

**MINUTES**  
**SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING**

**July 22, 2024**  
**4:00 to 6:00 pm**

Commission Room  
380 Fenwick Road, Bldg. 96  
Fort Monroe, Virginia

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Members Present

Cody Metcalf  
Richard Harding  
Don Porter  
Tommy Kellum  
Lee Deihl  
Ben Johnson

Members Present

J. C. Hudgins  
Beverly Ludford  
Peyton Mason  
Dan Dize via WebEx  
Lake Cowart  
Cory Rice

VMRC/VIMS/VDH Staff

Andrew Button  
Adam Kenyon  
Jamie Hogge  
Andy Shinn  
Melissa Southworth, VIMS  
Roger Mann, VIMS

Prior to the start of the meeting, all members that attended in person received a packet which included the agenda items that were up for discussion. The information that was provided to the members was also available on VMRC website for the public and committee members that were not able to attend to view.

Cody Metcalf, Vice Chairman, opened the meeting at 3.59 p.m.

**Introductions:**

The meeting began with introductions of those SMAC members present, in-person and via WebEx. SMAC members present:

In person included:

Members Lee Deihl, Don Porter, Cory Rice, J. C. Hudgins, Lake Cowart, Peyton Mason, Cody Metcalf, Beverly Ludford, Ben Johnson, and Tommy Kellum. Member Richard Harding arrived shortly after the start of the meeting.

WebEx:

Dan Dize

Andrew Button, Deputy Chief, Shellfish Management, introduced Jackie Shannon as the new Chair and Cody Metcalf as the new Vice Chair. Mr. Button explained the rotation of Chair/Vice Chair members. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

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# **MINUTES**

## **SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Member Kellum made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Ludford. Motion passed 11-0.

### **Approval of February 6, 2024, Meeting Minutes:**

A Committee Member made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded. Motion passed 11-0.

### **Approval and Discussion of Meeting Policy:**

Andrew Button, Deputy Chief, Shellfish Management, began the meeting with an explanation of the Shellfish Management Advisory Committee Policy. The meeting policy that was discussed was provided to the Committee Members. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Member Ludford made a motion to approve the Meeting Policy as presented. The motion was seconded. Motion passed 11-0.

### **Discussion on 2024-2025 Harvest Season:**

Andrew Button, Deputy Chief, Shellfish Management, explained the public harvest history. Mr. Button also presented a Draft Season Template of the upcoming 2024-2025 Public Oyster Harvest to the members to gather input from the SMAC members. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

The Committee Members discussed various Public Oyster Harvest seasons for the upcoming 2024-2025 season. The committee decided to revisit the discussion for the next SMAC Meeting. The committee did not vote.

### **Public Comment**

A member of the public requested Pungoteague Creek, located on the Eastern Shore, be considered as a public oyster harvest area for the upcoming public oyster harvest season.

### **Open Discussion**

Member Kellum acknowledged the Secretary of Natural Resources was also in attendance for the SMAC Meeting.

Also in attendance was Commissioner Jamie Green and Deputy Commissioner John Cosgrove.

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**MEETING**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Member Hudgins seconded the motion. Motion passed 12-0.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 6p.m.

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