

MISSISSIPPI ADVISORY COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES

COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

9:00 a.m.

Bolton Building Auditorium

1141 Bayview Avenue

Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

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Commission Members:

Ronnie Daniels, Chairman

Natalie Guess, Vice Chairman

Cammack "Cam" Roberds

Also Present:

Joe Spraggins, Executive Director DMR

Sandy Chesnut, Esq., Assistant Attorney General

*Lucille Morgan, CSR 1251*

*COURT REPORTER*

*(228) 396-8788*

1           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Good morning, ladies and  
2 gentlemen. Thank y'all for attending today's meeting.

3           At this time, I would like to call the meeting  
4 to order.

5           I will ask the Director to lead us in the Pledge  
6 of Allegiance.

7           (Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

8           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Director Spraggins, if you  
9 don't mind leading us in a prayer.

10          JOE SPRAGGINS: Yes. I would like to just take a  
11 few moments for everybody to think about and take time in  
12 your life, if you can, this time of the year where we are.  
13 We know that his season is all about Jesus and not about  
14 us and it is all about the Savior.

15          Also, we want to remember everyone and their  
16 family members and having to go through their first  
17 Christmas without them. Let's just put them in our hearts  
18 and think about them. Help us and let every one of us do  
19 that.

20          Also, a very big prayer for the people in the  
21 storm this last weekend for the people that were harmed  
22 and their families. Just keep them all in your prayers.

23          Let's go to the Lord.

24          Our Heavenly Father, we thank you so much.

25          Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Thank you for

1 giving us this Commission and thank you for giving us this  
2 great organization to be able to operate and do the things  
3 that you would have us to do on the Gulf Coast.

4 We just ask that you take each and every one of  
5 us and lead and guide and direct us and let us do it your  
6 way, not ours.

7 We ask this in Jesus Christ's name. Amen.

8 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you, Joe.

9 Before we get started, I would like to recognize  
10 Sawyer Walters with Representative Palazzo's office.  
11 Thank you for joining us today.

12 SAWYER WALTERS: Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Approval of the minutes  
14 from October 19<sup>th</sup>.

15 Do we have any discussion on the minutes, or do  
16 we have a motion to approve?

17 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: I'll make a motion.

18 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Second.

19 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Roberds made  
20 the motion. Commissioner Guess made the second.

21 All those in favor?

22 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

23 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

24 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

25 Motion passes.

1                   Approval of the agenda.  
2                   Do we have a motion to approve the agenda for  
3 today?

4                   COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll make the motion.

5                   COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'll second it.

6                   All those in favor?

7                   COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

8                   COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

9                   COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

10                  Mr. Joe, we will turn it over to you.

11                  JOE SPRAGGINS: Thank you.

12                  Before we get started this morning and get to  
13 doing the update, Patrick is in the back. If you want to  
14 have any public comments, get with Patrick and let him  
15 fill out a piece of paper for you and bring it up to us.

16                  One of our people who has been with us quite a  
17 while in Fisheries, Marty Jones -- Marty is not able to be  
18 here. Marty is retiring. He retires December 30<sup>th</sup>. We  
19 wish him the world's best. We are going to miss him. If  
20 you see him, tell him congratulations for his many years  
21 of service to us.

22                  Senior Master Sergeant Scott Anderson, I think,  
23 is in the back somewhere

24                  KYLE WILKERSON: He is.

25                  JOE SPRAGGINS: Come forward.

1           Scott is going to be retiring, also. I was  
2 talking to him a few minutes ago and he was talking about  
3 his honey-do list that his wife has already gotten for him  
4 and everything, and I told him I could help him out of  
5 that. He can just stay with us.

6           SCOTT ANDERSON: I appreciate that.

7           JOE SPRAGGINS: Scott has been a great officer  
8 for us for years and we wanted to congratulate him and  
9 thank you for your service.

10          SCOTT ANDERSON: Thank you.

11          JOE SPRAGGINS: We had a legislative forum and  
12 Cam was able to make it. I know y'all were both busy  
13 (indicating Commissioner Daniels and Commissioner Guess).

14                 We had it last week and it turned out pretty  
15 good. We had about eight, or nine, of our legislators  
16 from the Coast here, was able to go over the things that  
17 we have done in the past year, what we are doing, and also  
18 to be able to explain to them what we are looking at in  
19 the future as far as our legislation.

20                 Everything worked good. I don't count any of  
21 those until they hatch, and their bills will go forward.  
22 I think Timmy Ladner and Moran will bring them out of  
23 committee. We will just see where they go from that  
24 point.

25                 Most of them are just straightening up some

1 things that have happened. Some of them are to really  
2 help the fishermen, especially the ones where we are  
3 trying to say you don't have to have a captain's license  
4 for everybody on the boat. That may help them a lot, and  
5 I think that will be something that we can work out and  
6 some other stuff that we are working on.

7 Cam, Do you have anything out of it?

8 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: It was excellent, General.  
9 You did a good job, very informative. I think it is going  
10 to lead up to good things.

11 JOE SPRAGGINS: Thank you.

12 You missed a good breakfast, too. We had shrimp  
13 and grits and biscuits and it was great.

14 Good news. Ship Island. The pier is under  
15 construction. For the ones that want to go back and forth  
16 to Ship Island, hopefully, we will be finished by next  
17 year. That's what the understanding is that it will be  
18 finished by the summertime. So we will be able to utilize  
19 it again. Maybe they can run the Ship Island Excursion  
20 back and forth, and we will be able to have something back  
21 toward normal again.

22 That is under construction. We appreciate  
23 National Park Service for being able to move forward with  
24 that.

25 Employment, Contracts and Procurement Updates.

1           Brett James is a new Coastal Resource Management  
2 Specialist in Permitting. We appreciate him.

3           Leo DeGeorge is one of our new Marine Patrol  
4 officers II at Port Security. He was with us, I think  
5 before that and, now, is full time.

6           Garrett Comstock in a new Marine Patrol Officer.  
7 We have Curtis Norfleet who is a Marine Patrol  
8 Officer.

9           We have Logan Jones who is a new Marine  
10 Fisheries Shellfish Technician IV.

11           Brian Hurst used to work with us here. He  
12 worked for DFA, and, then, he went to work with us at the  
13 NERR and retired from there and, now, he is coming back to  
14 do a maintenance contract with us at Lyman. Great guy.

15           Jacob Goff is promoted to Resource Specialist II  
16 at the NERR.

17           Russell Holliman is promoted to Marine Patrol  
18 Officer II at Marine Patrol.

19           Appreciate each and every one of them. It is  
20 great to have some new people in the agency and always  
21 wonderful to promote people.

22           Agency update.

23           Just to give you a little bit of an idea, the  
24 legislative session starts the first of next month. We  
25 will be there. We will be talking with them about the

1 things that are going on with the agency.

2 They are trying to work some things. I know  
3 that the legislature has worked hard with us this year to  
4 be able to help us get some funding.

5 One of the things that we are trying to fund,  
6 also, is derelict vessels and they are going to try to  
7 help me with that and that is one of the legislations that  
8 we are working on now that has not been actually brought  
9 forward, but we are working on it to be able to take care  
10 of these derelict vessels that are out there in the water  
11 and be able to have some way to be able to remove them and  
12 get them out of the area.

13 If nothing else, they are just an eyesore  
14 sometimes. You sit there and see the old sailboat, or  
15 whatever it was, down there on front beach in Biloxi and  
16 it is about half filled with sand and we can't move it,  
17 but, hopefully, with the new legislation and, then, they  
18 are going to hopefully give us some money to do it, we  
19 will be able to move forward with that and that will help  
20 us a whole lot.

21 We are working to try to fill some positions.  
22 We are looking in Finance. We are looking for Finance  
23 officers that we need and we are looking at Grants. We  
24 need some Grant officers. Those two have been very hard  
25 to fill. If you know anybody out there that is interested



1 in it, we would love to talk to them and love for them to  
2 apply and see what we can do.

3 We are working with the Gulf Council. We have  
4 another meeting next month with them. It looks like  
5 everything is fine still with the Gulf Council.

6 Trevor is right here and Trevor is on the SSC  
7 and I tell you what he has been a blessing. It has been a  
8 blessing to have Trevor on the SSC with us and be able for  
9 him to go there and be able to bring firsthand knowledge  
10 back to us about what is going on and, also, to be able to  
11 give his firsthand knowledge.

12 I tell you what. We are so blessed to have so  
13 many young great Americans coming up, and we appreciate  
14 you Trevor. Thank you so much.

15 We are doing good. Everything is working good  
16 and I think we will move forward.

17 Any questions for the agency?

18 (No response.)

19 JOE SPRAGGINS: Going to the CARES Act, Rick, do  
20 you want to do it?

21 Traci is not here, is she?

22 RICK BURRIS: She is not here. Fortunately,  
23 Traci's birthday is tomorrow so she took a couple of days  
24 off, but I do have some of the update, if you want it.

25 All the applicants have been processed. We

1 received two hundred and eighty-four, and two hundred and  
2 fifty-two were found eligible.

3 Right now, staff is working on the numbers on  
4 the individual payouts per category and we should have  
5 that finalized by the end of the week to get that to Gulf  
6 states for them to start processing.

7 JOE SPRAGGINS: We are hoping -- one of the  
8 things NOAA asked us back in June was could we get this  
9 ready by September and have it in the people's hands by  
10 September. We have been ready since September.

11 We are fighting it for them very hard. One of  
12 the goals I had was trying to get it in their hands before  
13 Christmas. I don't know if that is going to happen, or  
14 not, but we are trying every way we can.

15 Any questions on CARES?

16 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Sounds good.

17 JOE SPRAGGINS: Bonnet Carre.

18 RICK BURRIS: We have been telling you for quite  
19 some time that it is still sitting with the Office of  
20 Management and Budget.

21 I did receive some comments between the past two  
22 meetings and we addressed those. They were minor  
23 comments.

24 As far as the scope of work goes, we just had to  
25 address some work verbiage here and there, but nothing

1 changed with the project. Nothing changed with the  
2 funding amount.

3 We sent that back to them very promptly. There  
4 is maybe a little bit of movement, but there is still no  
5 foreseeable end in sight. It is still with the Office of  
6 Management and Budget.

7 JOE SPRAGGINS: Any questions on that?

8 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I don't think so.

9 JOE SPRAGGINS: Thanks, Rick.

10 One other quick update. Neal McMillin who was  
11 part of Senator Wicker's staff in Washington has now taken  
12 a job with the State of Louisiana and he is working over  
13 there with them with their wildlife, basically with their  
14 RESTORE Act, and one of the things that we have come  
15 forward with -- I know y'all have heard me mention before  
16 the Ama and the Union diversions, the ones that are up  
17 north of the Bonnet Carre that could possibly help us  
18 alleviate a lot of the Bonnet Carre openings, or, at  
19 least, the amount of time and the flow of water.

20 They are very hard wanting to push forward with  
21 it. Neal is pushing that for us and they are wanting to  
22 push forward with it. Louisiana is wanting to do it and  
23 we are wanting to get onboard.

24 We are working with the Governor. I have got to  
25 get with him and explain it to him because I want him to

1 know what we are looking at.

2           Hopefully, maybe sometime in this next year the  
3 Corps will fund a study to see what these actually would  
4 do and what it would take to build them so we can get  
5 something moving forward on that. That would be a great  
6 thing for us.

7           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Do those go out the east  
8 side, or the west side, of the river?

9           JOE SPRAGGINS: The Ama goes to the west. The  
10 Union goes to the east. Both of them are north of the  
11 Bonnet Carre and they both go into what we call Cypress  
12 forests.

13           The Ama would relieve fifty thousand cubic feet  
14 per second. The Union twenty-five thousand cubic feet per  
15 second. When they reach one point two five and one point  
16 zero, I think, is what the numbers are as far as cubic  
17 feet per second at the gauges.

18           Also, what it would do, especially -- just take  
19 the Union. Even though it is going to divert it to the  
20 east and it is going to eventually get in the water  
21 system, it is going to go into a Cypress forest. When it  
22 goes into the Cypress forest, it is going to take all the  
23 nutrients and all out of it, and, then, when it does seep  
24 into Lake Pontchartrain it is going to be at a very  
25 reduced rate and a long time to get there and it will be a

1 lot cleaner water than it would have been. It can do  
2 nothing but help us.

3 The study that was put out in 2019 by the  
4 scientists at Tulane said that if it had been in effect in  
5 2019 we could have cut anywhere from thirty to forty-five  
6 days of the operation of the Bonnet Carre and a lot of the  
7 flow of the Bonnet Carre. That could have really saved  
8 us, especially in that time.

9 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: That is the difference  
10 between having a busted pipe and a leaking pipe.

11 JOE SPRAGGINS: It is a lot different.

12 Any other questions on that?

13 (No response.)

14 JOE SPRAGGINS: Actions update, Sandy.

15 SANDY CHESNUT: This actions update covers what  
16 would have been discussed in November, but that meeting  
17 was canceled.

18 Going back to October, there a motion to  
19 recommend that the Director approve the Chevron Products  
20 permit for maintenance dredging in Bayou Casotte in  
21 Pascagoula, and that would be contingent upon water  
22 quality certification from MDEQ, once the previous  
23 authorization expired on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

24 There was a motion to recommend approval of an  
25 after-the-fact general permit and a restoration plan for

1 Vernon Ewing in Young Bayou in Pass Christian. There was  
2 no fine associated with that. It was approval of  
3 requested piers, removal of the unauthorized portion of  
4 the pier and a wetlands vegetation regrowth plan.

5 There was also a motion to the Executive  
6 Director that the new format and changes to Title 22, Part  
7 6, be sent to the Secretary of State's Office for Notice  
8 of Intent.

9 Director approved all the motions as  
10 recommended, and Title 22, Part 6, is on the agenda for  
11 final adoption today.

12 At the Special Called Meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>,  
13 the motion was to cancel the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting due to  
14 the inability of all the Commissioners to attend on  
15 November 16<sup>th</sup>. So all of those agenda items were brought  
16 over to today.

17 Then, there was a motion to move the December  
18 21<sup>st</sup> meeting to December 14<sup>th</sup> to accommodate the Christmas  
19 holidays.

20 Those motions both passed unanimously.

21 There was one pending item from the September  
22 meeting. The proposed no wake zone at Popp's Ferry was  
23 tabled so that they could get additional information on  
24 the possibility of extending the requested zone further  
25 west to include the Anatole Bay marina, and that is on the

1 agenda today as well.

2 That is it.

3 JOE SPRAGGINS: Any questions on the motions?

4 (No response.)

5 JOE SPRAGGINS: The only other thing that I have  
6 is I hope each and every one of you have a very Merry  
7 Christmas and a Happy New Year, and we look forward to  
8 2022. I think it is going to be a great year and we look  
9 forward to it.

10 Sir, that is my report.

11 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you, Director.

12 Do we have anything from any of our

13 Commissioners?

14 (No response.)

15 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: That was easy.

16 Chief, are you ready to take the stand?

17 KYLE WILKERSON: Yes, sir.

18 I hope everyone is well, Commissioners,  
19 Director, Ms. Chesnut.

20 November is historically considered a slower  
21 part of the year for Marine Patrol due to the fact that  
22 there are not as many boaters, but this particular  
23 November was rather busy. The men and women of Marine  
24 Patrol stayed pretty diligent on doing their job and,  
25 also, with being proactive in the cause itself.

1           we had eleven hundred stops in November and,  
2 also, we had one really that just sticks out at me, the  
3 crab pots in the marked channel. That was in Graveline.  
4 Three different fishermen. That was rectified. We moved  
5 them out of the channel. I think they were cited for  
6 blocking the channel itself.

7           we had a commercial activity in the Back Bay.  
8 It was around Ascot Point. It was gigging and they didn't  
9 have any recreational license. They only had commercial  
10 license. That was a good pop. That is how we call it.

11           Other than that, we had one failure to register  
12 with Tails n' Scales and, also, undersized Red Snapper.

13           I can entertain any questions that you have.

14           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Did I see a gill net on  
15 here?

16           KYLE WILKERSON: Yes, sir. They were cited for  
17 having a gill net in a marked channel. You cannot  
18 transport a gill net in a marked channel.

19           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Any other questions?

20           (No response.)

21           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you.

22           KYLE WILKERSON: what we have, now, is we are  
23 going to talk about no wake zones. Captain Mike  
24 Strickland, he will advise you on what he has found.

25           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you, Chief.



1 KYLE WILKERSON: Mike.

2 MICHAEL STRICKLAND: Good morning Director,  
3 Commissioners, Ms. Chesnut.

4 I am going to talk about the no wake zone  
5 proposal that was tabled at the previous meeting for  
6 consideration to expand what the City of Biloxi and  
7 Harrison County had originally proposed.

8 This is an aerial view of the Popp's Ferry  
9 causeway, Popp's Ferry bridge, boat launch and on the  
10 right-hand side of the screen, Anatole Bay.

11 That is a view from the north looking south at  
12 the boat ramp at Popp's Ferry (indicating photograph).

13 Affects to boaters.

14 Vessels traveling from the proposed two hundred  
15 feet north of the public ramp to the proposed two hundred  
16 feet south of the public ramp will be at idle speed for  
17 about one minute and twelve seconds.

18 Vessels traveling from the proposed eight  
19 hundred and fifty feet west of the drawbridge to the  
20 proposed three hundred feet east of the drawbridge will be  
21 at idle speed for two minutes and seventeen seconds.

22 There is not a lot of disruption to the normal  
23 flow of traffic.

24 Special considerations.

25 The kayak rental vendor located near the

1       northwestern abutment of the Popp's Ferry bridge.

2               The residents of Anatole Bay and their personal  
3       property. There are a lot of moored vessels that you can  
4       see from that photograph we had. There are a lot of  
5       moored vessels in the area.

6               There is also commercial barge traffic. The  
7       consideration there is that those barges must maintain a  
8       certain course and speed, in order to make that turn  
9       safely and to be able to navigate that bridgeway. They  
10      may be above idle speed in order to make that maneuver.

11              Recreational public utilizing the public  
12      accesses along the causeway. A lot of recreational traffic  
13      there, a lot of fishing from the bank in that area, and it  
14      is also a very high traffic area for boaters.

15              There is a convergence of two channels on the  
16      western side of the bridge. If you are traveling from the  
17      east going west under that bridge, if you are going to  
18      make a right-hand turn to the north at certain times of  
19      the day, especially at sunset, the sun setting in the  
20      west, it creates blind spots. It will be much safer, if a  
21      no wake zone is proposed for that area.

22              There is a photograph. You can see in red the  
23      areas of the proposed no wake zone starting on the eastern  
24      side of the drawbridge and extending west, and, then, if  
25      you travel north you will see the second section there for

1 where the actual boat ramps are.

2 Staff recommendation.

3 The Office of Marine Patrol recommends the  
4 establishment of a no wake zone for the specified  
5 location, based upon the proximity of the convergence of  
6 the two channels in relation to the public access areas in  
7 which people fish, boat and socialize.

8 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: The city and county were  
9 happy with extending that to include Anatole Bay?

10 MICHAEL STRICKLAND: Yes, sir. They accepted the  
11 recommendations.

12 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I will make the motion to  
13 pass this, if we don't have any questions.

14 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll second it.

15 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: All those in favor?

16 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

17 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

18 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

19 The no wake zone passes.

20 MICHAEL STRICKLAND: Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you.

22 KYLE WILKERSON: Mr. Chairman, may I clarify that  
23 question, once again, about the gill net itself?

24 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Yes.

25 KYLE WILKERSON: I didn't advise you that

1 untagged gill nets, illegal gill nets, if they are in a  
2 marked channel, you will get cited for them, also.

3 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you.

4 KYLE WILKERSON: Thank you.

5 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Office of Coastal  
6 Resources Management. It looks like we have James Davis  
7 up first.

8 JAMES DAVIS: Good morning. I'm James Davis with  
9 the Bureau of Coastal Preserves.

10 what we have is an update to Title 22, Part 19,  
11 Use of State-owned Coastal Preserve Areas.

12 On September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021, the Commission  
13 recommended to the Director that the new format and  
14 changes to Title 22, Part 19, be sent to the Secretary of  
15 State's Office for Notice of Intent.

16 The Executive Director approved the  
17 recommendation and the proposed regulation was filed with  
18 the Secretary of State's Office on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

19 Notice of the proposed regulation was published  
20 in the Sun Herald on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, and the notice of  
21 proposed regulation was also posted on the MDMR website on  
22 October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

23 As seen here, this is proof of publication  
24 (indicating slide).

25 Public comments were due to the MDMR by 5:00

1 p.m. on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. No public comments were  
2 received.

3 We recommend a motion be made to the Executive  
4 Director that the changes to Title 22, Part 19, be  
5 forwarded to the Secretary of State's Office for final  
6 adoption.

7 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll make a motion.

8 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: I'll second the motion.

9 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: All those in favor?

10 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

11 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

12 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

13 Motion passes.

14 JAMES DAVIS: Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you.

16 Bureau of Wetlands Permitting.

17 MATT MURPHY: Good morning. My name is Matt  
18 Murphy and I have a violation and after-the-fact general  
19 permit for Mr. David Wheeler.

20 It is on the Tchoutacabouffa River on Carls Cove  
21 in Biloxi.

22 Here is just an aerial of the location with the  
23 white arrow showing where it is going to be relative and  
24 that is the Promenade to the southeast.

25 Essentially, they put in an application for

1 forty feet of bulkhead repair for a storm that had damaged  
2 that section, but during the permitting process before  
3 they had received the permit, the contractor constructed  
4 that forty-foot section.

5 All they are proposing is to keep the forty-foot  
6 section that was already repaired.

7 There is a bit of a timeline with this one. We  
8 received the initial application. About a week later, we  
9 conducted a site inspection to look for the damaged  
10 section. We, then, coordinated with the Secretary of  
11 State's Office to make sure that they were okay with it  
12 being replaced in the same footprint.

13 The Secretary of State's Office responded saying  
14 they would like more info and that they will meet the  
15 applicant on site.

16 Couple of days later, we received another email  
17 from the Secretary of State's Office saying that Mr.  
18 Wheeler had told them that the bulkhead had been  
19 reconstructed already and that the contractor claimed to  
20 Mr. Wheeler that he had already received the permit from  
21 MDMR.

22 A few weeks later, the Secretary of State's  
23 Office met with the property owner and they made the  
24 following statement that it is the Office's opinion that  
25 they made no encroachment and that the office would not

1 have objected and does not object to the construction of  
2 the bulkhead at, or landward, of the existing bulkhead  
3 footprint.

4 Their observation is also that the bulkhead as  
5 constructed does not encroach on the Public Trust  
6 Tidelands.

7 A week later, we went for a second site  
8 inspection just to double check everything and get some  
9 additional information and pictures.

10 On December 1<sup>st</sup>, we talked to Mr. Wheeler to  
11 formally inform him of the violation and that he would  
12 need to submit modified information to continue as an  
13 after-the-fact permit application, and we got that  
14 information that same day within a few minutes.

15 Here is a picture of the section that was  
16 replaced and here is an aerial from Mr. Wheeler showing  
17 the forty-foot section to be repaired, and, then, just a  
18 slightly zoomed-in photo of that forty-foot section.

19 The staff of the Department of Marine Resources  
20 has conducted an evaluation of the structure.

21 Staff recommends no fine for the property owner  
22 and there were several reasons for this.

23 The property owner had already submitted an  
24 application for the work to be conducted.

25 This bulkhead was in the process of being

1 permitted and would have been permitted as a general  
2 permit anyway.

3 The property owner claims he was under the  
4 impression that the permit had been issued already.

5 The property owner has been very cooperative and  
6 has responded to DMR's requests pretty much immediately.

7 Staff also recommends approval of the requested  
8 bulkhead repair.

9 Staff recommends a motion that the Commission  
10 recommend that the Executive Director approve the after-  
11 the-fact general permit.

12 Any questions?

13 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Do y'all have any  
14 questions?

15 (No response.)

16 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Do you want to say  
17 anything, Mr. Wheeler?

18 DAVID WHEELER: It's not necessary.

19 As he said, Johnny Gill was the contractor on it  
20 and he told me he had the permit. After he told me he had  
21 the permit, he started work. If I would have known he  
22 didn't have the permit, then, I would have contacted DMR.

23 I met Ray Carter out there and it was just a  
24 bulkhead that has been there before we bought the property  
25 in 1995 and we were just replacing that section that was



1 damaged.

2 JOE SPRAGGINS: Mr. Wheeler, once again, I think  
3 the lesson is learned here. I know you've got a lot of  
4 property there. In the future, make sure that contractor  
5 has the permit.

6 DAVID WHEELER: That is the first thing I will  
7 do.

8 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Do we have a motion to  
9 approve?

10 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll make the motion.

11 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'll second it.

12 All those in favor?

13 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

14 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

15 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

16 MATT MURPHY: Thank you.

17 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: Good morning. I'm Greg  
18 Christodoulou, Bureau of Wetlands Permitting. I have the  
19 next two agenda items.

20 The first is a violation, after-the-fact general  
21 permit by Mr. Marty Sahuque. It is located toward the  
22 upper end of Bayou Caddy in Hancock County. It is in the  
23 General Use District.

24 The yellow dot indicates the location of the  
25 project and this is just a zoomed-in aerial.

1           The project basically was the unauthorized  
2 construction of the sixty-by-five pier and forty-six feet  
3 of that structure was over tidal/tidally-influenced marsh  
4 and it was actually constructed too low according to the  
5 General Permit Guidelines.

6           The General Permit Guidelines basically say it  
7 has to be as high above the mud line as it is wide.

8           The structure is five foot wide. It is only  
9 about two, two-and-a-half, feet above the mud line  
10 currently.

11           It does have the potential to damage Coastal  
12 wetlands vegetation.

13           He is also requesting authorization for a couple  
14 more piers to kind of L the structure off.

15           The current proposal is to raise the  
16 unauthorized pier to the permitable height and allow  
17 natural recovery of any damaged vegetation.

18           Here is a diagram of the structure. This is the  
19 area that was unauthorized and this is what he is  
20 requesting authorization for now, as well.

21           Here is a photo of the site. You can see that  
22 it is fairly low. However, we don't think there has been  
23 too much damage to the vegetation. It is coming through  
24 the spacings of the pier.

25           Here is another photo closer toward where the

1 land and the marsh meet.

2 The chronology on this one is on October 12<sup>th</sup>,  
3 2021, a potential violation was called in and a site visit  
4 showed an unauthorized pier over tidal/tidally-influenced  
5 marsh was constructed.

6 We received an application for after-the-fact  
7 authorization two days later.

8 On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, we mailed a notice that  
9 the violation would be presented at this meeting.

10 Mr. Sahuque was not able to attend today.

11 As far as our penalty range goes, we have a  
12 violation that was discovered October 12<sup>th</sup>. We did get the  
13 application two days later.

14 We are not recommending a fine at this time.  
15 The maximum fine could be a thousand dollars and a fine  
16 would be enforced if Mr. Sahuque does not make the  
17 modifications to the pier to bring it back within the  
18 general permit guidelines within a hundred and eighty  
19 days, and the property owner has been very cooperative.  
20 He submitted the application very quickly and he is  
21 willing to bring it into compliance with the general  
22 permit guidelines.

23 The recommendations are pretty long, but we are  
24 not recommending a fine for the property owner as long as  
25 he modifies the pier to fit the general permit guidelines

1 within a hundred and eighty days.

2 The fine of a thousand dollars will be enforced,  
3 if he does not meet the deadline and that would be due  
4 thirty days from the end of the hundred and eighty days.

5 We are recommending after-the-fact approval for  
6 the pier and the support pilings, with the requirement  
7 that it be brought in and be raised up another two-and-a-  
8 half to three feet to meet that height requirement,  
9 approval of the additional proposed piers and that any  
10 wetland vegetation that was damaged by the construction of  
11 the pier be given a year to recover, based on our  
12 guidelines for marsh restoration.

13 Like we said, should this work not be completed  
14 by the hundred-and-eighty day deadline, not only do we ask  
15 for the fine, but it will also be forwarded to the  
16 Attorney General's Office for further enforcement as well  
17 as if this fine is not paid within thirty following the  
18 hundred-and-eighty days.

19 Staff requests a motion that the Commission  
20 recommend that the Executive Director approve the  
21 restoration plan and after-the-fact general permit, as  
22 well as the additional piers and, in the event the work is  
23 not completed, or the fine is not paid, that the matter be  
24 forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for further  
25 enforcement.

1 Any questions?

2 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: He never even applied for  
3 a permit to build this pier?

4 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: No, sir. This was a  
5 situation where the pier actually had been constructed for  
6 over a year and there was a family dispute going on about  
7 access to this piece of property and, basically, a family  
8 matter started going back and forth, and a family member  
9 actually called them in on this, even though it had been  
10 going on over a year.

11 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: He was trying to build it  
12 and slide it in under the radar without saying anything.

13 How much does this permit cost?

14 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: Fifty dollars for an  
15 application for residential permits.

16 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: I've got a question and a  
17 comment.

18 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Go ahead.

19 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: The mud line right now, is  
20 that to the bottom horizontal member, the five feet?

21 It says five feet wide.

22 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: So he's got to go up --

24 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: (Interposing) He has got to  
25 go up about two to three feet and he also has the option

1 of his stringers. The decking boards go out a little bit  
2 past the stringers. So he can shave off some of that  
3 excess on the outside of the stringers and reduce how much  
4 he will have to raise it up.

5 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Looking now, it looks like  
6 he would have to pull the pilings out and redrive the  
7 pilings.

8 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: He thinks he can get it done  
9 without doing that.

10 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Have our people measured  
11 this to verify that?

12 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: Yes. They have been out  
13 there. A former employee had this project, but initially  
14 I was out there with him, or initially I was out there.  
15 The second time I didn't make it out there, but they felt  
16 at the time that it could be raised without having to pull  
17 the pilings.

18 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Here is my comment, too.  
19 These contractors, they know better.

20 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: I don't know if this was a  
21 contractor that built this. I don't know if this was done  
22 by the property owner, or if he actually had a contractor.

23 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: It looks like some pretty  
24 legit carpentry work, some machinery and stuff involved.

25 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'm with Commissioner

1 Roberds on this. I don't understand why everything is  
2 always after the fact and we never assess fines on any of  
3 this stuff. I mean, this guy blatantly was trying to  
4 build something without pulling a permit. It's not like  
5 the permit costs a lot of money. He put a lot of money in  
6 here to not pull a fifty dollar permit.

7 Do y'all want to make a motion to approve?

8 I would like to see a fine assessed.

9 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: I think that we just need  
10 to be sure that we go back and check that he is within  
11 compliance, when he goes for the second round. He is  
12 going to spend a pretty good bit of money doing it.

13 I don't know if he can do it without driving new  
14 pilings, unless he really cuts those deck boards in.

15 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Do we have a motion to  
16 approve?

17 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll make the motion.

18 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: I'll second it.

19 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: All those in favor?

20 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

21 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

22 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: All those opposed?

23 Aye.

24 Motion passes.

25 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: The final agenda item for

1 Coastal today is a permit request by Mr. Kevin Courville.  
2 It is located on St. Louis Bay at 122 Sweet Bay Drive in  
3 Pass Christian. It's in the Timber Ridge Subdivision. It  
4 is in the General Use District and the agent is Mr. Jim  
5 Bradley.

6 The applicant is requesting to add an additional  
7 twelve hundred and fifty-four square feet of shading to  
8 unvegetated waterbottoms.

9 Mr. Courville has acquired a new vessel that he  
10 wants to dock at his residence. It is approximately  
11 forty-six feet long and that is without any outboards, or  
12 flying bridges, or anything of that sort, and he is also  
13 requesting two mooring pilings.

14 Mr. Courville was previously authorized, back in  
15 2014, for boathouses and piers housing three other vessels  
16 totaling two thousand twelve square feet.

17 The location of the project. Here is the bay,  
18 122 Sweet Bay, and here is the location of the project  
19 right here. So this is the structure (indicating slide).

20 Mr. Courville is requesting to add the addition  
21 to this side. So it would be within his property lines  
22 (indicating slide).

23 As far as environmentally goes, this entire  
24 shoreline is bulkheaded currently. It is a very high  
25 energy environment on the bay. There is no marsh within a



1 quarter mile of this project. There has been no SAV ever  
2 reported along this stretch of shoreline.

3 Environmentally, we are not really concerned about the  
4 additional shading, shading out anything of any  
5 importance.

6 Here is a look from the land at Mr. Courville's  
7 current structure. Again, the new structure will be on  
8 this side (indicating photograph).

9 Just kind of a shaded version of what is  
10 existing in the green and what is proposed in the yellow.  
11 You can see the addition (indicating drawing).

12 Initially, the new addition was actually going  
13 out farther. Due to a comment from an adjacent property  
14 owner, he did have it designed to move it in closer to the  
15 bulkhead so it would not stick out as far, but he could  
16 not bring it as far in as he probably would have liked to  
17 because that would have required dredging for the boat  
18 depth to be accommodated.

19 In our office, in Permitting, we would rather  
20 see people drive pilings and pier out than actually doing  
21 dredging which is more environmentally not as friendly.

22 The project did appear in The Sun Herald on  
23 public notice.

24 we did not receive any public comments. The  
25 adjacent owner to the right side which would be the east

1 side did object and the comments, I have kind of  
2 summarized here, that the roofline does extend farther  
3 into the bay than the existing roofline, the purpose for  
4 the two mooring pilings that are located on the side and  
5 are the new neighbors aware of the proposed additions.

6 when we sent this project out to the adjacent  
7 property owners, during this time, one of those adjacent  
8 property owners moved away. So they had new owners.

9 what I did was I tracked down the new owners and  
10 was able to get in contact with them. Spoke to them and  
11 sent them emails, and they have responded and they are  
12 okay with the project. In fact, they have sent me signed  
13 Adjacent Property Owner Authorizations and signed off on  
14 the drawing plans for Mr. Courville.

15 The response from Mr. Courville to the adjacent  
16 property owner; the roofline does not extend past the  
17 commenting neighbor's roofline.

18 Right now, the roofline that he is proposing, it  
19 does extend past his current roofline, but not his entire  
20 structure. He does have a fishing deck on the waterward  
21 side of the structure, but it does not extend past that.

22 The reason for the mooring pilings is to tie up  
23 the newly purchased boat in case of a storm, or high tide  
24 events. You don't want to keep it in a lift. You don't  
25 want to damage the boat. You don't want to damage your

1 boathouse. So it is going to be tied off in those types  
2 of situations. It won't be permanently there.

3 Also, at that time, he verbally informed the new  
4 neighbors and, like I said, we have contacted them and  
5 informed them of the new addition.

6 I did contact the adjacent property owner who  
7 made the complaints and told him about the Commission  
8 meeting and he was not going to be able to attend today,  
9 but he wanted to reiterate that he is worried about his  
10 view, he is worried about it decreasing his property  
11 value.

12 Archives and History had no comments.

13 Secretary of State no comments.

14 Staff recommendation is that the Department has  
15 made findings with the decision factors under the Coastal  
16 Program and the project would allow the owner to exercise  
17 his riparian rights to construct an additional boathouse  
18 and associated piers to berth a newly-acquired vessel at  
19 his property.

20 The covered areas have been reduced to direct  
21 coverage of the vessel so there is not, like, a party  
22 deck, or anything like that. It is for accessing around  
23 the boat and housing the boat.

24 Staff recommends issuance of the permit  
25 contingent on Water Quality Certification from DEQ.

1           The motion is to recommend approval of Mr.  
2 Courville's request for a permit to construct an  
3 additional twelve hundred and fifty-four square feet of  
4 structures and two mooring pilings. The total of the  
5 entire structures would be three thousand two hundred and  
6 sixty-six square feet which would be a new precedent for  
7 residential construction.

8           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I see Mr. Bradley is here.  
9 Did you have anything you wanted to add?

10          JIM BRADLEY: Well, I would like to say this.  
11 When we went through this several years ago, these same  
12 neighbors complained and wanted us do what we put up.

13          After we did everything, they came over, said it  
14 was beautiful, they loved it and winded up building one,  
15 and everything they are saying, or complaining about, when  
16 they built their deckhouse, they did to their neighbor.

17          We have worked with Greg. I have done  
18 everything, when the neighbors would change it, the best  
19 we could. We would even change it and go further back,  
20 but we are afraid the bulkhead is going to fall in.

21          We have really worked hard to get where we are  
22 on this, and, then, on top of that, the neighbors are  
23 putting their house for sale. They made an offer on a  
24 house in Bay St. Louis which they forgot to tell Mr. Greg.

25          COMMISSIONER DANIELS: You pulled the permit

1 before you started the work?

2 JIM BRADLEY: Yes, sir.

3 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Good job.

4 JIM BRADLEY: And the other neighbors who lived  
5 there who sold, they were for this project, also.

6 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Have we got any more  
7 questions?

8 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: I've got a question.  
9 what is the threshold of square footage, maximum  
10 square footage?

11 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: The current threshold is two  
12 thousand six hundred and, I think, thirty-seven.

13 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: It is my opinion that if  
14 you are brave enough to build something that size and not  
15 be able to insure it, that is your prerogative. You can't  
16 insure it, if it is that large.

17 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: We don't really do this  
18 lightly. We look at the need for an individual, if they  
19 actually have a need for housing a vessel, not just  
20 additional square footage so we can have a party deck so  
21 we can have big get togethers and sit a bunch of people  
22 out there listening to music. That type of thing.

23 This is actually for housing a vessel and not  
24 just for partying.

25 JOE SPRAGGINS: This is also non-vegetated areas.

1 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: Yes, sir.

2 JOE SPRAGGINS: What we are talking about is not  
3 for any other area. It is just for non-vegetated areas.

4 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: That's correct.

5 If this was going to shade any marsh, or  
6 anything like that, or SAV, that is not something we would  
7 recommend approval of. This is just mud bottom.

8 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: This is in my backyard. I  
9 think it is a good-looking project. It is not like they  
10 are going way high up in the air where they are blocking  
11 everybody's view.

12 GREG CHRISTODOULOU: They have to be limited to  
13 that twenty-five foot above mean high tide.

14 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll make a motion to  
15 approve.

16 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'll second the motion.  
17 All those in favor?

18 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

19 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

20 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

21 Motion passes.

22 Thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I know Mr. Wheeler left.

24 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Yes.

25 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Can I just ask a question?

1 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Yes.

2 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I know he said that he  
3 submitted the application for the permit and the  
4 contractor said he had the permit.

5 would the contractor have been sent the permit,  
6 or would the person who submitted the application receive  
7 the permit?

8 MATT MURPHY: There is a form that they can fill  
9 out called "Agent Authorization Form" where if that box  
10 was checked, we would send it to the agent, but the  
11 applicant would have to sign off on that form anyway for  
12 it to be valid.

13 I can't entirely remember. I think we would  
14 have sent it to the agent, in this case, but,  
15 unfortunately, the reason why we didn't recommend a fine  
16 for this one is actually during this process the agent,  
17 the contractor actually passed away. So we didn't  
18 recommend a fine.

19 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'm just curious. In the  
20 future, if a contractor says that they received the permit  
21 and it wasn't issued --

22 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: (Interposing) Then, they  
23 are held liable.

24 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Should they be held  
25 accountable for that and not necessarily the applicant?

1           JOE SPRAGGINS: Cam, you probably talk about this  
2 than any of us, but if you build on a piece of property,  
3 it is the property owner's responsibility.

4           In other words, if you are building for me and I  
5 own a piece of property, it is my problem to make sure  
6 that I meet all the rules and regulations.

7           Right?

8           COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: You are the owner, but, at  
9 the end of the day, the contractor is a representative.  
10 So we have responsibility as well.

11          JOE SPRAGGINS: But when they come down to it,  
12 zoning and everybody is going to come down on me, not on  
13 you.

14          Right?

15          COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: If the contractor is  
16 working without a permit, then, I feel like he has the  
17 responsibility.

18          He has skin in the game. If he is out there  
19 doing the work knowing that it is not permitted, or just  
20 not actually looking at the permit physically, then, it is  
21 my opinion that they should be held accountable in some  
22 form.

23          COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'm not saying change what  
24 we already set Mr. Wheeler's property.

25          It is just in the future, if the contractor is



1 telling the homeowner I have a permit and he doesn't,  
2 then, I feel like the contractor might be held  
3 accountable in the future.

4 JENNIFER WITTMANN: Legally, we can hold both the  
5 property owner and the contractor who constructed the  
6 structures and we have, in the past, charged fines to  
7 contractors who knew they needed a permit.

8 Like Matt said, the reason we didn't in this  
9 case is because he has passed away. We probably would  
10 have recommended a fine to him in other circumstances.

11 COMMISSIONER GUESS: well, that makes sense.

12 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: We are talking marine, but  
13 in the commercial, or most of the time in the residential  
14 world, if you are renovating, or a new project, you have  
15 to have a contractor pull your permit.

16 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Okay.

17 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I think we dealt with kind  
18 of the same thing in August, or September, where they had  
19 an incorrect footprint, and it keeps coming up. It seems  
20 like we just approve after-the-fact and let them go on  
21 with it.

22 JOE SPRAGGINS: Commissioners -- maybe, Sandy,  
23 you would have to be involved in this -- if there is some  
24 rule change that we need to do, but I think if you listen  
25 to Commissioner Roberds, especially since he is a builder,

1 it sounds like to me that both of them ought to be at  
2 fault.

3 In the future, maybe there is something we can  
4 look at to say that if it is an after-the-fact and he did  
5 not do it, the fine will be split fifty-fifty to the two  
6 of them, or something like that.

7 Just because the contractor didn't do the job, I  
8 hired the contractor and it is still my responsibility.  
9 It is the responsibility of both of us. Maybe we could  
10 look at this in the future.

11 Sandy, we will ask you to look at that, if you  
12 can.

13 JENNIFER WITTMANN: It is always a debate that we  
14 go through. When we have our pre-Commission meetings and  
15 discussions, it is always a debate. We try to look at all  
16 the different factors. Have they been cooperative? Do we  
17 think they did it on purpose? Do we think it is the  
18 contractor's fault?

19 There is so much that goes into it. Are they  
20 going to have to spend money?

21 Like, Mr. Sahuque. He is going to put money  
22 into altering his pier. That was one of the reasons we  
23 didn't recommend a fine on top of that, but we did hold  
24 onto it if he doesn't actually do the work, the fine will be  
25 applied.

1           It is hard to balance all of those things. We  
2 always have a discussion.

3           COMMISSIONER GUESS: I think, in some cases, we  
4 are more compassionate about it, but had he come in and  
5 applied for a permit he would have been told not to build  
6 it a foot above the vegetation.

7           JENNIFER WITTMANN: Right.

8           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: It is one of those  
9 things. It's like, yes, we understand they are going to  
10 have to put money into it, and I'm not trying to be ugly  
11 about it, but I mean there is a process, and that is what  
12 is presented to us.

13           Right?

14           JENNIFER WITTMAN: Right.

15           COMMISSIONER GUESS: we only see what you guys  
16 present to us and it is, a lot of times, after the fact.  
17 It just seems like we let people get away with it, and I  
18 understand the compassion behind it and I'm in agreement  
19 to a certain extent, but maybe it should be a set fine, if  
20 it is after the fact, whether you knew, or didn't know, or  
21 whatever, because this causes you guys to have to go back  
22 out and recheck, and it is time and energy and money that  
23 the State is paying for. I mean, there should be  
24 something in place that holds them accountable. I don't  
25 know what that is, but that is just my opinion.

1           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I think that other one is  
2 just a whole different animal. He never even made an  
3 attempt on that one.

4           COMMISSIONER GUESS: Yes.

5           JENNIFER WITTMANN: Thank you.

6           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you.

7           Office of Finance and Administration, Ms.  
8 Leslie.

9           LESLIE BREWER: Good morning Director,  
10 Commissioners, legal.

11           I'm Leslie Brewer, CFO. I will be presenting  
12 the financials for the month ending November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

13           At the end of November, our State Revenue was  
14 four million. Our Total Agency Revenue was sixteen point  
15 nine million.

16           Our State Net Income was one point five and our  
17 Agency Net Income was seven million.

18           After five months of fiscal year 22, we have  
19 ninety-two percent of the Operating Budget remaining and  
20 the Tidelands Budget is at eighty-two point five percent.

21           Any questions?

22           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Everything is black.

23 Looking good. Thank you.

24           LESLIE BREWER: Thank you.

25           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Ms. Charmaine.

1 CHARMAINE SCHMERMUND: Good morning  
2 Commissioners, Director Spraggins, Ms. Chesnut.

3 The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources  
4 was mentioned twenty-six times in local, state and  
5 national media since the October MACMR meeting.

6 News items included artificial reefs restoration  
7 project, Mississippi's oysters and applications for the  
8 second round of CARES Act assistance opening.

9 Marine Patrol participated in various events in  
10 October and November. These events included Career Days  
11 at Pass Road Elementary School in Gulfport, Vancleave High  
12 School and Ocean Springs High School, Safety Day at East  
13 Central Middle School, Biloxi Police Department's Festival  
14 against Crime, the City of Long Beach's Night Out Against  
15 Crime, the Community Kindness Event in Pass Christian and  
16 the Fishing with Buddies Program that was held in  
17 Gulfport.

18 Marine Patrol and the Artificial Reef Bureau  
19 both participated in Pathways 2 Possibilities at the  
20 Mississippi Coast Convention Center November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.  
21 The event featured nearly seven thousand eighth grade  
22 students from across Mississippi learning about various  
23 career paths.

24 Matt Hill, Director of the Finfish Bureau,  
25 accepted the 2021 President's Fishery Conservation Award

1 at the National AFS meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. The  
2 award was received on behalf of the Mississippi Tails n'  
3 Scales Red Snapper reporting system.

4 The DMR IT team supported the ninth annual  
5 Mississippi Geospatial Conference at the USM Gulf Park  
6 Campus in Long Beach. This conference is a statewide  
7 annual conference that brings together geospatial  
8 scientists with multiple disciplines, including geographic  
9 information systems.

10 The Grand Bay NERR hosted a Paddle the Gulf  
11 kayaking event on October 10<sup>th</sup> where participants toured  
12 the salt marsh on Bayou Heron. Ayesha Gray and Kim  
13 Cressman presented at the Coastal and Estuarine Research  
14 Federation Conference in November.

15 The NERR set up an outreach booth at the Jackson  
16 County Fair during the week of October 17<sup>th</sup> through the  
17 23<sup>rd</sup>. The booth highlighted fisheries, coastal restoration  
18 and prescribed burning.

19 On October 27<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup> and November 29<sup>th</sup>  
20 and 30<sup>th</sup>, Avery Beck and Jennifer Cumbest visited St.  
21 Martin Schools teaching gifted students in various grades  
22 a marine debris lesson, looked at microfibers under  
23 microscopes and discussed being better consumers with the  
24 four R's.

25 NERR staff visited Gulfport High School and

1 Jackson Elementary School in Pascagoula, as well as  
2 hosting biology students from Ocean Springs High School  
3 for a field trip and kayaking with Jackson County Civic  
4 Action Committee's Head Start Program.

5 The Mobile County Public School's Environmental  
6 Studies Centers' Raptor Road Show also came to the Grand  
7 Bay NERR for an evening family event on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
8 They brought raptors native to the Mississippi Gulf Coast  
9 for the NERR community to have an up-close educational  
10 encounter. Guests saw various owls, hawks and a bald  
11 eagle.

12 The NERR hosted their annual Star Party this  
13 past Saturday for watching the Geminids Meteor Shower.  
14 The event included a hayride, crafts, owl walk, cookie  
15 decorating and viewing the meteor shower.

16 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you for that.

17 Now, we are on Marine Fisheries, Jason.

18 JASON SAUCIER: Good morning Commissioners.

19 Item K.1. I am going to be presenting to you  
20 for final adoption, Title 22, Part 6, Rules and  
21 Regulations for Live-Bait Related Activities.

22 On October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Commission recommended  
23 to the Executive Director that the new format and changes  
24 to Title 22, Part 6, be sent to the Secretary of State's  
25 Office for Notice of Intent.

1           The Executive Director approved the  
2 recommendation, and the proposed regulation was filed with  
3 the Secretary of State's Office on October the 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

4           Notice of the proposed regulation was published  
5 in The Sun Herald on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

6           Notice of the proposed regulation was also  
7 posted on the MDMR website on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

8           Theses are proof of our notices. Secretary of  
9 State Notice of Intent there, website notice and the  
10 affidavit of publication from The Sun Herald (indicating  
11 slide).

12           Sorry about that highlight there (indicating  
13 slide). We just wanted to make sure we didn't receive any  
14 public comments and we have not. Public comments were due  
15 by November 8<sup>th</sup> of 2021.

16           Staff, at this time, would like to request a  
17 motion to recommend to the Executive Director that the  
18 proposed changes to Title 22, Part 6, be forwarded to the  
19 Secretary of State's Office for Final Adoption.

20           I will take any questions.

21           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Any questions?

22           (No response.)

23           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'll make a motion to  
24 approve.

25           COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: I'll second the motion.



1 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: All those in favor?

2 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

3 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

4 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

5 JASON SAUCIER: Thank you, and I will be  
6 presenting on the next one, changes to Title 22, Part 2,  
7 Rules and Regulations for Shrimping.

8 As with all of these regulation updates, we are  
9 alphabetizing definitions, removing wording that was  
10 already covered in Mississippi Code. We are referencing  
11 the applicable State statute, updating the format to  
12 "Rules" and "Sources" to conform with the format  
13 prescribed by the Secretary of State, and, then, in the  
14 case of Part 2, we removed saltbox definition and the  
15 prohibition was removed from the regulation, and we  
16 clarified the language on trawl area closures.

17 I will get into our substantive changes, Chapter  
18 2, which is the definition section of the regulation. We  
19 removed 102 SALTBOX. It is no longer needed because we  
20 are proposing removal of that prohibition.

21 Moving on to Chapter 3, Closure Areas, Rule 3.2  
22 is new and we are proposing that rule to state:

23 "Commercial and recreational shrimping in  
24 Mississippi territorial waters with any  
25 type of trawl shall be limited to those

1            areas and seasons defined in Mississippi  
2            Code 49-15-64.1.”

3            Just to kind of outline the reason for that, we  
4            previously included language that was already stated in  
5            State statute in paragraphs 100 and 101 of the current  
6            rule and these rules describe the permanently closed  
7            areas, as well as defined our inside waters which close  
8            every year at the end of December.

9            Since those closure areas are no longer to be  
10           described in regulation, we have added the generic  
11           language you see here that references the applicable State  
12           statute.

13           The actual descriptions are still in statute.  
14           We are just removing redundant language.

15           Moving on to Chapter 4, Rule 4.4, we did  
16           slightly modify that rule simply just to reference the new  
17           numbering there in the particular rule that is applicable  
18           here. That is the only change. So the line described in  
19           Rule 4.1 rather than the previous Chapter 5.

20           Still in Chapter 4, Rule 4.5, we added some  
21           language here to clarify a little bit which gear types  
22           this applies to and we recommended adding the cast net  
23           language at the end there to further clarify that they are  
24           exempt from the seasonal closures.

25           we do routinely receive questions from the

1 public asking me if they can use cast nets for shrimp  
2 harvest in closed areas. So we hope this will clarify it.  
3 I will read this rule to you.

4 "It shall be unlawful for any person, firm,  
5 or corporation, to catch, or take, with a  
6 trawl, attempt to catch, or take, with a  
7 trawl, or to possess any shrimp taken  
8 with a trawl from the waters under the  
9 territorial jurisdiction of the State  
10 of Mississippi that are closed to  
11 shrimping by order of the MDMR, or by  
12 State statute, provided, however, that  
13 this chapter shall not apply to shrimp  
14 caught legally by licensed live bait  
15 catcher boats in areas open to live  
16 bait shrimping, or any person catching  
17 shrimp with a cast, or brille, net."

18 Just to mention, before I give our request for  
19 recommendation, we will have these on file with the  
20 Secretary of State's Office, all of these changes. The  
21 Secretary of State will put it out for twenty-five days.  
22 We will, then, come back to the Commission for final  
23 adoption after public comment period and the MDMR will  
24 provide a direct link on our website to the proposed  
25 changes, including the final edited version of the

1 regulation.

2 At this time, staff requests a recommendation  
3 that the new format and changes to Title 22, Part 2, be  
4 sent to the Secretary of State's Office for Notice of  
5 Intent.

6 I will take any questions.

7 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'll make the motion.

8 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: I'll second the motion.

9 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: All those in favor?

10 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

11 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

12 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

13 Motion passes.

14 JASON SAUCIER: Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you.

16 TREVOR MONCRIEF: Good morning Commissioners. I  
17 will be presenting on Title 22, Part 9, today which is the  
18 statistical reporting and confidentiality of statistical  
19 data for Marine Fisheries.

20 Essentially, this is reporting requirements for  
21 commercial and recreational. So keep that in mind as we  
22 are going through.

23 Similar to what Mr. Saucier said, we removed  
24 wording that was already covered in Mississippi Code.

25 we referenced the applicable statutory and

1 regulatory authorities.

2 We updated the format to "Rules" and "Sources"  
3 to conform with the format prescribed by the Secretary of  
4 State's Office.

5 we added some new language and updated old  
6 language.

7 we did not have any substantive changes to  
8 Chapter 1 through 5.

9 we removed multiple chapters. Those include:  
10 Chapter 7, the pet food landings reporting  
11 requirements.

12 Chapter 8, the Menhaden landings reporting  
13 requirements which are included in another chapter.

14 Chapter 10, oyster landings reporting  
15 requirements which are covered in shellfish's portion.

16 Chapter 15, the Administrative Procedures Act.  
17 we will start off with Chapter 6.

18 Rule 6.1. what we changed here is that each  
19 seafood dealer, or processor, is required to accurately  
20 complete Mississippi trip tickets using the electronic  
21 reporting system provided by the MDMR, and you also see in  
22 the last part of this, "are required to accurately  
23 complete Mississippi trip tickets provided by the MDMR and  
24 be in possession of a fresh product permit."

25 That is going to be a theme throughout these for

1 both commercial and recreational, the accurate wording to  
2 make sure that what everyone is providing is going to be  
3 truly representative of what they have caught.

4 Rule 6.2. A completed Mississippi trip ticket  
5 is only required for the initial point of sale of the  
6 seafood product. All completed trip tickets must be  
7 submitted to the MDMR on, or before, the tenth of each  
8 month for actual transactions from every commercial  
9 fisherman during the proceeding month. A trip ticket  
10 summary form that states the total trips taken (including  
11 zero trips) -- if no trips are taken, they still need to  
12 let us know that -- in a given month must be submitted by  
13 the tenth of each month.

14 Rule 6.3. It individually listed every single  
15 thing that needed to be filled out on a trip ticket. In  
16 order to shorten this up and to clarify it a little bit,  
17 we added the sentence at the end:

18 "All applicable fields on a trip ticket  
19 must be filled out completely. The seafood  
20 dealer, processor, or fisherman is required  
21 to verify the accuracy of the tickets before  
22 electronic submission" -- now we have the  
23 updated electronic submission through  
24 vessel -- "or by signing each paper ticket."

25 Rule 6.4. You can see this is where the

1 Menhaden reporting requirements land. It says:

2 "Menhaden processors must provide  
3 information on catch in accordance  
4 with the requirements of the National  
5 Marine Fisheries Service",

6 which is where they regularly report their catches to.

7 The next one we have is Chapter 7, Bait Operator  
8 Landings Reporting Requirements. Jason Saucier touched on  
9 this, but this is just to put it in this part.

10 Rule 7.1:

11 "Daily records on catches and sales of  
12 live bait shrimp must be kept and be readily  
13 available at the camp location."

14 Rule 7.2.

15 "Monthly records on catches of live bait  
16 shrimp and sales of bait, including shrimp,  
17 croakers, chum, squid, crabs, bull minnows,  
18 and other bait products must be reported on  
19 forms furnished by the MDMR and submitted  
20 to the MDMR on a monthly basis."

21 Rule 7.3:

22 "Live bait dealer reports must be postmarked  
23 no later than the tenth day of the month  
24 following the monthly reporting period",

25 which also matches up with trip tickets. So everyone is

1 getting on the same timeline.

2 Next, we are switching to the recreational  
3 fishing landings reporting requirements which is Chapter  
4 11 -- I'm sorry. This is now Chapter 8, since we erased  
5 stuff and all of that.

6 The first one is going to be Rule 8.1:  
7 "Persons engaged in recreational fishing  
8 in the waters under the jurisdiction of  
9 the MDMR, or landing fish in  
10 Mississippi, are required to furnish  
11 information, including a harvest report,  
12 pertaining to such fishing upon on  
13 request from the MDMR."

14 Here we are going to move into the Tails n'  
15 Scales portion, and I will go ahead and start this off by  
16 saying there will be identical statements for each one of  
17 these, for recreational and charter.

18 I will read off this first one and you will be  
19 able to see the same thing is going to continue throughout  
20 the next four.

21 "The Captain of the vessel is responsible  
22 for ensuring that someone onboard the  
23 vessel has obtained the appropriate trip  
24 authorization number from the Tails n' Scales  
25 reporting system prior to fishing activity.



1           The person onboard the vessel obtaining  
2           the appropriate trip authorization number  
3           is hereby required to complete an  
4           accurate vessel harvest report through  
5           the Tails n' Scales reporting system  
6           within twenty-four hours of the trip  
7           creation.”

8           The only thing that does is add in the accuracy  
9           statement and essentially puts into language exactly the  
10          practices being undertaken now. It just clarifies this  
11          language and makes sure it represents exactly what is  
12          going on.

13          You can see the same thing is listed for the  
14          additional species, the same clause.

15          If you move over to the next one, this is for  
16          charter and head boat reporting. We see the same changes  
17          are being made, except now it is on the charter and head  
18          boat captains themselves and they must be able to furnish  
19          an accurate vessel harvest report within twenty-four hours  
20          of trip creation. All of that language is still  
21          identical.

22          We had to remove the chapters. Chapter 12 is  
23          now Chapter 9, Chapter 13 is Chapter 10, and Chapter 14 is  
24          now Chapter 11.

25          To summarize, basically, this is what we went

1 over. I know it was a lot of text.

2 we didn't make any substantive changes to  
3 Chapters 1 through 5.

4 we did make substantive changes to Chapter 6  
5 which updated the language regarding submission of trip  
6 tickets.

7 we removed Chapters 7 and 8.

8 we renamed Chapter 9 to Chapter 7 and that  
9 updates the bait operator reporting requirements.

10 we removed Chapter 10.

11 Chapter 11 is now renamed Chapter 8 and it  
12 updated those recreational reporting requirements  
13 specifically for Tails n' Scales.

14 Chapters 12 and 14 were renamed Chapters 9 and  
15 11.

16 Chapter 15 was removed.

17 Then, to move forward, we need a recommendation  
18 to the Executive Director that the new format and changes  
19 to Title 22, Part 9, be sent to the Secretary of State's  
20 Office for Notice of Intent.

21 I will take any questions.

22 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: You had me really confused  
23 with the chapters. You lost me up here for a minute.

24 TREVOR MONCRIEF: I know.

25 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Any questions?

1 (No response.)

2 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Does anybody want to make  
3 a motion to approve this one?

4 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: I'll make a motion.

5 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll second it.

6 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: All those in favor?

7 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

8 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

9 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

10 Thank you, Trevor.

11 TREVOR MONCRIEF: Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Records.

13 JONATHAN BARR: Good morning.

14 We have quite few. We had a couple roll over  
15 from last month.

16 The first two records we have are Youth records.

17 The first is a Ladyfish (*Elops saurus*). The old  
18 record was two pounds nine point six ounces. The new  
19 record is two pounds eleven point zero four ounces.

20 The angler is Mr. Rodie Arms. The old was his  
21 sister's.

22 This is the Ladyfish and there is Mr. Rodie with  
23 the fish (indicating photographs).

24 The next one is a Scamp (*Mycteroperca phenax*).  
25 This is the first time as a Scamp has been submitted to

1 the Youth category. The angler is Mr. Blake Bosarge.

2 We did not get a picture of just the fish. So  
3 here is Mr. Bosarge with the Scamp (indicating  
4 photograph).

5 The next two we have are Conventional Tackle.  
6 They also will be All Tackle records.

7 The first one is a Golden Tilefish (*Lopholatilus*  
8 *chamaeleoniceps*). The old record was eighteen pounds four  
9 point seventeen ounces. The new record is twenty pounds  
10 eleven point six eight ounces. The angler is Mr. Dustin  
11 Conway.

12 There is a picture of Mr. Dustin holding the  
13 fish.

14 The last one for your consideration is an  
15 Inshore Lizardfish (*Synodus foeten*). The old record is  
16 five point five ounces. The new record is nine point one  
17 ounces. The angler is Mr. Jordan Matthews.

18 It is a wall hanger (indicating photograph).

19 That is all I have.

20 Any questions?

21 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Those are some good  
22 looking fish.

23 JONATHAN BARR: Indeed.

24 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'll make the motion to  
25 approve these.

1 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll second it.

2 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: All in favor?

3 COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

4 COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

5 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

6 Director.

7 JOE SPRAGGINS: Did we not change some of the  
8 rules, too, about all tackle and conventional for youth?  
9 we had some issues that were brought up on that.  
10 Did we ever do that?

11 Did we change that at all?

12 That is something we are looking at.

13 Right?

14 JONATHAN BARR: Yes.

15 JOE SPRAGGINS: I think we were looking at going  
16 to all tackle for youth because it is really hard. Under  
17 conventional, it says that you can have no help in  
18 catching a fish.

19 Is that correct?

20 JONATHAN BARR: That's what the rules say, yes,  
21 sir.

22 JOE SPRAGGINS: Because of that, if there is a  
23 seven year old kid and if anybody touches the rod, then,  
24 that takes the rule way. Maybe we just use it as a  
25 different way of looking at it.

1 Rick, you are looking at me funny.

2 RICK BURRIS: To that point, another thing that  
3 would do, you are trying to exemplify these kids that are  
4 catching these big fish and talking about opening it up to  
5 multiple gear types as well.

6 JOE SPRAGGINS: In conventional, you can't even  
7 put it in a holder.

8 Right?

9 RICK BURRIS: That's correct.

10 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Nobody can touch the line  
11 either.

12 We are saying we are going to move the kids into  
13 all tackle, or give the kids all tackle?

14 RICK BURRIS: We are currently looking at just  
15 making the youth category all tackle to allow for all fish  
16 being caught.

17 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: It will still be a  
18 separate youth category, but we are going to go by the  
19 rules of all tackle.

20 Is that what you are saying?

21 RICK BURRIS: Yes. That's right.

22 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Just a quick question on  
23 that tilefish on conventional.

24 Are electric reels acceptable on that?

25 JONATHAN BARR: For the all tackle it would be,

1 yes, sir, but he fought this one without an electric reel.  
2 So it goes under conventional.

3 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: That is a great catch.

4 JONATHAN BARR: Yes.

5 when we expanded, that was part of the all  
6 tackle rules. Any legal method of catch, obviously, once  
7 y'all approve it -- whether y'all approve it, or not...

8 If he were to have used an electric reel, it  
9 still would have been an all tackle record.

10 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: All tackle record. Just  
11 not conventional.

12 JONATHAN BARR: That's right.

13 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: He did say he used a  
14 conventional reel.

15 JONATHAN BARR: That's correct.

16 JOE SPRAGGINS: Commissioners, before we get out  
17 of Fisheries, Rick or either Trevor, if we could talk  
18 about snapper season because it is over. It did end in  
19 November. If you talk about that and tell us where we  
20 are.

21 TREVOR MONCRIEF: We ended up just below ninety-  
22 five percent of our ACL for our Red Snapper season. It  
23 carried on all the way through the week prior to  
24 Thanksgiving and, at that point, given that it was a  
25 holiday week and everything else, we didn't have pounds to

1 be able to sustain harvest that entire week. We were open  
2 later in the year and we saw the effort drop off just like  
3 what the other states are seeing, specifically Louisiana,  
4 but all in all we have harvested almost ninety-five  
5 percent of our ACL and I think our anglers were fairly  
6 happy with the season they had.

7           JOE SPRAGGINS: We were open from Memorial Day  
8 all the way to the 21<sup>st</sup> of November with the two-week  
9 shutdown.

10           Right?

11           TREVOR MONCRIEF: Right.

12           JOE SPRAGGINS: That is the longest season I  
13 think we have ever had.

14           TREVOR MONCRIEF: Absolutely.

15           JOE SPRAGGINS: I appreciate your staff and the  
16 way they managed this.

17           We had a pretty good season overall and the  
18 recreational against the charter boats, the charter boats  
19 was about average.

20           TREVOR MONCRIEF: Yes. The charter boats were a  
21 little bit below what they did the previous year, but well  
22 within their average over the last few years.

23           COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Y'all are doing a great  
24 job on managing that. There was a lot more opportunity  
25 this year than I can ever remember.



1           JOE SPRAGGINS: One other thing, too. Matt is  
2 not here today because I think he is out for personal  
3 reasons, but to be able to get the award for Tails n'  
4 Scales as the national award, that was huge thing and it  
5 goes back to tell NOAA and everybody else that we do have  
6 a premiere thing, and we thank y'all for that.

7           I know, Trevor, you are a big part of that, too,  
8 and we do appreciate that.

9           TREVOR MONCRIEF: Not just our staff, but Marine  
10 Patrol, IT, everybody. It is really just the agency-wide  
11 effort overall.

12           JOE SPRAGGINS: Averaging ten point something  
13 percent intercepts is better than anybody in the Gulf, and  
14 we are doing ninety-five to ninety-eight percent  
15 reporting.

16           TREVOR MONCRIEF: Yes. We have been sitting  
17 around ninety-six percent for about the last three years  
18 on the recreational side, and about nine-nine percent on  
19 the Federal For-Hire side.

20           JOE SPRAGGINS: That is pretty good. That is  
21 really good to get that kind of reporting.

22           I appreciate y'all, I appreciate Marine Patrol  
23 and everybody else, the whole staff for what they are  
24 doing on this.

25           One other quick then, too.

1           Do we have any update on that permit for the  
2 artificial reefs?

3           RICK BURRIS: Yes, sir. If you recall for I want  
4 to say three to four years now we have been in the process  
5 of getting our permits renewed for fish havens, our  
6 artificial reef zones, or offshore zones.

7           We did get FH-13 permitted to be able to move  
8 forward with the Ingalls project which we will give you an  
9 update on that in the coming months.

10          FH-13 is obviously our largest reef complex and  
11 we just had the high relief permit so that means we can  
12 only go up to seven foot and it kind of keeps us from  
13 deploying large steel hull vessels and things like that.

14          The other fish havens, we got word that we  
15 should within the next few weeks receive those permit  
16 without any relief constraints. We should be able to  
17 start deploying some larger material in some of the fish  
18 havens, possibly 1 and 7 which that is deeper water and,  
19 in doing so, we are working on amending that FH13 permit  
20 to go back to high relief so we will be able to utilize  
21 that area as well.

22          Still no definitive timeline, but it is way  
23 better than it was two weeks ago. We are pretty  
24 optimistic about getting those permits in hand.

25          JOE SPRAGGINS: Omega has a couple of big ships

1 they are wanting to give us and hopefully we can be able  
2 to get those in time. That is what we are trying to shoot  
3 for because we can put them in one of those two areas that  
4 we are talking about because the water is deep enough to  
5 do that.

6 It is promising compared to what it was three  
7 years ago.

8 RICK BURRIS: Yes, and we are want to maximize  
9 our artificial reefs. Obviously, with the fishing  
10 pressure growing, we want to spread everybody out and give  
11 a lot of people more options that they have. So this is a  
12 great win, if we can get these permits and start deploying  
13 this material.

14 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: That is really exciting.  
15 Thank you.

16 Do we have any other business?

17 (No response.)

18 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Do we have any public  
19 comments?

20 JOE SPRAGGINS: No public comments.

21 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Do we have a motion to  
22 adjourn?

23 COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll make a motion.

24 COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'll second it.

25 All in favor?

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COMMISSIONER ROBERDS: Aye.

COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Aye.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Merry Christmas everyone and  
Happy New Year.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you.

(Whereupon, at 10:22 o'clock, a.m., the December  
14, 2021, meeting of the Mississippi Advisory Commission  
on Marine Resources was concluded.)

CERTIFICATE

1  
2  
3 I, Lucille Morgan, Certified Shorthand Reporter,  
4 do hereby certify that the above and foregoing sixty-eight  
5 pages, including this page, is a true and correct  
6 transcript of the December 14, 2021, meeting of the  
7 Mississippi Advisory Commission on Marine Resources, as  
8 taken by me at the time and place heretofore stated in the  
9 aforementioned matter in shorthand, with electronic  
10 verification, and later reduced to typewritten form to the  
11 best of my skill and ability; and, further, that I am not  
12 a relative, employee, or agent, of any of the parties  
13 thereto, nor financially interested in the cause.

14  
15  
16 s/ \_\_\_\_\_

17 LUCILLE MORGAN, CSR 1251

18 COURT REPORTER  
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