

**Massachusetts Sportsmen's Council, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 462**  
**Rockland, MA 02370-0462**

Meeting for January 5, 2025 at 9:06 am held in-person at Century Sportsman's Club,  
by President John Kellstrand

Minutes are posted on the MSC website.

**Send your E-mail addresses to get the minutes electronically. [ShootingPete@comcast.net](mailto:ShootingPete@comcast.net) This will help us save in postage.**

**President's Comments** – Stipends for House/Senate Committee Chairs are up to \$25K.

**Communication** – Florida Sheriff Rick Wells (Sarasota) says, if you want to break into someone's home, you should expect to be shot." Wells is a Sheriff who openly celebrates homeowners defending themselves against criminals by exercising their 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights.

NICS bias? Research indicates that an overwhelming majority of initial denials, approximately 99% are errors, affecting Hispanic and black males due to similarities in names.

EXPLORE Act sent to Biden's desk. Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences Act would enhance the accessibility of federal lands to recreational shooters, hunters, and other outdoorsmen.

Numbers: In 2024 the number of Concealed carry permits increased for women 255% and 120% for men. 8.2% of American adults have permits. Indiana has 23.1% of the population, Alabama has 20.5% and Colorado has 17.7%. Florida revoked 2006 handgun permits but has 2.46 million permit holders.

ATF was using the NICS to monitor gun purchases. The ATF monitored people for their associations and the feeling that the "target" might commit a crime in the future. The ATF tried to gag the FOIA request claiming that the documents were not in the public interest.

**Legislation** - Chapter 135 still has to be watched. The Council will support the bills filed by the MCA for the new session.

**Hunter Ed / Fisheries & Wildlife** – Basic Courses thru March 1st have been posted to the website. Five in-person, Four blended. A Class for Black Powder Instructors coming in April.

**Ware River Watershed** – Next meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup> in Rutland. DCR will speak about the Public Access Plan. Nothing exciting at the last meeting.

**Quabbin Watershed Advisory** – no information. Next meeting in tomorrow, January 6<sup>th</sup> at the visitor center. Deer Hunt numbers to be provided. Gate 8 updates are on the agenda.

**Marine Fisheries** – Changes for Striped Bass regulations are coming. Commercial size for Lobster changed by 1/16.

**Forrest and Parks** – no information

**Super Raffle 2025** – Tickets are now available. Drawing is June 1<sup>st</sup>.

1. Henry Big Boy, .44 mag
2. Henry Golden Boy
3. Ruger 10/22 w/scope
4. \$250 Bass Pro / Cabela's Gift Card
5. Athlon 20-60x80 Spotting Scope
6. \$150 Bass Pro / Cabela's Gift Card
7. 2026 Spring Turkey Hunt
8. 7' Heavy Duty Boat Rod & Case
9. Traditions Drop Breach Muzzleloader
10. Compound/Crossbow archery target block
11. SIG Sauer M17 Air Pistol
12. Cabela's Blind
13. LL Bean Knife

**New Business** – Banquet facilities are not returning calls. Therefore the event is canceled. We can still do awards and the scholarship.

**Old Business** – Shows where you will find the Council.

Marlboro	January 31 to February 2
Standish	February 8 and 9
Springfield	February 21 to February 23

**Deer/Bear Damage Report** – Public Hearing in January.

<b>Good of the order</b> –	NWTF Hall of Fame Awards	January 25th
	Cranberry Longbeards	March 8th
	Tri-County Longbeards	May 17th
	Bristol County League Banquet	April 25th
	MA Bow Hunters	April 12th

**Adjournment** – 10:49 am

**Next Meeting** – February 9th via Zoom