

## **MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Friday, June 26, 2020**

**Virtual Meeting Via GoToMeeting**

**MAC Members Present:** D. Swygert, C. Day, E. Holder, P. Brown, J. Massey, B. Rose, B. Bailey

**MAC Members Absent:** F. Rourk

**DNR Staff Present:** Maier, Bell, Snoots, Binz, Weeks, Keppler, Denson, A. Brown, Perkinson, Connery, McDonough, Jenkins, Ballenger, PKS, R. Boyles, Darden. Bueno, K. Ryan, Ingle

**Guests:** Chaplain Jeff Shealy, Scott Whittaker, CCA.

**1. Call Meeting to Order – Chairman Swygert:**

Chairman Swygert called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

**2. Housekeeping- Julie Binz:**

Julie reviewed the processes in place for the Virtual Meeting

**3. Invocation- Pastor Jeff Shealy:**

Pastor Shealy led the Invocation for the meeting.

**4. Pledge of Allegiance- Byron Bailey:**

Dr. Bailey led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**5. Approval of Minutes: Chairman Swygert:**

Chairman Swygert asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes (March 2020). C. Day made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. B. Rose 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried unanimously

**6. Introduction of Guests: Erin Weeks**

N/A – Scott Whittaker joined the meeting late and was introduced at that time.

**7. S.C. Southern Flounder Management Recommendations- Mel Bell:**

Mel Bell gave MRD's S.C. Flounder Management Recommendations. C. Day made the following motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by P. Brown which passed unanimously at the conclusion of his presentation:

*I move that the Marine Advisory Committee recommend that the DNR Board pursue management measures to recover the Flounder fishery in 10 years, with the preferred approach of setting a personal limit of 2 fish per person, boat limit of 6 fish, 15" minimum total length, and a season lasting from July 1, - October 31<sup>st</sup>.*

**8. MRD's Virtual Outreach Efforts- Erica Connery:**

Erica gave a presentation outlining MRD's outreach efforts during the pandemic which included the following programs offered virtually:

MRD Conference, Sea Turtle Volunteer Permit Holder Trainings, Coastal Training Program, K-12 Education Programs, Virtual Summer Camps, Virtual Saltwater Fishing Clinic for Families, Bringing the Outside IN Webinar Series.

All the offerings were wildly successful with participation from over 38 counties in South Carolina.

**9. Deputy Director Comments – Phil Maier:**

- D.D. Maier thanked the Committee for their support on the Flounder recommendations.
- He thanked the meeting facilitators for their efforts on today's meeting.
- He noted that MRRI Assistant Director Tanya Darden was named MRD Employee of the Year
- He apprised the Committee on MRD's involvement with the CARES ACT
- He ended his comments by thanking Dr. Byron Bailey and Coker Day's service to the Marine Advisory Committee. Their years of commitment will be sorely missed. SCDNR Director Robert Boyles added his appreciation for their passion and commitment over the years to the MAC.

Scott Whitaker of CCA made a public comment at this time thanking the Agency for their hard work Staff put together on Flounder Management.

**10. Date, Place & Time of Next Meeting – Chairman Swygert:**

The next scheduled meeting of the Marine Advisory Committee is Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Waddell Mariculture Center in Bluffton.

**11. Adjourn – Chairman Swygert:**

Chairman Swygert adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.