

COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES

COMMISSION MEETING

wednesday, May 27, 2020
9:00 a.m.
Special Session Webinar via Zoom

Commission Members:

Mark Havard, Chairman

Steve Bosarge

Richard Gollott

Natalie Guess

Also Present:

Joe Spraggins, Executive Director DMR

Sandy Chesnut, Esq., Assistant Attorney General

1 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Let's call the meeting to
2 order for Special Session for Commission on Marine
3 Resources Wednesday, May 27th, at 9:00 o'clock.

4 First off, we would like to start off by getting
5 approval for the agenda.

6 Can I get a motion to approve the agenda?

7 COMMISSIONER GOLLOTT: Commissioner Gollott, I
8 will make that motion.

9 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: I have a motion.

10 Do I have a second to approve the agenda?

11 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Commissioner Guess, second.

12 JOE SPRAGGINS: Commissioner, can we add one
13 thing to the agenda?

14 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Sure.

15 What have you got?

16 JOE SPRAGGINS: Where it says "Extension of
17 Commercial Fishing Licenses", I want to put in there the
18 charter boat fishermen that are ending in April, or May,
19 that couldn't get theirs renewed and if they are ending
20 before the end of June, that they could get extended until
21 the end of June to be able to get theirs.

22 It is just to be able to keep them so they could
23 keep going.

24 Could we change that to "Extend the Commercial
25 Fishing and Charter Boat Licenses"?

1 They are month-by-month. It depends on the day
2 that they redid theirs. It will only be a handful of
3 them.

4 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: I don't see a problem with
5 that.

6 Do you want to put that under C.2?

7 JOE SPRAGGINS: Yes, we can just put it under
8 C.2 and make it Charter Boat Licenses Extended to the End
9 of June.

10 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Do I have a motion to
11 approve the amended agenda?

12 COMMISSIONER GOLLOTT: I'll make that motion,
13 Gollott.

14 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Do I have a second to
15 approve?

16 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Commissioner Guess, I'll
17 second.

18 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: I have a motion and a
19 second.

20 All those in favor say aye and, if you would,
21 say your name, and, then, your aye.

22 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Commissioner Guess, aye.

23 COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Bosarge, aye.

24 COMMISSIONER GOLLOTT: Gollott, aye.

25 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Havard, aye.

1 Motion moves.

2 That brings us to Executive Director's Report.
3 Director.

4 JOE SPRAGGINS: We've got Item Number 1 which is
5 the Extension of Commercial Fishing Licenses until 30 June
6 2020.

7 sandy, would you go ahead and go over that real
8 quick?

9 SANDY CHESNUT: Yes.

10 JOE SPRAGGINS: Brady, is the PowerPoint there?
11 She can just talk though it. That's okay.

12 SANDY CHESNUT: Of course, the item on the
13 agenda is Extension of Commercial Fishing Licenses
14 Expiration Date.

15 The background information is, pursuant to
16 Mississippi Code Annotated 49-15-29(2) all commercial
17 licenses expire on April 30th following the date of
18 issuance.

19 On April 1st, Governor Reeves issued Executive
20 Order 1466 establishing a Shelter-In-Place Order through
21 April 20th for the State of Mississippi.

22 On April the 10th, the Commission extended the
23 expiration date of commercial licenses to May 31st, 2020,
24 in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated 33-15-31(b).

25 Of course, the Governor has extended his

1 shelter-in-place, or safer-at-home, orders to deal with
2 the pandemic and the Mississippi shrimp season opens May
3 28th, 2020, and many shrimpers stay on the water for weeks
4 on each trip.

5 In accordance with the Governor's Executive
6 Orders, the DMR will begin the process of returning to
7 work on June 1st, 2020, and will begin issuing licenses at
8 the Bolton Building on a limited basis beginning June 1st.

9 In order to afford the commercial fishermen
10 ample opportunity to obtain their commercial licenses
11 within the limited availability starting June 1st, the MDMR
12 is requesting that the license expiration date be extended
13 for an additional thirty days.

14 The required motion, or requested motion, would
15 be to extend the expiration date of commercial licenses to
16 June 30th, 2020, in order to comply with the continuing
17 mandates of the Executive Orders issued by Governor Reeves
18 pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic.

19 Any questions?

20 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: I don't think there are
21 any questions.

22 Can I get a motion?

23 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Commissioner Guess, I'll
24 make the motion.

25 COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Bosarge will second.

1 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: All those in favor say
2 aye.

3 COMMISSIONER GOLLOTT: Gollott, aye.

4 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Guess, aye.

5 COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Bosarge, aye.

6 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Havard, aye.

7 Motion moves.

8 SANDY CHESNUT: For the item that was added to
9 the agenda, it is the same rationale as was stated for the
10 commercial fishing licenses, but for the charter boat
11 licenses that expired prior to June 2020, the DMR is
12 requesting that those licenses be extended to June 30th,
13 2020, as well.

14 I just need a motion to that effect.

15 JOE SPRAGGINS: These are by day. If you bought
16 it on the 15th day of June, it will end the 15th day of
17 June, or the 14th of June. This is just to be able to give
18 them allowance to the end of June to come in and get
19 theirs.

20 COMMISSIONER GOLLOTT: Gollott will make that
21 motion.

22 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: I have a motion.

23 Do I have a second?

24 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Guess, second.

25 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: I have a motion and a

1 second.

2 All those in favor say aye.

3 COMMISSIONER GOLLOTT: Gollott, aye.

4 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Guess, aye.

5 COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Bosarge, aye.

6 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Havard, aye.

7 Motion moves.

8 That brings us down to the Commissioners Report.

9 Do any of the Commissioners have anything they
10 would like to discuss?

11 (No response.)

12 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Any other business out
13 there that we want to discuss?

14 JOE SPRAGGINS: Just one quick thing, we did get
15 all of the payouts put in the system pretty much. We only
16 had just a couple that had not come in and signed their
17 agreement, as far as the oyster and the crab fishermen.
18 Some people should start getting their check this next
19 week.

20 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Very good. We appreciate
21 you expediting that.

22 It was nice to see enforcement out on the water
23 over the past weekend. I know it was rough, but it was
24 nice to see them in full effect trying to protect our
25 resource. So thanks to you guys.

1 Other than that, do we have any public comments?

2 JOE SPRAGGINS: No public comments.

3 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Can I get a motion to end
4 the meeting?

5 COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: So moved, Mr. Chairman,
6 Bosarge.

7 COMMISSIONER GOLLOTT: Gollott seconds it.

8 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: All those in favor say
9 aye.

10 COMMISSIONER GOLLOTT: Gollott, aye.

11 COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Bosarge, aye.

12 COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Havard, aye.

13 I think we might have lost Natalie.

14 Motion moves.

15 Y'all be careful and be safe out there, and
16 thanks for y'all's time.

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CERTIFICATE

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3 I, Lucille Morgan, Certified Shorthand Reporter,
4 to hereby certify that the above and foregoing 8 pages,
5 including this page, are a true and correct transcription
6 of the webinar by Zoom of the May 27, 2020, special
7 session of the Commission on Marine Resources, to the best
8 of my skill and ability; and, further, that I am not a
9 relative, employee, or agent, of any of the parties
10 thereto, nor financially interested in the cause.
11
12

13 S/ _____

14 LUCILLE MORGAN, CSR 1251

15 COURT REPORTER
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