

TAY DISTRICT SALMON FISHERIES BOARD

MINUTES FROM VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING held 10am Tuesday, 27th October 2020

Present: Iain McLaren (Convener), Simon Furniss, David Godfrey, Claire Mercer Nairne, Bob Mason, Jim Perrett (Vice Convener), Alastair Riddell, Allister Wallace

Alex Stewart – experiencing technical difficulties so could hear meeting but not participate.

In Attendance: Dr. David Summers (Fisheries Director), Inga MacGillivray (Clerk to the Board)

1. **Apologies:** Steve Mannion, Tom Monaghan, Cllr. Andrew Parrott
2. **Declarations of Interest:** No interests were declared.

Matters arising from 23/09/2020

Minutes from meeting held 23/09/2020 were taken as read. AR asked that it be recorded that he was happy with decision for the Clerk to be released from the TGA matter, and that he wanted it minuted that he had not stated anything like what had appeared in the Minutes regarding election protocol from 23/09/2020.

Election Protocol December 2020

IMacG explained that she had been in touch with P&K Council regarding independent verification of votes, and was awaiting an answer.

IMacG explained that the Board member Job Description was nearly finalised and would be on the website shortly.

IMacG stated she had contacted Fishlegal regarding an independent organisation running the election but had been advised this was totally unnecessary.

3. Election Protocol for December 2020

There was a short discussion surrounding the election verification procedure, before the Board decided it was unnecessary and voted not to have independent verification nor an independent company running the election.

4. FMS Code of Conduct for Boards

The Code of Conduct had been previously circulated and was taken as read. CMN stated it was not a new concept and IMacG agreed, explaining it had been introduced during ASFB's time and had been updated in June 2019.

JP highlighted two main areas that may need some reworking, being integrity and confidentiality. After some further discussion, the Board officially adopted the Code of Conduct.

5. Financial Overview

IMacG explained the financials were healthy at present but were threatened by late payment of assessment invoices.

She explained that salary savings had been made with the retirement of both a Fisheries Officer and the Hatchery Manager, but stressed that workloads for the remaining staff would be increased.

The Convener enquired as to whether the Fisheries Officers had enough help with broodstock fishing.

ACTION: DS to liaise with Operations Manager regarding broodstock staffing.
ACTION: BM to liaise with TGA Chair regarding possible TGA help with broodstock fishing and ask him to liaise with Operations Manager.

IMacG then went on to explain the financial situation regarding road repairs. A project manager had nearly been appointed and they would then deal with the road repair issue on instruction from the Board.

ACTION: IMacG to ask project manager to tender more quotes for road repair work.

6. Stocking Policy

DS explained that due to staffing shortages, stocking policy had slipped somewhat on Marine Scotland's agenda. He suggested waiting to see what they proposed before entering into negotiations and pointed out that the Board's policy was pretty much aligned with MS policy anyway.

SF suggested pursuing the Braan stocking project. DS explained that the Scottish Government were putting together a salmon strategy and that the Board should think about putting forward big impact projects to become part of the strategy.

CMN asked if DS could be part of salmon strategy group, to which DS replied he hadn't heard of it until recently and doubted he would be on the group, but thought the Board could feed in through FMS.

ACTION: DS to produce Braan paper as part of salmon strategy to forward to politicians
ACTION: IMacG to look into grant funding for Braan from Griffin wind farm

7. TRT/TDSFB Fixed Assets Report by Sub Committee

BM stated he had put the report together and sent out the relevant information but felt that, due to the responses to the paper, there was no more to be said on the subject and no action points.

8. Lyon Report

The Lyon Report had been previously circulated and was taken as read. DS explained the report and there followed some discussion on what could be done to improve habitat in other areas of the catchment, as well as the Lyon.

ACTION: DS to produce prospectus of big, high value projects we need to do including the Braan, and bring to John Swinney's attention.

The Convener suggested this may be a good project to go into partnership with the TRT.

9. Road Repairs

Discussed under Financial Overview item

10. Marine Scotland Wild Salmon Strategy

Discussed under Stocking Policy.

11. AOB

12. TGA Legal proceedings and Grievance Procedure Update

The matter was discussed at length with no immediate actions.

AOB

TRT Calendars

AW asked if anyone would like to sell TRT calendars.

ACTION: Board members to contact AW or IMacG if they wish to sell calendars.

The meeting was closed.

The next meeting is scheduled via Zoom for Tuesday, 8th December 9:30am