should be returned in 2-3 weeks. Accelerated water quality testing in the Harraseeket is not an option due to staffing constraints at DMR.

Chopper had further questions about the malfunction and it decided that we would invite a Sewer Treatment Plant representative to come to the next meeting to discuss the malfunction.

Clean Water Surcharge: The Commission discussed an ordinance change that would suspend the surcharge unless or until the Water Quality Fund falls below a certain dollar amount. Nora suggested suspending the surcharge unless or until the fund falls below \$5,000.

Motion #2: Nora moved to make the necessary ordinance changes to suspend the water quality license surcharge unless or until the Water Quality Fund falls below \$5,000 as confirmed by the Commission's Treasurer on January 1st of each year. Jared seconded. All voted in favor.

Stock Assessment: Chopper proposed surveying the areas where we believe there are clams and that we use old sampling methods to do this. The proposal is to only sample out to the point where there are clams, and then turn around and stop sampling at the point from shore where we do not think there are clams. We would not bring the samples back to land for analysis. A written proposal was not presented.

The Commission discussed the proposal and sought public input. Chopper will provide a through written proposal for survey.

Senior Licenses: The Commission discussed the need to have (1) a qualification requirement for Senior licenses that would require the Senior license holder to have held a commercial license for a certain number of years; or (2) a cap on the number of Senior licenses.

There was consensus to revisit this topic at the next meeting.

New Business: Doug noted that he felt that brushing was a good conservation activity.

Freeport Shellfish Conservation Commission

December 14, 2017

Freeport Community Center 6:30 PM

Guest Speaker (Sewer Department)

Call to order

Determination of Quorum

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

Water sampling report

Continued Discussion of Senior License Ordinance license Change

Continued conversation of Brushing for conservation points

Consideration for New business

Adjournment