ATTENDANCE

Board Members

George Lapointe, Maine DMR
Dennis Damon, ME Legislative Comm.
John Nelson, New Hampshire F&G
Peter Whelan, proxy for Dennis Abbott, NH
Paul Diodati, Massachusetts DMF
Bill Alder, Massachusetts Gov. Apte.
Vito Calomo, Proxy for Anthony Verga, MA
Eric Smith, Connecticut DMR
Tom McCloy, New Jersey DFG&W
Leroy Young, Proxy for Douglas Austen, PA
Eugene Kray, proxy for Curt Shroder, PA
Frank Cozzo, Proxy for Curt Shroder, PA
Roy Miller, Delaware Div. of Fish and Wildlife
Bernard Pankowski, proxy for Robert Venables
Howard King, Maryland DNR
Bruno Vasta, Maryland Gov. Apte.
Jack Travelstead, Virginia MRC
Kelly Place, proxy for John Chichester, VA
Preston Pate, North Carolina, DMF
Damon Tatem, North Carolina Gov. Apte.
Jimmy Johnson, Proxy for William Wainwright, NC
Mel Bell Proxy for John Frampton, SC
Malcolm Rhodes, South Carolina Gov. Apte.
Spud Woodward, Proxy for Susan Shipman, GA
John Duren, Georgia Gov. Apte.
Gil McRae, Florida Marine Research Institute
April Price, Florida Gov. Apte.
Wilson Laney, USFWS
Tom Meyer, NMFS

ASMFC Staff

Ruth Christiansen
Bob Beal
Tina Berger
Vince O’Shea
Julie Nygard
Vince O’Shea
Lydia Munger
Brad Spear
Nancy Wallace
Mike Howard
Toni Kerns

Guests

John Carmichael, SEDAR
Jeff Kaelin, Omega Protein
Terry Stockwell, Maine DMR
Matt Cieri, Maine DMR
Bennie Williams, USFWS
Rick Robbins, Chesapeake Bay Packing
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No Motions Made
The meeting of the Business Session of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened in the Washington Ballroom of the DoubleTree Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia, on Thursday, February 23, 2006, and was called to order at 3:28 o’clock, p.m., by Chairman Preston Pate, Jr.

-- Welcome; Introductions --

CHAIRMAN PRESTON PATE, JR.: Without objection I’d like to adjourn the Policy Board and move right into the Business Session which should go very expediently.

-- Approval of Agenda --

Any recommendations for changes to the agenda? If not we will approve that.

-- Approval of Proceedings from November 3, 2005 Meeting --

Minutes from the last meeting. Any changes to that? Without objection consider those approved.

-- Public Comment --

Any comments from the public? Seeing none, we’ll move to the next item which is noncompliance recommendations. There weren’t any. Agenda Item Number 6 is the recognition and approval of Amendment 2 to the Herring Fisheries Management Plan. Eric Smith is going to make that presentation.

-- Update on Status of Amendment 2 to the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan --

MR. ERIC SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As chairman of the Atlantic Herring Section -- a very recent chairman after the long, hard work of Lew Flagg who then took a powder on us and we all congratulate him for that -- I chaired the last meeting in Providence at which the section approved Amendment 2 to the plan.

Various changes which I won’t go through, the section approval is the final action. But I did want to make note of it during the Business Session that it is an approved amendment and also to offer my thanks and congratulations to Lew and I hope the folks from Maine will pass that on but also Ruth Christiansen on staff who did a great job, Bob, as always, supporting her, assistance from Lori Steele at the New England Fishery Management Council which was very, very useful because of the need to coordinate the council’s Amendment 1 with our Amendment 2 and particularly a very active and helpful advisory panel which stayed committed and involved in this whole process all throughout and that was very useful, too. So it worked out well. It’s an approved amendment and I just offer that for the business session to appreciate. Thanks.

CHAIRMAN PATE: Okay, thank you, Eric. No action necessary on that. Paul -- Vito, excuse me.

MR. VITO CALOMO: Did you call me Paul because we’re both Italians?

CHAIRMAN PATE: Well, you were joined there for a minute, I’m sorry.

MR. CALOMO: I just want to commend Eric Smith for doing a fantastic job at the section meeting on herring. He moved it right along and we weren’t late; we were early finishing and we covered everything. And he did a good job with the public. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN PATE: Okay, thank you, Vito. Any other business to come before the board? Gene, is that a? Oh, okay. Okay, then motion to adjourn. We’re adjourned. Thank you. Good job. Everybody travel safely.

(Whereupon, the meeting adjourned at 3:31 o’clock p.m. on Thursday, February 23, 2006.)