

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

Meeting for March 2, 2025 at 9:05am held via ZOOM,
by President John Kellstrand

Minutes are posted on the MSC website.

Send your E-mail addresses to get the minutes electronically. ShootingPete@comcast.net This will help us save in postage.

President's Comments – Volunteers at the shows did an excellent job. Pin costs increased after several years of being the same; so sale price was increased for the shows. Square fees increased a little, 2.6% now. Dues notices have been mailed.

Communication – TSA offering a \$20K signing bonus for a Nantucket position. Maine had a 72-hour waiting period to buy a gun and it has been thrown out by the court. Beacon Hill Senators and Reps have a \$82,046 base pay with stipends of \$119,000 for the House Speaker and Senate President! Other leadership positions get \$22K to \$96K. VIP Ticket package for Huntstock will be added to the Annual Raffle. Three positions were cut from CCNS by D.O.G.E.

Legislation - Working on the Watch List. Committees have been assigned. Still waiting on Bill Numbers.

Hunter Ed / Fisheries & Wildlife – Instructors received their annual thank you package. EPO's will not respond to Dead Bird calls. Stop driving on thin ice; EPO's are tried of pulling you out. Currently there are Six in-person courses and eleven blended courses for Basic Education.

Ware River Watershed – DCR says a review of the Access Plan will happen this spring. To happen every other year. Forest restoration for baron's habitat in Rutland (tree harvest and prescribed burns). Prison Camp tunnel was collapsed and filled in to prevent any possible injuries. Cameras have caught people doing graffiti and they will be prosecuted.

Quabbin Watershed Advisory – No update.

Marine Fisheries – Hearing scheduled on March 11th at Mass Maritime on multiple categories (Striped Bass, Menhaden, Groundfish, Summer Flounder, Conch Pots, American Eel, Dogfish Fins, and Entanglement Reporting, False Albacore, Atlantic Bonito, Shark and Shore-Based Fishing, Black Sea Bass, and Non-Native Worms). Safe Boating Act was passed and has no grand fathering.

Forrest and Parks – Some plans for habitat restoration it the works.

Deer/Bear Damage Report – Additional Bear information/vote in March or April due to a glitch. Deer changes passed.

Deer Hunting:

- Chronic Wasting Disease Prevention in Massachusetts
 - Expand Deboning Requirements
 - Sunset Captive Deer Facilities
- Authorize Deer Decoy Use During Archery Deer Hunting Season
- Clarify that Food Plots are Legal
- Remove Antlerless Deer Permit Daily Bag and Possession Limits
- Authorize Youth Deer Hunting Permits for the Entire Season
- Establish a January Primitive Arms (Including Archery) Deer Hunting Season in WMZs 13 and 14

New Business – Add to 2025 Raffle, VIP Ticket to Huntstock in August (value \$150). A show review was given on sales.

Old Business – Update the website with more news this week.

Super Raffle – Show sales of tickets are good.

Good of the order – New England Saltwater Fishing Show – March 7,8,9

Connecticut Fishing Outdoor Show – March 21,22,23

New Hampshire Outdoor Expo – March 7,8,9.

NWTF – Cranberry Longbeards, Plymouth – March 8th

NWTF – TriCounty Longbeards, Foxborough – May 17th

NRA Annual Meeting, Atlanta – April 24-27th

Bristol Co League Banquet, Taunton – April 25th

Adjournment – 11:25 am

Next Meeting – April 6th via ZOOM.