

**SC Governor's Cup Billfishing Series Advisory Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 18, 2015 10:00 AM**  
**Administration Building Conference Room (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)**  
**Marine Resources Center, Charleston, SC**

**GCAB Members Present:** G. Smith, P. Loy, M. Rogers, T. Hancock, S. Leasure, B. Morris, H. Johnson, B. Roof, C. Jennings, D Sykes (via conference call), S. Holder (pending approval), J. Reed (Superior Diesel)

**GCAB Members Absent:** M. Daniels

**DNR Staff Present:** W. Jenkins, A. Dukes, R. Boyles, M. Ingle

**Guests:** E. Holder, Dan Carter (Edisto Marina Association) and a group representing the Town of Edisto Beach including Town officials and business owners.

**Call Meeting to Order & Approval of Minutes: Chairman Smith**

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting's (Nov 2014) minutes. **P. Loy made a motion to approve the minutes; H. Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed unanimously.**

**Deputy Director's Comments: Robert Boyles**

D.D. Boyles welcomed guests to the Advisory Board meeting and in addition welcomed Stokely Holder as an incoming Board member. He noted that he and Staff are looking forward to a successful 2015 Series.

**Public Comment: Chairman Smith**

Dan Carter provided the Board with the status of the negotiations concerning the time frame with the Smith family to host a tournament at Edisto. The negotiations were unsuccessful. He also voiced the group's desire for Edisto to hold a local tournament. D.D. Boyles reviewed the Tournament contract that stipulates how tournament organizers can become qualified to be a Series event. There must be a qualifying event held the year prior to joining the Series, attended by Governor's Cup Billfishing representatives and its outcome reviewed and decided upon by the Governor's Cup Board of Directors.

Several other Edisto supporters spoke on behalf of Edisto holding a Governor's Cup Series tournament there in the near future.

S. Leasure requested on behalf of the S.C. Memorial Reef Foundation that the GCAB assume control and manage the project going forward. That would include managing the website, overseeing the funds (via Harry Hampton) and ensuring the funds be used to support bluewater fishing and conservation off the coast of South Carolina. Acknowledging memorial donations given to the foundation going forward on behalf of donors. Robert Boyles asked that Staff look at specific details to ensure everyone is on the same page and report back at the next Advisory Board meeting. Chairman Smith noted that it is an honor that the GCAB is being asked to take the reins of the Memorial Reef Foundation and continue the work they started.

**Tournament Committee Report: Stan Hurteau**

Stan Hurteau reported a proposed Series schedule change in format for the Carolina Billfish Classic tournament. The proposed change would change the tournament to two days and the registration fee would be reduced by \$500.

Stan informed the Board that he received memoranda from Becca Jones stating that they have decided not to go forth with their tournament at Edisto this year (2015).

- Mr. Huffine (Public/Guest) asked why the Edisto couldn't go forward with the tournament as planned without Becca Jones. DD Boyles read the tournament rules which explain the contract between current tournament owners and the Series.

- The Board recommended holding a tournament this summer to serve as a provisional tournament which is a requirement (according to terms of becoming eligible for being part of the GC Series) to be able to become a GC tournament in 2016 if a slot is available .

### **Old Business: Amy Dukes**

Amy proposed to the Board the rental of (2) Iridium Satellite phones at the cost of \$500-\$600 for two months. These phones would allow for more real time updates during the tournaments. In addition there could be a Facebook page created that Wally and Amy will maintain to post real time updates from the tournaments and photos. Amy stated that they have contacted Jeff Dennis to help with posting photos and live updates during the tournaments. His fee of \$5000 was deemed to be too high and the board recommended going back to Jeff with a budget the board would be more comfortable with (\$2500) and specific expectations.

P. Loy made a motion to use the Facebook page as a public relations vehicle with updates approved by GC Staff and to rent 2 Sat phones for two months. M. Rogers 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business: Wally Jenkins**

#### A. Budget

1. 2014 Final Expenditures: Wally reviewed with the Board the 2014 expenditures spreadsheet.
2. 2015 Proposed Expenditures: Wally reviewed proposed expenditures for 2015 Series. P. Loy made a motion to approve 2015 budget as presented. T. Hancock 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.
3. 2015 Sponsorship Pledges: Wally reviewed the current sponsorship pledges and reported the Series is well on its way. Currently, there is \$29,600 in pledges for 2015.

B. 2014 Draft Annual Report: Wally requested two volunteers to review and edit the report. S. Holder and S. Leasure offered to take the task. Chairman Smith thanked them for volunteering.

#### C. Nominations:

1. Vice Chairman Vacancy: S. Leasure nominated Mark Rogers to the position. P. Loy made a motion by proclamation to appoint M. Rogers to the position, H. Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup>.
2. Board Reappointments: P. Loy made a motion by proclamation to reappoint S. Leasure, B. Morris and T. Hancock to the GCAB. M. Rogers 2<sup>nd</sup>.
3. Future Vacancies: S. Holder will replace J. Zachrich who resigned his position, effective immediately upon approval of the SCDNR Board of Directors and Governor Haley. Wally asked Board members to be thinking ahead to 2016 for potential nominations.

### **Other Business**

S. Leasure suggested that the Board consider awarding a "Mate of the Year" award for 2015. It would be awarded to a Mate that showed exemplary effort during the Series- not just to the winning boat. They would be voted on at the August meeting along with the recipient of the Carroll Campbell award. The Board agreed that it was a worthy award.

P. Loy made a motion to adjourn to executive session. H. Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Board went into executive Session

S. Leasure made a motion to come out of executive session. H. Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Board came back into regular session. No action was taken.

### **Date, Place and Time of Upcoming Meetings**

The next scheduled meeting (if necessary) of the GCAB is Thursday, April 30th at 10:00 am.

### **Adjournment: Chairman Smith**

Chairman Smith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. H. Johnson made a motion to adjourn. C. Jennings 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.