Minutes Coastal Committee Fort McAllister State Park Group Shelter 3894 Fort McAllister Road Richmond Hill, GA 31324

Tuesday, October 25, 2022 9:00 a.m.

Committee Members

Nancy Addison, Chair Rob Leebern, Vice Chair

William Bagwell Randy Dellinger Joe Hatfield Duncan Johnson

Tim Lowe

Miki Thomaston

Bill Jones, Board Chair, Ex-officio

Board Members

Dwight Davis
Patrick Denney
Dwight Evans
Ray Lambert
Billy New
Bodine Sinyard

Staff Members

Mark Williams, Commissioner

Walter Rabon
Kyle Pearson
Donald Kirkland
Cathy Barnette
Steve Friedman
Doug Haymans
Lt. Brian Adams
Brett Albanese
Jon Ambrose
Brad Ballard
Tim Barrett
Jason Carter
Ellen Graham
Major Bob Holley
Thom Litts

Londa Moates Clint Peacock

Richard Dunn, Director John Eunice Karen Hays The October 25, 2022 meeting of the Coastal Resources Committee was called to order by Bill Jones, Chairman of the Board of Natural Resources.

Chairman Jones called on Ms. Nancy Addison, Chair of the Coastal Resources Committee.

Ms. Addison called on Doug Haymans, Director of the Coastal Resources Division, to provide a briefing on the postponement of action on the proposed amendments to the Rules of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Saltwater Fishing Regulations, Chapter 391-2-4 (Red Drum).

Mr. Haymans stated the Coastal Resources is postponing its request to approve the proposed amendment to decrease the Red Drum daily creel limit to three (3) and establish a vessel limit of (9) while prohibiting retention by guides and mates while on charter.

Mr. Haymans stated the Board was briefed at its August 23rd meeting, and a public comment period was opened on August 24 and closed on October 6. He further stated that responses were received via the online survey, U. S. Mail, in-person meetings, email, and form letters. He added that a couple of letters were received from elected officials and an independent on-line petition was started. He further added that by far, these represent the largest amount of public involvement of any CRD proposed rule change to date.

Mr. Haymans stated the Division will spend extra time to understand this number of comments before bringing the final recommendation to the Board. He further stated that at the moment there is 75% support for all three measures, but the Division feels it is important to check for duplicate responses and examine the opposing comments, as it had been noted many in opposition sought a more restrictive limit. He added that due to the legislative input, he believes it would be beneficial to ensure our elected officials understand the proposed amended rule prior to moving forward.

Mr. Haymans stated this concludes his briefing and he is happy to answer questions regarding the postponement of action.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.