

Sample Public Meetings Minutes

Oregon State Dungeness Crab Commission Minutes

Regular (Special or Emergency) Meeting

October 4, 1987

Netarts, Oregon

Pursuant to notice made by press release to newspapers of general and local circulation throughout the state and mailed to persons on the mailing list of the Commission and the members of the Commission, a (regular /special/emergency) meeting of the Dungeness Crab Commission was held at the community hall in Netarts, Oregon.

Present were Chairman Abel Adams, and Commissioners Bertha Bales, Charles Carter and Donald David, the entire membership of the Commission. The executive secretary of the Commission, Elmer Eaton, presented the Commission's agenda as follows:

- (1) Request to amend commercial limits of daily take of Dungeness crab from the estuaries and ocean waters of the State of Oregon.
- (2) Report of marine biologist Franklin on the effect of recent micro-organic growths in Siletz Bay on crab population.
- (3) Request to consider portions of Neahkahnie Bay off limits for sports crabbing.
Testimony on the commercial limits was received from George Grant representing commercial crabbing industry for an increase and Howard Hawes representing sportsmen.

After discussion, Commissioner David moved that the Commission give notice that it intended to amend the commercial daily limits by a 10 percent increase and that a public hearing be held to receive information, data, and views of interested persons. Voting for the motion: Commissioners Bales, David and Chairman Adams; against: Commissioner Carter. The motion having carried, the executive secretary was directed to prepare a notice of intention to amend a rule and have it published in the Secretary of State's Administrative Bulletin and to notify the press and the Commission's mailing list. Marine Biologist Franklin reported that micro-organic growths have caused a 20 percent decrease in the crab population of Siletz Bay. Research at the Oregon State University Marine Biology Center indicates that it may be possible to develop an ecologically sound strain of micro-organism to combat the harmful growth. Commissioner Bales questioned Franklin as to the effects on the balance of life in the Siletz estuary. Franklin indicated that no sure prediction could be given at this time. Commissioner Bales moved that Franklin consult with the Department of Environmental Quality and report back at the next regular meeting of the Commission. The motion was carried unanimously.

A request to declare portions of Neahkahnie Bay off limits for sports crabbing was presented to the Commission. Supporting the request was George Grant representing the commercial crabbing industry. Mr. Grant testified that the extended take of sportsmen was decreasing the potential take of the commercial take. He indicated that the area was an excellent breeding ground and sportsmen were disturbing the young crabs, thereby endangering the population.

Opposing the request were Irving Instant, a marina operator on Neahkahnie Bay, and a representative of the Tillamook Chamber of Commerce, John Jackson, who disputed Mr. Grant's testimony. The Commission considered a written report prepared by the Department of Environmental Quality titled "The Effect of Sports Crabbing on Crab Populations," and dated June 15, 1987. Commissioner David moved that Mr. Franklin investigate the claim and report back to the Commission at its next regular session. The motion was carried unanimously.

The agenda matters having been dealt with, the Chairman stated that an application for the available position of Assistant Marine Biologist to the Commission had been received. The Chairman then directed that the Commission go into executive session to consider the employment application. The Chairman identified ORS 192.660(2)(a) as authority for the executive session. Kenneth King, reporter for the Associated Press, requested to be present at the executive session.

At the conclusion of the executive session, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Elmer Eaton
Executive Secretary
Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission
October 4, 1987