

NESS DISTRICT SALMON FISHERY BOARD INAUGRAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Time: 17:15

Date: 12th September 2019

Location: Telford Board Room, Inverness Caledonian Thistle Football Club

Present:

David Sutherland: Ness Castle Lodges, Proprietor (DS) Acting Chair

Angus MacGruer: River Oich, Proprietor (AM)

Graham Mackenzie: Co-option, Ness Anglers (GM)

Walter Mackay: Co-option, Inverness Angling Club (WM)

Janet Campbell: Highland Council, Mandate (JC)

David Macleod: River Moriston, mandate/alternate (on behalf of Steven Gray) (DM)

In Attendance:

April Conroy: Board Secretary (AC)

Chris Conroy: Chief Executive/Clerk (CC)

John MacColl: Head Bailiff (JM)

Observing:

David McDonnell: Tomdoun, Upper River Garry (DMcD)

Apologies:

Michael Martin: Dochfour, Mandate (MM)

Ryan Rutherford: Ness Castle, Mandate (RR)

Paul Williamson: River Garry Proprietor (PW)

1. AGENDA

In lieu of an elected chairman, and as the Clerk of the board, CC called the first meeting of the newly elected Ness DSFB. CC confirmed that non-board members were welcome to stay as all board meetings are held in public. CC stated the Agenda:

- 1) Co-opt representatives of salmon anglers and tenant netmen in the district
- 2) Elect new Convenor/Chairman
- 3) Suggest any other representatives
- 4) Date of next meeting

2. CO-OPTION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SALMON ANGLERS AND TENANT NETSMEN IN THE DISTRICT

CC advised that as soon after their election as is practicable, the elected representatives of qualified proprietors shall duly co-opt representatives of salmon anglers and tenant netmen in the district.

He confirmed that following wider consultation, the proposed candidates for election as co-opted representatives of salmon anglers and tenant netsmen for the Ness District were as follows:

Co-optees	Graeme Sutherland (Netsmen)
	Graham Mackenzie (Ness District Anglers)
	Walter Mackay (Inverness Angling Club)

At previous elections the elected representatives of qualified proprietors have also co-opted a representative from the Ness and Beaulieu Fisheries Trust. At the time of this election there was significant organisational change occurring at the trust and so a unanimous decision was made to defer any co-option for the time being.

CC asked whether all qualified proprietors present collectively and unanimously vote in favour of all the proposed nominees. AM proposed and DS seconded. Representatives of salmon anglers and tenant netsmen were duly elected.

CC noted that there is the option to co-opt further representatives at a later date. He asked whether there were any further nominations for consideration. No nominations were put forward.

3. ELECTION OF CONVENOR/CHAIRMAN

CC advised that as soon as is practicable, the elected representatives of qualified proprietors together with the co-opted representatives shall elect, from among the representatives of qualified proprietors, a convener.

CC noted that only one individual had formally expressed an interest in being elected as Chairman of the Board. This was Michael Martin who has a mandate for Dochfour. CC asked whether there were any further nominations for consideration. No nominations were put forward.

CC asked the elected representatives of qualified proprietors and co-opted representatives present whether they vote in favour of the proposed nominee. GMcK proposed and WM seconded. CC confirmed that the new Chairman of the Board is Michael Martin and advised that the new board was at this point fully constituted.

4. OTHER REPRESENTATION

CC advised the board to consider whether they wish to invite any further representation onto the board as in a non-voting capacity. This is not a legal requirement however the Fisheries Management Scotland (FMS) advise that DSFBs consider representation from other agencies such as, but not limited to, SNH, SEPA, local fisheries interests, their local authority and national park authority.

CC confirmed that the current proposed candidates were as follows:

Alastair Stephen (SSE)
Kenneth Knott (Forestry Commission Scotland)
Nathan McLaughton (Scottish Natural Heritage)
John MacColl (Ness DSFB)
Andrew Steel (SEPA)
Melanie Smith (UHI Rivers and Lochs Institute)

WM proposed approval and DM seconded.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting was scheduled for 14:00 Thursday 12th December 2019.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 17.24.