

Lake Superior Commercial Fishing Board Meeting

April 19, 2023 5 p.m.

Bayfield DNR Office

141 South Third Street

Bayfield, WI 54814

Lake Superior Commercial Fishing Board Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** Chair called to the meeting to order at 5:04
2. **Roll Call Present:** Craig Hoopman, Bryan Bainbridge, Maurine Halvorson, Bill Bodin
Absent: Chris Boyd; Also present: Jeff Johnson, Sandy Naas, Ian Harding, Cliff Halvorson, Mark Halvorson, DNR Present: Brad Ray, Dray Carl, Jeremiah Shrovnal, Bob Stroess, Ryan Propson.
3. **Meeting posting:** Meeting was posted accordingly
4. **Agenda Approval:** Maurine motion, second Brian, carried
5. **2022Oct20 Meeting Minutes Approval:** Bill Motion, Bryan second, carried
6. **Chairman & Board Member Communications:** Share minutes with NRB, Up the DNR chain, LE, and look into webpage. Create a list of who gets minutes from board.send to local representatives; if interested in Board apply to Governor's office
 - 6.1 **Officer Elections:** Maurine motioned to keep same officers, Bryan Seconded. Motion Carried.
7. **General Business Discussion:**
 - 7.1 **Old Business:**
 - 7.1.1 **Action: Cisco Quota Discussion:** 10,000 pounds to other uses, Jan 1 to Dec 31 remainder split amongst 10 licenses, Maurine agreed, Jeff Johnson fine with it, Mark, Cliff fine with it, Cliff wonders if it could be less than 10,000, 60% of quota was harvested last year. Discussion about incidental and what would happen if it was hit, Bill volunteered to reduce his quota first if needed. Weather really plays a roll in catch. Question of how it effects sport fishers, should not have an impact.
 - 7.1.2 **Discussion: Crew Cards:** Brad indicated Crew cards are part of State Statute so hard to change but we can move towards using GoWild to issue cards which would be faster, paper copy will still be required, and still need to be renewed annually. Potentially go through EFHRS, but issues with checking for revocation. Craig mentioned something similar with Commercial License should be examined
 - 7.2 **New Business**
 - 7.2.1 **Informational: 100% Great Lakes Fish:** Brad gave a summary of the program, Bryan brought up that there should also be work on preserving the safe source of food from contaminants like PFAS. Bill mentioned doubling the consumption by careful processing from MI Sea Grant.
 - 7.2.2 **Discussion: CPE Effort** Lack of state monitoring during Period 1 depth of mesh should be considered since state is limited to 36-inch mesh. Brad mentioned

that the easiest way to get the state only CPE is to make sure the monitors are on the boats. Standardization of nets is ongoing and should be completed this fall. Craig does not want to fish deeper nets because doesn't want to increase lake trout harvest. Difference between state and tribes should be considered in CPE calculations. Current footage allotments are not sustainable for period 1. Would like to have a formula to account for difference. Wants the same rules for all fishers, tribal fishers also do not like the footage limits.

7.2.3 Discussion: Open Water Permits Jan 15 to April 1 need a permit to fish, have EFHRS so it is known that fishing is occurring. Hopes to remove the requirement for the need for permit, all the accountability is there. Brad said there would be discussion and potential to add to scope statement in rule package.

7.2.4 Discussion: October Fishery Ian Harding gave a brief summary of the fishery and participation, 4 boats in 2019 (90,000 feet), 2 in 2020, 1 in 2021, 3 in 2022 (110,000 feet effort, harvest of 10,000 dressed, 14,000 round pounds of lake whitefish which is about 7% of annual harvest of Red Cliff). Should be more to share at next meeting.

7.2.5 Update: Lake Trout and Cisco Quota year: Brad explained the upcoming rule process and included trap net minimum mesh size, Gill net tagging and marking requirements and the things talked about at this meeting. Dray mentioned the data that goes into the Lake Trout model and a discussion on Lamprey being higher than normal this year that is likely a result of missed treatments in 2020

7.2.6 Discussion: LSCFB agenda items for next meeting: October fishery, crew cards process, Quotas,

8. **Public Comment:**
9. **Set Next Meeting date:** Tentative Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 5:00 p.m. @ Bayfield DNR office
10. **Adjournment:** Bill motioned, Maurine seconded, adjourned 624 PM