

Oak Bluffs Shellfish Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2010

Members present: Earl Peters, Greg Skomal, and Fred Huss

Others present: David Grunden, Nicole L Morey and William Alwardt

Meeting opened at 6:00 PM.

Previous Minutes

Minutes of January 19, 2010 and February 16, 2010 were read.

**Motion: To accept minutes of January 19, 2010 as amended and February 16, 2010.  
By: Member Huss. Second: Member Skomal. Motion passed unanimously 3-0.**

Constables' Report

Constable Grunden read his March 2010 report.

Discussion of Farm Pond culvert and possible solutions to the situation; Division of Fish & Wildlife to put out a RFP for solutions – three options: bridge/single culvert/double culvert.

Constable Grunden also advised that there was a site visit at the East Chop puddle location, followed by a public hearing by ConCom who approved the \$102,000 project with in-kind services provided by the Oak Bluffs Highway Department.

**Motion: To accept the report as read. By: Member Skomal. Second: Member Huss.  
Motion passed unanimously 3-0.**

Sengekontacket Pond

Constable Grunden said he would be meeting with Michael Hickey of Division of Marine Fisheries to discuss opening Sengekontacket Pond; possibility of having it close only after a significant rain event.

He continued that he has spoken with County Manager Russell Smith about getting MIG to help pay for dredging of Little Bridge as they are the ones who put in the coffer dams.

Scallop Seed

Members were concerned about scallop seed past Sailing Camp Park.

Constable Grunden replied that Bill Sweeney, Dani Ewart and himself has moved about 54 bushels of seed and that there was a 40% mortality rate in the real shallow areas. He said he had no problem with fishermen moving seed within Lagoon Pond and that they should give him a report on how much they move and where they put it.

William Alwardt wanted to know why the seed couldn't be taken outside.

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Constable Grunden answered that he did allow it one year but he received complaints so the Committee decided to leave the seed in Lagoon Pond but he would be willing to reconsider moving seed to Sengekontacket Pond or outside should the Committee okay it.

Contaminated Quahog Relay

Constable Grunden advised that 400 bushels were planted at Sailing Camp Park last spring.

Members discussed whether to put some quahogs into Sengekontacket Pond this year but decided to table discussion of placement of contaminated quahogs until after decision is made about the opening of Sengekontacket Pond.

Constable Grunden said that there are only two people licensed to do the relay in Fall River and both are charging \$17.00 per bushel.

Override Question

Constable Grunden said that the \$10,000 request for a new outboard motor may be purchased out FinCom's Reserve Fund rather than going to an override question.

Shrimp baskets

Mr Alwardt asked if the baskets for collecting shellfish could be changed.

Members discussed on the fact that the new baskets are not a bushel while the shrimp baskets are cheaper and fit 1 ¼ bushel in them.

Decision was tabled until next meeting.

**Motion: To close the meeting. By: Member Huss. Second: Member Skomal. Motion passed unanimously 3-0.**

Meeting closed at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole L Morey  
Shellfish Secretary