

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources

Mississippi Oyster Task Force Meeting

Date: June 4, 2020

Location: Teleconference held at the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR), 1141 Bayview Ave, Biloxi, MS 39530

Attendees by Phone:

Voting Members (5)		
Jeremy Forte	Dealer/Processor	Forte Seafood
John Livings	Dredger	Pass C. Harvester (Dredger & Tonger)
Andrew Livings	Tonger	Pass C. Harvester (Dredger & Tonger)
Walter Boasso	Oyster Aquaculture	Spat Tech
Dennis Laubmeir	Recreational Harvester	Recreational Tonger
Non-Voting Members (6)		
Steve Bosarge	CMR Commissioner	CMR Commissioner
Jason Rider	MDMR Oyster Aquaculture	MDMR Oyster Extension Agent
Paul Mickle	MDMR Chief Scientific Officer	MDMR Chief Scientific Officer
Jack Ewing	MDMR Marine Patrol Officer	Marine Patrol Officer
Dr. J. Read Hendon	GCRL Representative	Associate Director for GCRL School of Ocean Science and Technology and Research Scientist
Johnny Marquez	Conservationist	MS Wildlife Federation, Director of Coastal Programs

Attendees in Conference Room:

- Joe Jewell
- Erik Broussard
- Traci Floyd
- Kristina Broussard

No Other Attendees

Voting and Non-Voting Members Not in Attendance:

Voting Members (3)		
Jennifer Jenkins	Dealer/Processor	Crystal Seas Seafood
Keo Nguyen	Dredger	Bayou Harvester (Dredger)
George Storrs	Tonger	Pass C. Harvester
Non-Voting Members (1)		
Timmy Ladner	State Elected Official	State Representative District 93, Poplarville, MS

**Minutes from the June 4, 2020
Meeting of the Mississippi Oyster Task Force**

The Mississippi Oyster Task Force met by teleconference on June 4, 2020 at 5:00 PM in the 2nd Floor Marine Fisheries Conference Room of the MDMR's Bolton Building in Biloxi.

AGENDA:

A. Roll call – Kristina Broussard

B. Assignment of a Chair and Co-Chair for the Task Force

Motion 1: Nomination of Officers: Reelect John Livings as Chair and Andrew Livings as Cochair of the Oyster Task Force.

First: Walter Boasso

Second: Andrew Livings

Passed: 5-0 Unanimous

C. 2019 Bonnet Carré Update – Joe Jewell

D. CARES Act Update – Traci Floyd

Motion 2: To take some of the money and spend it on preventative studies for future openings of the Bonnet Carré Spillway (BCS).

First: Dennis Laubmeir

Second: John Livings

Failed: 4-1

Motion 3: Substitute motion to Motion 2 – To get someone from LA to come to MS and explain the BCS operating system including the dredging issues at the mouth of the MS River. Motioned tabled.

First: Walter Boasso
Second: John Livings
Tabled

Motion 4: Prepare a resolution to get with LA to come up with a joint protection project with MS. This joint protection program would include a study and construction of a removable barrier to divert water from the BCS south between Cat Island and the Chandelier Islands.

First: Walter Boasso
Second: John Livings
Passed: 5-0 Unanimous

Motion 5: For some of the 2019 BCS funds to be spent on dealers and fishermen for work programs and direct payments, includes all components of the grant, to restore the resources. Dealers and fishermen to be involved in all disbursements of these funds.

First: John Livings
Second: Andrew Livings
Passed: 5-0 Unanimous

E. Review and Discussion of the Standard Operating Procedures for a Task Force

Motion 6: To adopt by-laws (SOP) as revised. Revisions include the CMR making the Oyster Task Force a permanent body and restructuring of the voting and non-voting members.

First: Dennis Laubmeir
Second: John Livings
Passed: 5-0 Unanimous

F. Other Business: No other business

G. Public Comments: No public comments

H. Adjourn

Motion 7: Adjourn the meeting.

First: Walter Boasso
Second: Andrew Livings
Passed: 5-0 Unanimous