**Massachusetts Sportsmen’s Council, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 462**

# Rockland, MA 02370-0462

Meeting for September 8, 2024 at 9:20am 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** **This will help us save in postage.**

**President’s Comments –** Share the Harvest program has expanded. No one viewed the Juned minutes, acceptance moved to October. Payment for the Raffle Tax has not cleared yet by the Commonwealth.

# Communication – Letter from Jonathan Hardwick, one of the scholarship recipients. Board meeting at field HQ this coming Wednesday, Sept 11, at 1pm; items of interest will be a Bear report, Hunting with Thermal Sights and a review of how the new Gun Law will effect Fisheries and Wildlife. Dick Scorzafava, noted hunter and presenter at sportsmen’s shows, passed away. VP Harris’ campaign committee didn’t recognize an AI Generated letter supporting and posted as fact. The MA Supreme Court rules that’s switchblade knives are protected arms. The Democratic Party’s platform includes: Criminalizing the private transfer firearms unless transaction in pursuant to a government background check, more funding for gun control, repeal of the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, Increase Red Flag laws, increase funding for the ATF and FBI, and the requirement for safe storage for guns. The FBI now says that the terms “Molon Labe”, “Prepping”, and “Second Amendment (2A)” can be signs of violent militia extremism. Gov. Walz military record was corrected on the Harris Campaign website.

**Legislation -** Petition signing was done at the Franklin Fair this weekend. The forms have to have a clear signature or printed name and your street address.

**Hunter Ed / Fisheries & Wildlife –** Fall classes are happening. Twelve blended courses currently posted.

**Ware River Watershed –** Meeting on 9/26 at the Rutland Library. No agenda yet.

**Quabbin Watershed Advisory –** Meeting on 9/16, 6:30pm, at the Quabbin Visitor Center. No agenda yet.

From June presentation about using water for other locations. 200M gallons of water a day being used down from 335M in 1985. This change was attributed to conservation measures. Paving at Gate 43 was completed and conditions at Gate 8 continues to be monitored. The 2023 deer management results presented.

**Marine Fisheries –**  Limited Entry Menhaden Fishery to reopen at 25K pound Trip Limits. Public hearings on Summer Flounder Draft on September 16th.

**Forrest and Parks –** All traffic advisories being reported.

**Bear & Deer Damage –** Three bears taken in corn fields. Lots of damage occurring this early fall. There will be a presentation at the September F&W Board meeting.

**Old Business** – Show dates for 2025. Discussion on attending and revenue obtained.

 **NE Fishing Expo** - Royal Plaza Trade Center, January 31 to February 2.

 **NH Outdoor Expo** – Milford NH, March 7 to March 9

 **Standish Show** – TBD

 **Springfield Sportsmen Show** – Big E, February 21 to February 23

Start thinking about prize donations for the Super Raffle 2025.

**Election of 2024/2025 Officers –** No quorum at today’s meeting. Elections are tabled until the October meeting.

**Good of the order –** Delegate, Don Graves, stated MA Spring Turkey season has 24 days, the least amount of days in New England. Could we expand to match?

**Adjournment –** 11:23 am

**Next Meeting –** October 6th via Zoom.