



Joint Board of Fisheries and Game Committee Meeting

Discussion of Scheduling Meetings in Light of COVID-19

January 19, 2021, Webconference

MEETING SUMMARY

Committee members: McKenzie Mitchell, Abe Williams, John Jensen, Stosh Hoffman, Larry Van Daele, and Al Barrette

The Joint Board Committee (committee) met by webconference on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. to review the current COVID-19 environment in Alaska, conditions for in-person meetings, and the ability to conduct board meetings over webconferencing. The committee also considered options for postponing meetings and linkages between the two boards. The meeting was chaired by Board of Game member Stosh Hoffman.

The webconference platform utilized for the meeting was Zoom. Other board members, non-participating staff, and the public were able to view the meeting on the Internet. The committee did not take oral testimony from the public, but written public comments were solicited. All meeting material and the complete audio recording are available on the Joint Board Committee meeting website at: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=process.jbmeetinginfo&date=01-19-2021&meeting=teleconference>.

Chair Hoffman opened the meeting, called for introductions of committee members and agency staff and provided a review of the purpose of the meeting and the agenda. Commissioner Doug Vincent-Lang provided opening comments to the committee about prospects for holding board meetings this cycle and the value of providing an inclusive, public process for developing fish and game regulations. Following the commissioner's comments, ADF&G Boards Support Executive Director Glenn Haight detailed information from the department's Situational Analysis for 2020/2021 Meeting Planning memo as follows:

Update on conditions for in-person meetings (*Audio log: 01:34:34*)

The committee also received information from two members of the State's COVID-19 Task Force, Tessa Linderman Walker, co-lead on vaccinations and Karol Fink, lead for gatherings and meetings.

Review of board meetings over webconferencing (*Audio log: 01:49:51*)

Options for postponing meetings (*Audio log: 02:01:44*)

Linkages between the two boards (*Audio log: 02:23:03*)

Following these presentations, committee members discussed the information and shared their perspectives. The Board of Game will meet January 21, 2021 for their work session and make decisions about their meetings for 2021 at that time. The Board of Fisheries will meet January 25, 2021 and similarly make decisions about their 2020/2021 meeting schedule.

The committee adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:31 p.m.