

MINUTES

SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SMAC) MEETING

July 11, 2018

Members Present

Wayne France
Tommy Kellum
Charles B. Johnson
John DeMaria
Dan Dise

Members Present

Ernest George
S. Lake Cowart
Heather Lockwood
J. C. Hudgins

VMRC/VIMS Staff

Andrew Button
Ben Stagg
Pat Geer
Missy Southworth
Roger Mann
Jamie Hogge
Donald Bond

and others.

Wayne France, Chairman, opened the meeting at 4:06 p.m..

Andrew Button, Head Conservation and Replenishment, updated the members on the status of the 2018 Oyster Replenishment Plan, discussed the current James River Seed Quota and welcomed discussion and input on potential changes for the 2018-2019 season and preliminary discussion on the establishment of the 2018-2019 areas of public harvest, public oyster harvest seasons and management measures. Mr. Button's comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Mr. Button gave an update on the 2018 Oyster Replenishment Plan to include the status and progress of the projects that were included in the Oyster Replenishment Plan. Missy Southworth of VIMS also explained the areas of spat in various areas. Her comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Mr. Button discussed in detail the 2017/2018 James River Quota and the discrepancies in seed harvest totals between the call in totals and Mandatory Reporting totals. He also showed detailed graphs that captured several years of harvest data in areas of the James River.

Committee Member expressed concerns about the amount James River Seed that is going out of state and not staying in Virginia. These concerns were discussed in detail.

Committee Member Tommy Kellum made a motion to seek further legal guidance from Secretary of Natural Resources and continue the matter at the next S.M.A.C. meeting. Committee Member Cowart seconded the motion. The vote carried 9-0. Chair voted yes.

Mr. Button explained in detail three (3) proposed 2018/2019 areas of public harvest, public oyster harvest seasons and management measures.

The Committee Members agreed to further discuss the proposed 2018/2019 areas of public harvest, public oyster harvest seasons and management measures at the August S.M.A.C. once a decision has been decided on in regards to the James River Seed Quota.

The August SMAC meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 15, 2018, from 4 – 6 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p. m..