

**RHODE ISLAND MARINE FISHERIES COUNCIL**

Shellfish Advisory Panel

January 21, 2015, 4:00 pm

Warwick Public Library, Room 101

600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI

**Meeting Minutes**

RIMFC Members Present: J. Grant (Chair)

SAP Members Present: M. McGiveney; D. Ghigliotty; K. Eagan;

Scientific Advisor Present: D. Leavitt

Public Present: M. Bartley; J. Marmaras; D. Eagan; J. McDonald; J. Goulart; M. Weir; J. Holland; B. Stevenson

CRMC: D. Beutel

DOH: E. Julian; C. White

DEM: J. Mercer; J. Migliore; K. Blanchard

**New Business:**

***1. Proposed Aquaculture Lease Expansion: CRMC File # 2014-11-043, Arnoux, Ninigret Pond, Charlestown.***

Beutel gave a brief description of the site. Mercer presented a map of the location and noted that a field survey was not completed due to shallow nature of site and ice at the location but noted that previous assessments in the area had low densities. A brief discussion of the lease area and current operation followed. Motion made by Eagan to **not object** due to minimal impact on shellfishing, McGiveney seconded the motion. **The board voted 3-0 to not object to the application.**

***2. Discussion of *Vibrio* regulations for commercially harvested quahogs***

An informal discussion and question and answer session regarding potential changes to shellfish regulations to address the threat of *Vibrio* illness was conducted. No votes or formal decisions were made. Topics of discussion included effective dates, species included, time period to dealer, time period to icing, delivery of catch after dealer hours, tagging, bulk tagging, definition of approved ice, different measures in coastal ponds, and educational outreach. Mercer stated that he would take into consideration the comments received at the meeting in the development of revised regulations.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Prepared by: Jeff Mercer

Recording of meeting available upon request