

WESTERN ROCK LOBSTER COUNCIL Inc.

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Jurien Bay, Jurien Hotel

9:30am Friday 18th December 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

ATTENDANCE: JOHN COLE (CHAIRMAN), DEXTER DAVIES (EO), STEVE MCLEARY, JAMES PARATORE, ANTHONY PIRROTINA, TERRY PARISH, JASON BARRETT, TERRY MOUCHEMORE, DARREN MCTAGGART, FEDELE CAMARDA, NIC SOFOULIS, PETER HAMMOND, VICKY KERR.

GUESTS:

APOLOGIES: JOHN NEWBY

1. WELCOME

The meeting was declared open by the Chairman at 9:45.
Nic Sofoulis moved a motion to suspend the sitting order and deal with the letter from the Minister regarding the cumulative catch of the Fishery
James Paratore second the motion
Motion was carried

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

2.1 MEETING 12 NOVEMBER 2009

The minutes from the previous meeting on 12 November 2009 was confirmed as true and correct.

Moved: Peter Hammond Seconded: Terry Mouchemore Confirmed

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

4. REPORTS

4.1 FINANCIAL

Looking at the financial records, and the predicted budget until end of the 2009-2010 financial year, we will get through to the 30th of June 2010 fine. We will probably get through the next financial year but it will take some manipulation. The WRLC MOU with FRDC ran out last year but the Minister will collect it again if we request him to.

Action: The Letter addressed to the industry asking for funding of \$3 per pot will be drafted by Dexter. Final letter to be signed by all Board members.

4.2 CHAIRMAN

The Chairman reported on his meeting that he had with the Department of Fisheries regarding what will happen when RLIAC goes down? The summary of the conversation was that basically the Department will do nothing about it, it will be up to WAFIC and the WRLC to work out something controllable. In regards to the funding issue, Anna – CEO of WAFIC – can not give us any answers on funding as she does not know what will be received in the next financial year. We will need to pursue the issue regarding funding and the future of WRLC in a diplomatic way. We will have to state that we want to be independent from Government funding.

4.3 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Executive Officer reported that the MSC audit has been completed. The Western Rocklobster will be recertified and the report will be going today with some requirements. The audit included an international reviewer, which is a great benefit to the industry.

5. INPUT VS OUTPUT DISCUSSION

Will be discussed in a special workshop on Friday 15 January 2010

6. FUTURE OF WRLC

6.1 COST EFFECTIVE FUTURE OF WRLC

Not relevant at this moment.

6.2 RELATIONSHIP AND FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS WITH WAFIC

See chairman report

6.3 FUTURE R&D

The post puerulus project is an ongoing and joint project and we are waiting on the money from FRDC. Nic Sofoulis presented some graphs that he drew up as his interpretation of the results.

6.4 REMOVAL OF RLIAC AND IMPLICATIONS FOR WRLC

See chairman report

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 REPORT FROM LANCELIN MEETING

No one reported on this

7.2 BIG BANK

Will be reviewed in January 2010

7.3 UPDATE ON CHAIR AND EO MEETING AT WAFIC

See chairman report

7.4 UPDATE ON MEETING CEO OF DEPT OF FISHERIES

See chairman report

7.5 REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT PACKAGE

Will be discussed after Input vs Output workshop in January 2010

7.6 BEACH PRICE SLIDE

Not relevant any more

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 CRAYZONE

A few Board members mentioned that the people on Crayzone should stop hiding behind their usernames, and stand by who they are and what their opinions are.

8.2 LETTER FROM THE MINISTER: CLOSURE OF FISHERY

This point dominated the discussion at the meeting. The letter was only received the day before. After a long discussion on all the option available the following conclusion came from the zones affected:

Zone B

The decision that was decided on was that B Zone should finish on Wednesday 23rd of December 2009. All boats should be at usual anchorage by 7:30. Go back on the Monday 25th January 2010, set on the 24th of January. This decision is made on the condition that there are still Quota to be met.

Zone C

After long deliberation C Zone came up with the following option to be put forward: 1kg per pot per day for 3 weeks. To your total units have 5 days nominated processor average over a week for 3 weeks for 5 days Starting Christmas day until 15 January.

8.3 WAFIC'S DECISION TO GO TO QUOTA

The WRLC board is of strong opinion that going to individual Quota has to be considered, but will need clarification on how to proceed from here. WAFIC has recommended that the WRL fishery go to quota, but the process they used to get to this decision was appalling

Terry Parish recommend that the WRLC send a letter to WAFIC regarding their process on making statements on behalf of our industry.

A motion has been put forward that all the Board members agree to give strong consideration to implementing individual Quota. Urgent action, including industry input, needs to be taken to develop an appropriate system for the WRL industry. Given the industry poll conducted by WRLC the Industry is in support of implementing Quota.

The WRLC will be conducting a workshop on Saturday the 16th of January 2010, which was organised in November 2009.

8.4 LETTERS TO BE TABLED

A letter from Lat31ProFishAss was received and tabled.

WRLC will be writing to Toni Jurinovich – secretary of the Association and say that we can not support the request

9. NEXT MEETING DATE & CLOSE

The next meeting will be the workshop on Input vs Output on Friday January 16th. The meeting was declared closed at 4:20.