

# NEW JERSEY SHELL FISHERIES COUNCIL - DELAWARE BAY SECTION -

## MINUTES

NOVEMBER 13, 2008

NJDEP, Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Bureau of Shellfisheries  
1672 E. Buckshutem Rd., Millville, NJ 08332  
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ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Warren Hollinger, Chair  
Scott Bailey  
Stephen Fleetwood

STATE REPRESENTATIVES  
James W. Joseph, Shellfisheries  
Russell Babb, Shellfisheries  
Craig Tomlin, Shellfisheries

HASKIN SHELLFISH LAB  
Eric Powell, Director  
John Kraeuter, Assoc. Director  
David Bushek, Research Professor

*Compliance with Sunshine Law:*

Notice of this meeting was posted with the Secretary of State's Office, State House, Trenton, NJ and the Bridgeton Evening News, The Press, and Daily Journal on October 21, 2008 pursuant to L. 1975 c. 231.

Mr. Joseph notified the Council that this meeting would be recorded.

The minutes of the July 15, 2008 minutes were presented for consideration. A motion was made to amend the spelling of Donald Lumpkin to Donald Lumpton. The Council requested additional time to review the July minutes and decision to approve will be held-over to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

1. Lease Ground Transactions

Wayne Robinson transferred the following grounds to Derek Robinson:

LOT #	SEC.	ACRE
192	D	26

Wayne Robinson transferred the following grounds to Bivalve Packing Co.:

LOT #	SEC.	ACRE	LOT #	SECT	ACRE
15	B	37	571	C	28
71	B	56	94	D	28
82	B	147	125	D	16
103	B	144	132	D	20
108	B	55	133	D	8
116	B	20	136	D	10
132	B	27	139	D	7
236	B	15	140	D	10
130	C	68	162	D	15
131	C	35	244	D	14
276	C	14	278	D	72
359	C	13	445	D	31
371	C	15	504	D	54
476	C	8	61	E	12
484	C	25	62	E	12
506	C	33	69	E	12
545	C	22	225	E	12
552	C	21			

Robbins and Robbins, Inc. transferred the following grounds to Gary Robbins:

LOT #	SEC.	ACRE
534	D	15

1. Old Business

noted the extremely high salinity.

1.1. Direct Market Program Summary

Mr. Tomlin stated that there was only one seed bed mortality group remained open. He noted that the Ship John seed bed had received the bulk of the harvest, with only minimal harvest on the Cohansey seed bed. A lengthy conversation ensued.

2.2. Leasing Committee

Mr. Canzonier stated that it was very important that the Council follow through with the planned leasing committee. He stated that this committee needed to address fees and differential fees before extraordinary fees are placed upon them. Mr. Hollinger stated that this committee was set up but the membership has not been finalized. A lengthy conversation ensued.

1.2. Direct Market Program Season Extension

Mr. Babb stated that at the October Council meeting, the Council had passed a motion to extend the season by one week if the water temperature at the Ship John Light data sounde was at or above 50°F. He stated that the instrumentation on Ship John Light had been taken off line during the interim. He stated that he used other NOAA-maintained instrumentation within the Bay (Brandywine Shoal) and that it read above 53°F. Mr. Babb added that the season would remain open for one additional week.

2.3. Consolidation

Mr. Fleetwood stated that the Council needed to contact legislators to express the impact of consolidation on public health. Mr. Hollinger stated that he had already sent a letter but that he agreed to re-hash the issue in the beginning of 2009.

1.3. *Vibrio* Committee Update

Mr. Tomlin stated the *Vibrio* Committee had its first meeting, adding that the meeting had been productive. He stated that the next meeting was being scheduled for either December 3 or 4, 2008. A lengthy conversation ensued.

2.4. *C. ariakensis* Environmental Impact Statement

Mr. Fleetwood stated that the Council needed to compile information from the Bureau as well as Dr. Powell to draft a letter to send to the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Babb stated that he would compile the necessary information on behalf of the Council.

1.4. Maurice River Tongers Committee Update

Chairman Hollinger stated that the initial meeting had been largely informational in nature. He stated that not much could be done until the passing of the new oyster regulations. Mr. Hollinger stated that after the passing of the new oyster regulations there would be an opportunity to implement the landing fee program (\$2.00 per bushel fee). A lengthy conversation ensued.

2.5. New Office Hours

Mr. Joseph stated that the new office hours would be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 to 4:30 and closed 12:00 till 1:00 for lunch.

Mr. Hollinger noted that the oysters found in the tongers area showed considerable mortality, but also showed a lot of set. Mr. Babb stated that the Bureau did a survey of the tongers during the fall of 2007 and had just recently collected samples for the fall of 2008 survey. A lengthy discussion ensued over the transplanting of oysters onto the tongers beds.

2.6. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was inaudible.

Next Scheduled Meeting - Date & Time:

The next meeting of the Delaware Bay Section of the New Jersey Shell Fisheries Council would be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2008 at 6 pm in the library of the Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory, Port Norris, New Jersey.

2. New Business

2.1. Dermo Update

Mr. Bushek stated that Dermo levels are high but mortality has not increased as much as would have been expected. He stated that there was a strong possibility of a mortality event in the spring. He also