



Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission



Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Aug 21, 2025
Waterford Town Hall, 7:00 pm

Members present: Peter Harris, Paul Spakowski, Larry Tytla, Rick Kanter, Tom Bowlen, Patrick Kelly, Marcia Benvenuti, and Fred Wise

Members absent: none

Guests: Chief Warden Chmiel, Ex-Officio Don MacKenzie

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm and a quorum was established.
- 2) Secretary's minutes from Jul 17, 2025 regular meeting approved on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Tytla, motion vote 6-0, Mr. Wise and Ms. Benvenuti abstained
- 3) Treasurer's report for July were approved on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Tytla, motion approved 8-0.
- 4) Chief Warden's comments – Mr. Chmiel gave the wardens comments. Niantic River is currently closed to a rainfall event. Boat repairs were recently completed.
- 5) Old business –
 - a. Discussion on excluding Niantic River recreational shellfish demarcation coordinates ensued. Coordinates are not required but consensus opinion was to keep the coordinates in the regulations. No action required.
- 6) New business
 - a. Motion made by Ms. Benvenuti, seconded by Mr. Spakowski to add agenda item, motion passed 8-0. Motion made by Ms. Benvenuti, seconded by Mr. Spakowski to allocate up to \$100 to print hardcopies of the DA/BA Sanitary survey recently published and provide to the Waterford and East Lyme public libraries, motion passed 8-0. Mr. Harris will also ask Waterford and East Lyme to add the electronic version to the WELSCO page of each towns website.
 - b. Discussion took place on purchase of new or used boat to replace current warden boat. Mr. Kanter and Mr. Tytla will work with Chief warden Chmiel on identifying potential replacement boats and report back to the commission.
- 7) Ex-officio comments – Mr. Mackenzie gave report – a new East Lyme Police Chief will be named soon.
- 8) Correspondence - No correspondence was received.
- 9) Public comment –
 - a. Rick Kanter, Niantic – discussed the numerous crosswalk signage in Niantic which he thought was excessive.
 - b. Lou Bull, East Lyme – gave his opinion on the new warden boat supporting a design that allowed for easy shore landings.
- 10) Meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm on a motion from Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Ms. Benvenuti, motion approved 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Harris