

Lake Superior Commercial Fishing Board Meeting

April 17, 2024 5 p.m.

Bayfield DNR Office

141 South Third Street

Bayfield, WI 54814

Remote Option: Microsoft Teams: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Lake Superior Commercial Fishing Board Agenda

1. **Call to Order:** Craig called the meeting to order at 5:00
2. **Roll Call Present:** Craig Hoopman, Bryan Bainbridge, Maurine Halvorson, Bill Bodin, ABSENT Chris Boyd, Public: Jeff Johnson, Mark Halvorson, Jessica Resac, Brian Kruse (online 815-541-0109), phone 929-353-2126, Cliff Halvorson, Sharon Moen, DNR: Dray Carl, Brad Ray, Jack Luessman, Brad Eggold (online), Ryan Propson (online), Bob Stroess (online)
3. **Meeting posting:** Brad posted meeting accordingly.
4. **Agenda Approval:** Bill motion, Brian Second, motion carries
5. **2023Oct11 Meeting Minutes Approval:** Maurine motion, Bill second, Motion carried
6. **Chairman & Board Member Communications:**
7. **General Business Discussion:**
 - 7.1 **Old Business:**
 - 7.1.1 **Discussion: EFHRS:** Brad gave a summary of potential updates, Maurine mentioned that boats have not been updated, Mark asked what to do about unnamed boats and Jack asked to put in registration number in comments while fishing on a rough fish contract. Rough fish contract question and smelt question was discussed. Brad mentioned that currently there is no budget to update EFHRS but do have a priority list and will keep this as a standing agenda item to make sure there are no issues in operation.
 - 7.1.2 **Discussion: Rule Process Update:** Brad updated rule process and discussed quota setting and rules, talked about tagging nets should not be needed for herring or outside of 330 feet with dates, open water permit is not in the rule. Craig mentioned that open water permits should be discussed for everyone to have the same requirements. Brad will work with Miranda to have ALL forms put on the LSCFB webpage, long term plans to work towards online fillable forms for easier paperwork and submission.
 - 7.2 **New Business**
 - 7.2.1 **Discussion: 2023 Commercial Harvest Summary:** Dray gave a presentation covering the harvest. Brad and Sharon mentioned the Seafood Watch rating increase and recent Cisco change with WWF.
 - 7.2.2 **Discussion: Cisco Harvest and Rules in MN/ON:** Brad gave a summary based on a conversation with counterparts and indicated that the 2022 year class will not be immediately used to increase quotas

7.2.3 Discussion: Lake Superior Sea Lamprey Status: Brad talked about the status and control efforts of Sea Lamprey in Lake Superior. It was mentioned that the large increase observed in 2023 was likely a result of missed treatments in 2020 due to COVID.

7.2.4 Discussion: License retirement potential: Brad talked about the past program and how it was mentioned as a one-time program that should not be used as a precedent in the future. There is currently no plan to seek it out again.

7.2.5 Discussion: Commercial Smelt harvest: Why can't we go into the Bay and harvest smelt, but anglers can? The discussion was about cutting into commercial business without the costs of the business. Sale of smelt is allowed in statute because it is classified as rough fish. Funding is an issue because it is not a fish that has an easy funding source. Selling is a commercial fisher. Commercial operators can fish the same way the other Wisconsin Residents fish, it was asked to help with data to report, but that would not be required.

7.2.6 Discussion: LSCFB agenda items for next meeting: Rule update. Will touch base if anything comes up for the agenda.

- 8. Public Comment:** Ryan Propson mentioned that Dave Sanda in Superior took new job. Bayfield Marine in place in December.
- 9. Set Next Meeting date:** Tentative Wednesday, October 16, 2024, 5:00 p.m. @ Bayfield DNR office
- 10. Adjournment:** 7:00 pm