

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION  
BUSINESS SESSION**

**The Westin Alexandria**  
Alexandria, Virginia  
**May 4, 2016**

**Approved August 4, 2016**

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## ATTENDANCE

### Board Members

Patrick Keliher, ME (AA)	Tom Moore, PA, proxy for Rep. Vereb (LA)
Terry Stockwell, ME, Administrative proxy	David Saveikis, DE (AA)
Sen. Brian Langley, ME (LA)	John Clark, DE, Administrative proxy
Steve Train, ME (GA)	Roy Miller, DE (GA)
Dennis Abbott, NH, proxy for Sen. Watters (LA)	Craig Pugh, DE, proxy for Rep. Carson (LA)
Doug Grout, NH (AA)	David Blazer, MD (AA)
Ritchie White, NH (GA)	Bill Goldsborough, MD (GA)
Rep. Sarah Peake, MA (LA)	Ed O'Brien, MD, proxy for Del. Stein (LA)
Bill Adler, MA (GA)	John Bull, VA (AA)
Dan McKiernan, MA, proxy for D. Pierce (AA)	Rob O'Reilly, VA, Administrative proxy
Eric Reid, RI, proxy for Sen. Sosnowski (LA)	Rep. Bob Steinburg, NC (LA)
Jason McNamee, RI, proxy for J. Coit (AA)	Doug Brady, NC (GA)
David Borden, RI (GA)	Chris Batsavage, NC, proxy for B. Davis (AA)
David Simpson, CT (AA)	Mel Bell, SC, proxy for M. Rhodes (GA)
Mike Falk, NY, proxy for Sen. Boyle (LA)	Robert Boyles, SC (AA)
Jim Gilmore, NY (AA)	Pat Geer, GA, proxy for Rep. Nimmer (LA)
Emerson Hasbrouck, NY (GA)	Nancy Addison, GA (GA)
Brandon Muffley, NJ, proxy for D. Chanda (AA)	Spud Woodward, GA (AA)
Tom Fote, NJ (GA)	Jim Estes, FL, proxy for J. McCawley (AA)
Adam Nowalsky, NJ, proxy for Asm. Andrzejczak (LA)	Martin Gary, PRFC
Andy Shiels, PA, proxy for J. Arway (AA)	Mike Millard, USFWS
Loren Lustig, PA (GA)	Kelly Denit, NMFS

**(AA = Administrative Appointee; GA = Governor Appointee; LA = Legislative Appointee)**

### Staff

Bob Beal  
Toni Kerns

Ashton Harp

The Business Session of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened in the Edison Ballroom of the Westin Hotel, Alexandria, Virginia, May 4, 2016, and was called to order at 2:06 o'clock p.m. by Chairman Douglas E. Grout.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

CHAIRMAN DOUGLAS E. GROUT: I would like to convene the Business Session of the Commission. As I mentioned before, we have one item on our Business Session here, one major item that we need to address; and then we'll go immediately into our Parliamentary Workshop. As I understand it, I'm going to give them a chance to get; we have a very, very brief presentation. Do we have any proceedings? I don't believe we did in the package.

MS. TONI KERNS: We did not meet, Doug. The Business Session, I don't believe, no, no meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

CHAIRMAN GROUT: We have essentially one agenda item here, and it is concerning ACCSP governance. Cheri Patterson, who is a former Chair of the Coordinating Council of ACCSP, is going to give a brief presentation on the issue before us. If you are ready to Cheri, we'll turn it right over to you.

#### **ACCSP GOVERNANCE PROGRAM DECISION**

MS. CHERI PATTERSON: ACCSP had a Governance Review done in 2012, I'm sorry had an Independent Program Review conducted in 2012. One of the recommendations that the IPR Panel came up with was to undergo a Governance Review. They cited these three bullets that you see in the box to the right for reasoning's why to go through another Governance Review.

A Governance Ad Hoc Workgroup that consisted of ACCSP Coordinating Council and Ops members was convened, and terms of reference were devised, in order to work

through any sort of governance decision apart from where the status quo is. There were four terms of reference in a survey that was conducted.

The four terms of reference you see there on the slide. The survey was a series of 13 questions of either eliciting comments, or getting an opinion from anybody who participated. This is just an example of one of the questions on how people felt if ACCSP was incorporated into ASMFC; would it enhance their profile, their stature and recognition?

We had from the survey 70 respondents. We broke those down further for you guys to see. Coordinating Council members, there were 17 of those that responded to that question, and six responded from the Advisors Committee. Again, there were 13 questions; this just shows you an example.

In this particular example you had almost 70 percent of the advisors indicate that yes, ACCSP would likely achieve a higher profile if it was a program under ASMFC. A little over half of the coordinating council agreed with that and all of the respondents, a little less than half. From these terms of reference and the survey, the workgroup came up with four alternatives to fully assess in a white paper. The white paper is 100 pages. If you would like for me to send it to you, please let me know.

It will be posted on ACCSPs website as meeting minutes from yesterday's meeting, if you want to access it there also. But the four alternatives were, of course the first one being status quo; where ACCSP is an independent program from ASMFC. They are co-housed together. Alternative 2 is some sort of enhanced integration into ASMFC, but ACCSP remains independent.

Well, there was a collaboration paper that was produced between Bob Beal and Mike Cahall, and based on that collaboration paper; the workgroup determined that essentially Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 are the same,

with the exception of supervision and oversight. The third alternative was to fold ACCSP into an ASMFC program, and the fourth alternative was to create a standalone agency organization to run ACCSP.

Out of those four alternatives, the first three were felt to be relatively funding neutral. The fourth was considered to have about a 50 percent increase in the budget, if it was going to become a standalone organization. The Governance Ad Hoc Workgroup, after finalizing this white paper, put together a series of recommendations.

The first and foremost being Alternative 3, fold ACCSP into an ASMFC program; under particular conditions. We would like to see it be congruent with existing ASMFC programs, similar to ISFMP; that the Executive Director would directly supervise the ACCSP director. Currently the governance is having an ASMFC and the Chair of the Coordinating Council co-supervise the ACCSP director.

Data collection and management programs should be considered equal. ACCSP may hold a higher priority with state directors, ACCSP partners and stakeholders under ASMFC; similar to what you saw in that survey question. ACCSP should be maintained as a partner-driven committee process from the technical committees up to the coordinating council.

We feel that this was the real strength of this particular program, and it should not be broken down in any way from that maintaining this bottom up management approach. That incorporates all partners; federal, advisors, state, was very important to maintain the integrity of the program, and if there was a decision to change the governance that a workgroup be developed, to continue to develop further recommendations of this restructuring.

The Ad Hoc Workgroup felt that particular workgroup members would be essential, but also have other coordinating council members

that wish to join the Operations and Advisory Committee members if they wish to join. ASMFC and ACCSP staff would be critical. If any of the ASMFC Commissioners were interested then they should join this workgroup also.

This recommendation went to the ACCSP Executive Committee and Coordinating Council Monday, and both of those entities approved this recommendation. This was brought forth to the ASMFC Executive Committee yesterday, of which they developed a motion that passed unanimously that the Executive Committee bring forward to the Full Commission, for its consideration, the integration of the ACCSP under ASMFC governance. Now we have to wake up.

CHAIRMAN GROUT: Can we put that motion back up on the board?

MS. PATTERSON: I could try.

***NOTE (motion from Executive Committee):  
Move that the Executive Committee bring forward to the full Commission, for its consideration, the integration of the ACCSP under ASMFC governance. Motion passes unanimously.***

CHAIRMAN GROUT: Does anybody have any questions for Cheri or the Executive Committee about this recommendation? Seeing none; this is a motion from the committee. Yes, Bob?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ROBERT E. BEAL: Just a quick comment to echo some of the comments that Cheri made on process, which is if this motion were to pass, we would set up a working group. That working group would work out some of the details of what this transition means.

What does the Coordinating Council look like for ACCSP, what does the ACCSP Executive Committee, what is their new role, if any; and some of those details? Then there will likely have to be some changes to the ACCSP MOU as well. We'll do all those things between this

meeting and the August meeting. This Full Commission will have more decision points, or at least get another report at the August meeting on the status of the transition; if this motion passes.

CHAIRMAN GROUT: Do you think that we need any changes to the compact or charter?

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BEAL: We may need some changes to the Commission Rules and Regulations. The ISFMP Charter is really just the ISFMP portion of the commission, so it may require some changes to the rules and regulations, which we could bring forward at the August meeting; if necessary.

CHAIRMAN GROUT: Any questions? We have a motion on the board that came forward from the Executive Committee. It does not need a second. Do you need time to caucus on this? Raise your hand if you need time to caucus. **Okay seeing none; then all those in favor of the Commission passing this motion raise your hand, 14, opposed, abstentions, null votes; it passes unanimously.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

CHAIRMAN GROUT: Are there any other items to come before the ASMFC Business Session? Seeing none; I'll take a motion to adjourn. So moved.

(Whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 o'clock p.m. on May 4, 2016.)