

GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

SHRIMP COMMITTEE

Webinar

NOVEMBER 30, 2020

**VOTING MEMBERS**

- 10 Leann Bosarge.....Mississippi
- 11 Kevin Anson (designee for Scott Bannon).....Alabama
- 12 Roy Crabtree.....NMFS
- 13 Dale Diaz.....Mississippi
- 14 Dave Donaldson.....GSMFC
- 15 Jonathan Dugas.....Louisiana
- 16 Robin Riechers.....Texas
- 17 John Sanchez.....Florida
- 18 Chris Schieble (designee for Patrick Banks).....Louisiana

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS**

- 21 Susan Boggs.....Alabama
- 22 Phil Dyskow.....Florida
- 23 Tom Frazer.....Florida
- 24 Lt. Nicholas Giancola.....USCG
- 25 Martha Guyas (designee for Jessica McCawley).....Florida
- 26 Joe Spraggins.....Mississippi
- 27 Greg Stunz.....Texas
- 28 Ed Swindell.....Louisiana
- 29 Troy Williamson.....Texas

**STAFF**

- 32 Matt Freeman.....Economist
- 33 John Froeschke.....Deputy Director
- 34 Beth Hager.....Administrative Officer
- 35 Lisa Hollensead.....Fishery Biologist
- 36 Emily Muehlstein.....Public Information Officer
- 37 Ryan Rindone.....Fishery Biologist & SEDAR Liaison
- 38 Bernadine Roy.....Office Manager
- 39 Camilla Shireman.....Administrative & Communications Assistant
- 40 Carrie Simmons.....Executive Director
- 41 Carly Somerset.....Fisheries Outreach Specialist

**OTHER PARTICIPANTS**

- 44 Patrick Banks.....LA
- 45 Benny Gallaway.....LGL Ecological, TX
- 46 Tim Griner.....SAFMC
- 47 Peter Hood.....NMFS
- 48 Paul Mickle.....MS

1 Clay Porch.....SEFSC  
2  
3 - - -  
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PAGE 23: Motion for the GMFMC to send a letter to the SEFSC supporting the development, implementation and funding of the P-Sea WindPlot program. [The motion carried on page 24.](#)

PAGE 26: Motion to request staff to initiate a white paper that explores the associated costs with an expanded number of shrimp vessels participating in the pilot effort collection program using P-Sea WindPlot. [The motion carried on page 27.](#)

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1 The Shrimp Management Committee of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery  
2 Management Council convened via webinar on Monday morning,  
3 November 30, 2020, and was called to order by Chairman Leann  
4 Bosarge.

5  
6 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**  
7 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
8 **ACTION GUIDE AND NEXT STEPS**  
9

10 **CHAIRMAN LEANN BOSARGE:** I would like to call the Shrimp  
11 Management Committee to order. Just to remind everyone, the  
12 members of this committee are myself as Chair, Mr. Patrick Banks  
13 as Vice Chair, and I believe that Mr. Schieble is sitting in for  
14 Patrick today, Mr. Anson, Dr. Crabtree, Mr. Diaz, Mr. Donaldson,  
15 Mr. Riechers, Mr. Sanchez, and Mr. Swindell.

16  
17 The agenda can be found under Tab D, Number 1. Were there any  
18 changes or additions for today's agenda? I will give everybody  
19 just a minute. Seeing none, the agenda is adopted as presented.

20  
21 The minutes from our September 2020 Shrimp Committee meeting can  
22 be found under Tab D, Number 2. Were there any revisions that  
23 needed to be made to those minutes? I don't see any hands going  
24 up, and, if there was anybody, feel free to just speak up. I  
25 don't hear anybody speaking up, and so we will consider those  
26 minutes approved as presented in the briefing book.

27  
28 The Action Guide and Next Steps can be found under Tab D, Number  
29 3, and the main agenda item that will take up most of our time  
30 today is going to be a presentation by Dr. Benny Gallaway, and I  
31 would like to just intro that, since we're waiting to get Dr.  
32 Gallaway to a point where he can speak.

33  
34 It is pressing. What we have before us is pressing. The shrimp  
35 industry has a data collection program that operates on our  
36 vessels, and it's called an electronic logbook, but that covers  
37 a lot of ground, depending on which industry you're in, and so  
38 what our data collection program does on the boats is collect  
39 our effort data. In other words, how much time are we spending  
40 shrimping and nets in the water in different locations  
41 throughout the Gulf of Mexico.

42  
43 The reason that we're having this presentation today is because  
44 that program is no longer -- That technology, 3G technology, is  
45 no longer going to be supported as of I think December 7, which  
46 is, what, next week, and so it is a pressing item, and the  
47 industry has come together to try and come up with a plan to  
48 continue collecting that effort data in an efficient and

1 streamlined process that hopefully will utilize software and  
2 equipment that's already on those vessels, for most of the  
3 offshore shrimp fleet.

4  
5 We've been working with Dr. Gallaway to get that program up and  
6 running, to a proof of concept for NMFS, and we've been working  
7 with NMFS on this too, and so, today, Dr. Gallaway is going to  
8 present to you all the nuts-and-bolts of that industry-led pilot  
9 program, and I would encourage you to ask him any questions you  
10 may have, because, ultimately, we're going to need a thumbs-up  
11 or thumbs-down, in some fashion, from the council on this  
12 program, if we want it to become the rule of the land, and so do  
13 we have Dr. Gallaway on the phone yet?

14  
15 **DR. BENNY GALLAWAY:** Yes, I hope so.

16  
17 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** I can hear you.

18  
19 **DR. GALLAWAY:** If you can put the screen up, I'm ready to roll.

20  
21 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. Great. I think they're pulling your  
22 presentation up now, and so, as soon as they get it up, the  
23 floor is yours, sir.

24  
25 **PILOT PROGRAM TO EVALUATE USE OF VESSEL NAVIGATION SYSTEM TO**  
26 **MEASURE SHRIMPING EFFORT**

27  
28 **DR. GALLAWAY:** This presentation -- I want to start with a  
29 summary, and so I make sure I get the main information across to  
30 you. What I am going to describe is a two-phase project that's  
31 actually a multiyear two-phase project to adapt the P-Sea  
32 WindPlot navigation software, as necessary, to acquire and  
33 transmit shrimp fishing effort, much in the same way it has been  
34 done.

35  
36 The first phase has been to determine how many federally-  
37 permitted vessels use P-Sea WindPlot, test the approach on one  
38 or more general vessels, develop procedures to match landings  
39 and trip data and, ultimately, to develop a system for  
40 electronically transmitting the data to NMFS databases in a  
41 seamless fashion.

42  
43 The goal of the second phase will be to actually implement the  
44 new method, in order to estimate shrimp fishing effort for next  
45 year, beginning in the first quarter. The initial work -- This  
46 has been an emerging and evolving and fast-moving project, and  
47 the initial work has just been modified to include efforts to  
48 acquire 3G cELB data that are still being recorded.

1  
2 The pilot program began with discussions in August of 2020  
3 between NOAA Fisheries and the Southern Shrimp Alliance  
4 regarding the looming failure of the current system at the end  
5 of the year. The agency had been evaluating options for  
6 replacing the cELB program and had reached out to industry to  
7 find a cooperative solution.

8  
9 Mr. Steve Bosarge, who is President of SSA, brought forth the  
10 idea that an almost universal navigation system used by the Gulf  
11 shrimp fishery, and that's P-Sea WindPlot, has an internal  
12 logbook that perhaps could be modified to enable recording of  
13 the date, time, and location data necessary to estimate effort  
14 with very little change.

15  
16 His idea led to the Phase 1 of the pilot program, and the main  
17 objectives were, one, to evaluate the likelihood that indeed the  
18 P-Sea WindPlot program is used by a large fraction of the  
19 permitted fleet, and this is true, to modify and test the  
20 existing software to obtain and record directly the information  
21 for estimating effort and how to most effectively pair effort  
22 and landings data at the trip level.

23  
24 Testing will involve implementing the system on one more  
25 actively fishing vessel with a cELB, and that has been equipped  
26 and will be leaving the dock on Monday. Working with NMFS, we  
27 will also assist in physically collecting the 3G ELB data still  
28 being recorded, and that becomes critical, that we need to get  
29 that done. We may lose that, if we don't act fast.

30  
31 Then we want to develop or confirm that the present stratified  
32 random vessel selection process remains appropriate and develop  
33 comprehensive procedures manuals for integrating the historical  
34 and new estimation procedures. In other words, we want to tie  
35 it all together.

36  
37 The last steps of the Phase 1 pilot study will be to, working  
38 with NMFS, randomly select a yet-to-be-decided number of vessels  
39 to utilize P-Sea WindPlot for monitoring effort in 2021, and,  
40 lastly, develop a plan to install and equip these vessels with  
41 new P-Sea WindPlot systems and train the captains and dealers in  
42 its use in the first quarter, and this is critical.

43  
44 At present, we plan to obtain the data that's downloaded from a  
45 trip on thumb-drives, along with, at the time of landing, the  
46 matched landing record, likely on paper. However, we will begin  
47 development of an electronic reporting system in the pilot study  
48 and finalize it during the coming year of 2021. We provided a

1 background on all of this in Attachments 4(a) and 4(b) and  
2 Attachment 1 of this document, which I won't try to go into now,  
3 but you're welcome to review that.

4  
5 So, where are we? Without consideration of whether a permitted  
6 vessel is actively fishing or simply holding a permit, there  
7 were a total of 1,392 total permits on August 17, 2020, of which  
8 1,283 were valid and another 109 were eligible to be renewed or  
9 transferred, and this information was obtained through the  
10 Freedom of Information Act, and we noticed that the address of  
11 the owner is by state, and it doesn't necessarily correspond to  
12 where the vessel is. There are 1,255 Coast-Guard-registered  
13 vessels in this database, along with 135 state-registered  
14 vessels.

15  
16 One of the things we want is to use active vessels with a cELB  
17 history, because, when you switch to a new method of estimating  
18 fishing effort, this requires careful planning, to ensure that  
19 any changes observed are real and not due to a change in method.  
20 Therefore, in the first year, the pool of vessels to be  
21 considered will be actively fishing permitted vessels with a  
22 cELB history and known ports of landing.

23  
24 The SSA members within this pool have been contacted, but they  
25 were only contacted to determine if the vessel used P-Sea  
26 WindPlot, and we have up-to-date contact information and could  
27 get in touch with them quickly, to give us a preliminary idea of  
28 whether or not we were whistling dixie or had a path forward.

29  
30 The evidence that P-Sea WindPlot is commonly, or even  
31 universally, used is pretty convincing. NMFS provided us with a  
32 list of the permitted vessels, which have actively fished in the  
33 past few years, had carried a cELB, and had known ports of  
34 landings. John Williams of SSA provided us the up-to-date  
35 contact numbers. The pool that we'll be using for the random  
36 selection is 577 actively-fishing vessels, and, of these,  
37 ninety-four were SSA members.

38  
39 100 percent of the SSA component used P-Sea WindPlot, and  
40 informed discussions with shrimp fishers across the Gulf  
41 reinforced the idea that this software is dominant, if not even  
42 universally used. In chatting with the developers of the  
43 software, they have literally sold thousands of P-Sea software  
44 units in the Gulf of Mexico, and so we're pretty convinced that  
45 this is a viable vehicle.

46  
47 In getting started, the first thing we did was set up -- We have  
48 programmed a stand-alone server, including the necessary



1 software and several dozen custom scrips to run the ELB project,  
2 and, just like we have done historically, we could read the trip  
3 data, and we could estimate effort. We have tested the programs  
4 and validated that we're ready to go. As a starting point, our  
5 server is set up to run the existing ELB program. In other  
6 words, we're not making a big change in the kinds of data, but  
7 we're simply using a different gadget to transmit the data.

8  
9 One of the initial thoughts was maybe we could just use it  
10 directly, and P-Sea WindPlot has track files, and maybe we could  
11 just convert them to what we need, and the track files were  
12 determined to contain a lot of useful information regarding  
13 locations of tows. The tracking feature, however, does not  
14 operate continuously, and is designed to be easily turned on and  
15 off, and, based on this, we judged the data currently recorded  
16 by P-Sea WindPlot to be insufficient for use as an alternative,  
17 to just it directly. It takes a modification. We need a  
18 continuous record of date, time, and location and assurity of  
19 the location every ten minutes. In response, we began  
20 discussions with P-Sea WindPlot to modify the programs, to where  
21 we could gather that information.

22  
23 We contracted with them to modify their program to capture  
24 everything we need, just like we've been getting it, every ten  
25 minutes, but it would fall right into the existing program.  
26 Upon the P-Sea WindPlot starting, the modified program will  
27 produce -- It gathers this information that we've been defining  
28 every ten minutes, and I am going to skip through some of these,  
29 and you can come back and ask questions, if you have them.  
30 Initially, when we retrieve these data on landings, we will copy  
31 it to a USB flash drive and get a paper copy of the  
32 corresponding landings trip.

33  
34 We have also acquired the landings forms from each of the five  
35 states, as well as the manual, and we're going to develop a  
36 system whereby, when we come in and we get the thumb-drive, we  
37 can convert these to spreadsheet data, and then we can reformat  
38 the data so that it's compatible with NMFS landings data, and,  
39 ultimately, it will be transmitted in a way that I think  
40 everyone will find accessible.

41  
42 Now our pool, and the 577 actively fishing permitting vessels  
43 that we described above, that will be our universe. We will  
44 stratify these vessels by port, organized into nine geographical  
45 regions, and that is landings by port. Then, within ports,  
46 we'll stratify vessels, and this is a description of the regions  
47 in question, and this is the same as it has been, and there's  
48 been some modification of the port descriptions, but that's all

1 been brought up today.  
2  
3 Working with NMFS, we want to stratify these ports by total  
4 landings, and vessels within these ports, again, will be  
5 stratified by landings, and the degree of their participation in  
6 the cELB program as well, and the number of selections will be  
7 proportional to the weight of each respective strata.  
8  
9 Once selected, the vessels would be contacted that they have  
10 been selected, and it will be determined if the vessel uses P-  
11 Sea WindPlot. If not, an alternate selection will be made. The  
12 selection procedure will be conducted in cooperation with NMFS.  
13 This is -- We're having to work fast and hard and furious, and  
14 some of the normal formal protocols need to be laid aside, and  
15 we need to work together as a team and get the problem solved,  
16 if we're going to be successful.  
17  
18 Where we're headed now, the modifications to the P-Sea WindPlot  
19 are being tested, and the software is complete, and we've  
20 actually installed one, and the vessel will be going out. We'll  
21 be installing others next week, and we need to -- Once these  
22 have proven successful this month, that they are working, that  
23 they are downloading the information we need, and it's  
24 compatible with what we've been getting, in exactly the same  
25 format, using exactly the same updated users manual, we need to  
26 begin the random selection of boats for measuring effort in  
27 2021, and we also need to jump right on getting the 3G data that  
28 have been downloaded, but have not been acquired, and we stand a  
29 good chance of losing that if we don't get on that quickly.  
30  
31 During the upcoming quarter, our plans are -- My entire crew is  
32 in the office today, and we're here, and we'll be visiting the  
33 boats and helping the captains install the software, and we'll  
34 make arrangements to retrieve any available 3G data, and then  
35 we'll expand our efforts in April, so that we basically have a  
36 full complement going this year. We are proposing that we run  
37 the program for two full years, working out all the details,  
38 before we pass of a turn-key program to NMFS.  
39  
40 Then the costs for this initial proposed program, for the labor,  
41 are not an ongoing cost, but rather we think that, when we  
42 complete this, the ongoing study should require an annual  
43 operating budget sufficient to support about two full-time  
44 equivalent scientific staff.  
45  
46 Here is our budget. The first quarter, what we've done so far,  
47 has cost about \$327,000. As we go forward with the  
48 modifications, for the next couple of years, it's going to cost

1 roughly a million bucks, and I have a breakout of the costs, if  
2 you want to see it. The main thing here is get the program  
3 going and avoid as many technical barriers to success for the  
4 completion. We're in trouble, and we need to get this done.

5  
6 I was also asked to answer some questions that the council staff  
7 was interested in, and I will try to do that right now. The  
8 first question was will the revised P-Sea WindPlot software be  
9 compatible with all operating systems versions that the vessel  
10 may be currently using. A Shrimp AP member noted that some  
11 vessels have very old operating systems.

12  
13 To date, 100 percent of the ninety-four federally-permitted  
14 vessels that we've contacted use P-Sea WindPlot, and we believe  
15 there is good evidence to show that it's the dominant system  
16 used in the offshore fleet, but we doubt that it is universal,  
17 although we have noted that it is entirely compatible with a  
18 wide range of the operating software, from the very old to the  
19 very new. It's a flexible -- It's what we need.

20  
21 Question 2 is will the software be considered an upgrade that  
22 vessel operators will need to pay for, or will it be a free  
23 update? We have paid for it through the SSA funding. The  
24 upgrade has been paid for and will be provided as a free update,  
25 and nobody has to pay.

26  
27 Question 3 is, from the AP presentation, it appears that only  
28 ninety-four vessels were used in the pilot study, and it goes on  
29 and goes on, and I would just like to cut that short. The  
30 ninety-four vessels do not constitute the pilot study fleet.  
31 These were only used to estimate the likelihood that P-Sea  
32 WindPlot was widespread in the fleet. We had good contact  
33 information, and we could contact them in a matter of hours or  
34 days, and not weeks or months, and so the pilot study will be  
35 randomly selected, using the existing protocols from the 577  
36 permitted vessels that we defined above.

37  
38 Question 4 is the sixty-six of the ninety-four vessels were  
39 located in Texas, and that's of the SSA and so forth and so on,  
40 and I would like to just skip to the answer. These vessels were  
41 not intended to be a representative sub-sample of the fleet.  
42 These vessels had known contact information, enabling us to move  
43 forward in a timely fashion, and we had to move forward to draw  
44 the representative sample from the 577 vessels.

45  
46 What will the revisions that the software developer is working  
47 on with Dr. Gallaway address? Well, they address the issue of  
48 determining tow time versus transit. This program -- The beauty

1 of this program is it will provide exactly the same information  
2 as both of the historical ELB and cELB systems.

3  
4 At the end of the program, the data, and hopefully the paired  
5 landings data, will be provided directly to a secure NMFS  
6 server, and we're giving ourselves one to two years to get that  
7 done, where it should -- The data should come in, and a couple  
8 of staff members should be providing it to the NMFS server, and  
9 there should be no interruption in service, once we get it  
10 going.

11  
12 How do you see the effort data collected from the shrimp vessels  
13 being shared with the Science Center in the short term for the  
14 pilot study and the long term, when the modified program is  
15 handed over to the Science Center?

16  
17 We plan on handing over the effort data, in both the short term  
18 and long term, directly to the Science Center without any  
19 complications about who owns what. The revised P-Sea WindPlot  
20 software will also be transferred to NMFS, and so we envision a  
21 direct working relationship between the industry and NMFS, led  
22 by the Southern Shrimp Alliance and NMFS, and our role would be  
23 to facilitate the relationship between the professional  
24 organizations and the agency and the on-the-ground fishermen.

25  
26 That slide now goes into all the background stuff that you might  
27 want to know about, but you might now, but it's back there if  
28 you want to peruse it at your interest, and I tried to go fast,  
29 Leann. If I haven't covered it all, please feel free to ask a  
30 question.

31  
32 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** I think you did very well, considering the  
33 time we have. Thank you, Dr. Gallaway. I would like to open  
34 the floor now to council members or staff or others that may  
35 have questions about Dr. Gallaway's presentation, or comments.  
36 I see a couple of hands up. Mr. Sanchez.

37  
38 **MR. JOHN SANCHEZ:** Thank you, Leann. I just wanted to thank Dr.  
39 Gallaway for a quick and detailed presentation, and, in my  
40 opinion, it sounds like a really viable solution to an expiring  
41 cellular logbook program and the technology, and I'm very  
42 pleased to hear that so much work has been done on this. Thank  
43 you.

44  
45 **DR. GALLAWAY:** Thank you.

46  
47 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. Next, I have Dr. Clay Porch.

48

1 **DR. CLAY PORCH:** Thank you, Benny, for that presentation, and I  
2 think that was really helpful. I just wanted to clarify a  
3 couple of points. First, I think, for Phase 1, you're talking  
4 about collecting the 3G data manually, or assisting us with that  
5 collection, and, two, you would collect the P-Sea WindPlot data  
6 manually. Along with that, you're asking the P-Sea WindPlot  
7 folks to modify the existing tracking software to output vessel  
8 tracking information in a way that we can use it calculate  
9 effort.

10  
11 **DR. GALLAWAY:** That is exactly right.

12  
13 **DR. PORCH:** Okay, and then the last thing is you would be  
14 developing the software for estimating effort from that P-Sea  
15 WindPlot output, right?

16  
17 **DR. GALLAWAY:** Yes, and that's pretty much done, because we  
18 don't need the cELB modifications, and we go back to the string  
19 of consistent data, and so those manuals are -- That server is  
20 actually set up. We've got that software and those developments  
21 already done, and we're -- That's the only place, but we're  
22 ahead of the game there.

23  
24 **DR. PORCH:** So then, for Phase 2, the main thing is that you  
25 would be developing a system to transmit that information  
26 securely and directly to a NMFS server.

27  
28 **DR. GALLAWAY:** That is correct, plus making sure that the people  
29 who are acquiring the -- The captains and the dealers are all on  
30 the same page and know what they're doing. Where these things  
31 fall down usually is people start guessing about what they  
32 should be doing and make wrong guesses, and we're going to try  
33 to train the fleet to where it's as professionally done as  
34 humanly possible.

35  
36 **DR. PORCH:** Okay. Thank you.

37  
38 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Next, we have Dr. Crabtree.

39  
40 **DR. ROY CRABTREE:** This is promising, and it does seem, to me,  
41 that, one, we're going to need to secure funding to get this  
42 done, and, right now, that's hard to say, because, at the  
43 moment, we have funding through December 11, and then it's  
44 unclear what will happen at that point.

45  
46 Then it does seem to me that we would need to work on an  
47 amendment of some sort, which would require that you have to  
48 have the software aboard the vessel, so that, if you're selected

1 to participate in the program, you can actually do that. Now,  
2 it sounds like a high percentage of the fleet is already having  
3 this, and so that wouldn't be that much of a burden, but how you  
4 go about what vessels would be selected, which I guess the  
5 Center and Dr. Gallaway would work out how that protocol works,  
6 but I think you would need an amendment to require that the  
7 permitted vessels have this software onboard.

8  
9 **DR. GALLAWAY:** That's outside the range of what I would be  
10 answering, but my comment is let's see to what extent that is a  
11 problem, before we start addressing the solution, and let's get  
12 out and -- Let's do the work and find out where we need to go  
13 from there.

14  
15 **DR. CRABTREE:** Well, I would caution you about the amount of  
16 time it takes to get through an amendment, and it can be  
17 considerable.

18  
19 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Roy, I agree that, if we need an amendment,  
20 we do want to get started on that, sooner rather than later, and  
21 I think the first step to determining if we need an amendment or  
22 not is to actually have the codified text that's in the rulebook  
23 presented to the council for us to review and have an educated  
24 discussion as to how the regulations are written currently and  
25 where we need to go from there. I would encourage staff to  
26 bring us that back, sooner rather than later, so that we begin  
27 that discussion and really see where we need to land on that.  
28 Mr. Anson, I have you next.

29  
30 **MR. KEVIN ANSON:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Yes, those were a  
31 couple of questions that I had, was the funding and were the  
32 agency was in that, looking down the road. Then the idea of  
33 some sort of amendment, and that's what my comment was going to  
34 be, is it takes us time to get through that, and so it wouldn't  
35 hurt to try to do some of the groundwork in advance, and your  
36 point that you just made is a very good idea, and I would agree.

37  
38 Dr. Gallaway, on Slide 12, you mentioned matching effort with  
39 landings, and you mentioned that you had trip ticket examples  
40 from all of the Gulf states but Alabama, and so I'm just  
41 wondering -- Did we just -- You asked us, and we didn't provide,  
42 or did you not ask, and I don't think it would be an issue, if  
43 it's not too late.

44  
45 **DR. GALLAWAY:** No, I wouldn't say that at all. It's just been  
46 hectic, and we've just been moving on several different fronts  
47 simultaneously, but I'm sure there's no problem. If there is, I  
48 know who to call.

1  
2 **MR. ANSON:** All right. Sounds good. Thank you.  
3  
4 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Mr. Anson, I actually tried to find some of  
5 those for Dr. Gallaway, and I couldn't find a -- I looked on  
6 your website, and I was trying to find just like a blank one to  
7 send to him, a template, but I didn't see one, and so, if you  
8 could send that to him, that would be greatly appreciated, or  
9 send it to me, and I will send it on to him. Next, I have Mr.  
10 Diaz.  
11  
12 **MR. DALE DIAZ:** Thank you, Ms. Bosarge. I agree with Dr.  
13 Crabtree. I do think what Dr. Gallaway has presented is very  
14 promising, and I do want to commend the industry for stepping  
15 up. I mean, there is a great need, and we find ourselves here,  
16 kind of at the last hour, trying to put something together, and  
17 I do want to commend the industry for stepping up.  
18  
19 We talked a little bit about funding, and that's my concern, but  
20 I guess I'm concerned on a couple of levels with funding. It  
21 looks like the industry has already put up over \$300,000 to get  
22 this thing kicked off, and, from Dr. Gallaway's presentation,  
23 there is a question-mark on how it's going to be funded in the  
24 future, and I believe that question-mark has behind it a  
25 question-mark of industry and NOAA, maybe at some split level.  
26  
27 I guess my question would be for Dr. Porch. Is there any  
28 funding to help support this effort in the next couple of years,  
29 Dr. Porch? Then I have a follow-up.  
30  
31 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Dr. Porch.  
32  
33 **DR. PORCH:** Sure. Thank you. There is two issues with regard  
34 to funding, especially if we were going to go forward with LGL.  
35 One, I'm not completely sure we can justify a sole-source  
36 contract, and we would have to bid it out, but, two, at that  
37 level of funding, we don't have any funds to support that. That  
38 would be pretty much unprecedented for this fishery, and we've  
39 never had base funds for that sort of thing, and so we would  
40 need some new funding to come into the system.  
41  
42 Along those lines, one thing I would like to mention is -- I  
43 think it was Mr. Anson that mentioned the potential delay in  
44 this, and we could continue to use the 3G systems. They just  
45 can't transmit. That's what ends on December 7, but the units  
46 will still collect information, and so, as Benny mentioned, we  
47 can download that information directly.  
48

1 We still actually have a lot of units in storage, and so, if  
2 some folks are -- If some of their units are breaking down, we  
3 can actually replace them. It's an added expense, because now  
4 we have to manually go download all the information, which we  
5 could either do with port agents, which is expensive, or maybe  
6 we can work out some system where someone can download the  
7 information on thumb-drives and send it to us.

8  
9 There's a lot of details that need to be worked out there, but  
10 the point is we can still continue to use the 3G system while  
11 the new system is being developed, but, in answer directly to  
12 the question, no, we don't have funds to cover a million dollars  
13 a year for this fishery.

14  
15 **MR. DIAZ:** I would strongly, I guess, ask, request, that you all  
16 do whatever you can to seek out some funding, to see if there's  
17 a way to support this program. I think it's a good program,  
18 from the way it's been described, and I'm excited that the  
19 industry is behind it, and I would encourage you and your staff  
20 to work as closely as possible with the industry and Dr.  
21 Gallaway and try to look for any problems that, at this point,  
22 that could be a deal-killer, because I have a fear that a lot of  
23 money is going to be spent and then something comes up to be a  
24 deal-killer way down the road that might could have been  
25 addressed upfront, and I don't know that that's going to happen,  
26 but that's just in the back of my mind, and so I would ask that  
27 you all please try to work as closely as possible and look at  
28 this thing as closely as possible, to make sure that no money is  
29 wasted here, if possible. Thank you, Dr. Porch.

30  
31 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Thank you, Mr. Diaz, and I would agree. I  
32 hope we get to those types of issues later in this conversation,  
33 but, you know, as far as the cost goes, the old program that we  
34 used to have was on the order of the same cost that we're  
35 looking at now, which is remarkable, because that was quite some  
36 years ago, and I am pulling these costs straight from the  
37 amendment that we had, the framework action to establish funding  
38 responsibilities for that program.

39  
40 I am looking in December of 2018, just for nine months of the  
41 old cELB program, and it was \$800,000 for nine months, and so,  
42 if you carry that out three more months, that's pretty close to  
43 what the cost is here, and we funded that program.

44  
45 NMFS funded that program, for many, many years, and this was  
46 under Dr. Ponwith's time, as the director, and she, at some  
47 point, decided that we were going to switch to the cellular  
48 electronic logbook program, and so that million dollars that had



1 been being spent to have it run through LGL -- She was going to  
2 bring that money in-house and hire some personnel and buy the  
3 equipment and run that program there, and so where did the  
4 million dollars a year go, I guess, that we don't have it now?

5  
6 I'm sure nobody can answer that readily, but I just kind of  
7 wanted to make the point that we have funded this in the past,  
8 and at levels comparable to these, and that money seems to be  
9 evaporating into other areas, I guess, and we need to make this  
10 a priority and try and find the funds, and I understand that  
11 probably can't come from NMFS and that industry is going to have  
12 to work hard to try and push the right buttons and get that  
13 money through, but I hope that that will be a joint effort and  
14 we can make that happen. Next, I have Mr. Sanchez.

15  
16 **MR. SANCHEZ:** Madam Chair, my hand must have still been up.

17  
18 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. No problem. Next, I have Mr.  
19 Schieble.

20  
21 **MR. CHRIS SCHIEBLE:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Both yourself and  
22 Dr. Porch answered my primary question. My main question was  
23 the timing of this and what is the current funding source for  
24 this, and where is it going, and why is there trouble finding a  
25 similar amount of funding for a new program. Dr. Porch answered  
26 my other question.

27  
28 I guess my only other comment is a portion of Louisiana's  
29 offshore fleet may have some, I guess, need for a time or a  
30 buffer or some sort of period of instituting the new technology.  
31 I think a lot of it is antiquated in the fleet right now, and  
32 we'll need a little bit of leeway or buffer period to get this  
33 implemented in most of the fleet, and so it would be good if  
34 something similar to what we're doing with SEFHIER, when we know  
35 when the implementation date will be and how long -- If we could  
36 have a time period of transition over, and that's my only other  
37 comment. Thank you.

38  
39 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Thank you, sir. I appreciate those comments.  
40 I don't see any other hands up, and I think I would like to turn  
41 it over to Dr. Freeman to kind of get us on track and get us  
42 pointed in the right direction for where we need to land on  
43 this, but, first, I see Dr. Porch's hand up, and let's go to him  
44 first.

45  
46 **DR. PORCH:** Thank you. I am not quite sure where the million  
47 dollars came up. I mean, we had -- That's probably closer to  
48 the entire cost of the shrimp program, including stock

1 assessments and everything else, and, in the case, basically  
2 things are more expensive now than they used to be, and we've  
3 been flat funded, and so, just like many people can relate to  
4 that, it basically means that you're going to end up decreasing  
5 services, and so, in other words, when somebody -- Every time we  
6 get a raise and no one pays for it, that's a few positions that  
7 we can't hire, and so that program, like everything else now,  
8 has fewer people supporting it, but I don't recall ever looking  
9 at the books where there is a million dollars going just to the  
10 shrimp effort estimation.

11  
12 Now, there were some reimbursements, through various programs,  
13 for the price of the 3G units that we had, and, in fact, we  
14 still have some in stock, and maybe she was counting -- If  
15 Bonnie gave you those numbers, maybe she is counting the cost of  
16 paying for those 3G units.

17  
18 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Thanks, Clay. Dr. Freeman, do  
19 you want to get us pointed in the right direction and tell us  
20 what you need from this committee, please?

21  
22 **DR. MATT FREEMAN:** I can do that. Ms. Bosarge, would you like  
23 for me to discuss the Shrimp AP motions as well at this point?

24  
25 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Yes, sir.

26  
27 **DR. FREEMAN:** Okay. Dr. Gallaway gave a similar presentation to  
28 the Shrimp AP at their November webinar meeting, and, following  
29 an AP discussion and questions for Dr. Gallaway on his  
30 presentation, they gave a lengthy motion, but a detailed one.

31  
32 The Shrimp AP requests the council to request NMFS to fully  
33 implement and fund a new shrimp effort data collection system,  
34 otherwise known as electronic logbooks, in the Gulf of Mexico  
35 beginning in 2021, based on the methods and the results of the  
36 pilot program using P-Sea WindPlot technology conducted by Dr.  
37 Gallaway. Such a system must collect and analyze effort data  
38 that is sufficient to evaluate compliance with the shrimp  
39 fishing effort cap for sea turtles as well as compliance with  
40 the applicable shrimp fishing effort reduction threshold for  
41 addressing juvenile red snapper bycatch. Such effort data must  
42 also be sufficient to evaluate federal and state marine spatial  
43 management proposals in the Gulf, in order to minimize their  
44 impacts on the shrimp fishery, including, but not limited to,  
45 coral protection areas, artificial reef sites, and NOAA  
46 aquaculture opportunity areas and aquaculture facility sites.  
47 The collect and analysis of this effort data should be, where  
48 feasible, integrated with the agency's collection and analysis

1 of shrimp catch data. Such a system should be limited to  
2 collecting effort data and not be expanded to require shrimp  
3 fishermen to submit landings data, economic data, or gear  
4 information, as these data are already collected in a timely and  
5 efficient manner by means other than electronic logbooks, and so  
6 placing them into the new electronic logbook system for  
7 collecting shrimp effort data would place unnecessary burden on  
8 the fishermen. That motion carried unanimously.

9  
10 At this point, if the committee could direct staff if there are  
11 additional items related to the effort reporting program that  
12 the committee would like explored, and we can do that, and,  
13 again, just if the committee can specify what those requests  
14 are.

15  
16 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. The short and sweet of the motion,  
17 because I think I might have been the only council member that  
18 attended that AP meeting, and I think Dr. Frazer listened in  
19 some too, but it was that the industry and the AP was very  
20 supportive of using the P-Sea WindPlot program, which is our  
21 computer plotter program we have on the boats, to collect the  
22 same effort data that the old cellular electronic logbook device  
23 used to collect.

24  
25 They wanted to see that moved forward and collect pretty much  
26 the same data that we've always collected, and that is to say  
27 they weren't supportive of some of the options that were  
28 presented to the council at the last meeting, where we were  
29 going to expand this program to include collecting gear  
30 information and tow-level data and all these sorts of things,  
31 and they wanted to see our programs continue as it is currently,  
32 with a few minor tweaks, if necessary, just through a different  
33 device, through the P-Sea WindPlot program.

34  
35 Now, I won't say that they were totally opposed to having some  
36 of that information collected at some point in the future, and  
37 there was some discussion about some of that, but, right now,  
38 they wanted to focus on the pressing issue that's in front of us  
39 and just keep that going.

40  
41 **DR. FREEMAN:** Ms. Bosarge, if I can add to that, and that's a  
42 very nice segue, and so, as you mentioned, Dr. Gloeckner gave an  
43 abbreviated presentation to the AP, similar to what was  
44 presented to the council in September, on potential expanded  
45 reporting options, and if I can read that motion.

46  
47 As Ms. Bosarge mentioned, the AP made a motion to recommend that  
48 the council select an option of status quo, so as not to be

1 burdensome to the industry, where the reporting aligns with the  
2 current reporting requirements, and that motion carried  
3 unanimously, and so, again, as Ms. Bosarge mentioned, they were,  
4 in essence, looking at maintaining the current reporting for  
5 effort and not expanding the report at this point.

6  
7 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Thank you, Dr. Freeman. Was there anything  
8 else in that AP report that you wanted to take us through before  
9 we continue this data collection portion of this conversation?

10  
11 **DR. FREEMAN:** I believe those were the two relevant motions for  
12 Dr. Gallaway's presentation, and I believe the remainder can  
13 come up later, when I specifically go through the meeting  
14 summaries.

15  
16 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. I had a question for Dr. Porch. At  
17 our last council meeting, we had a discussion on a lot of  
18 carryover funds that we're going to have, due to the fact that  
19 our meetings have been held virtually and we haven't been able  
20 to have all the AP meetings that we normally have.

21  
22 We have a lot of excess funding that we're going to try and  
23 carry over and utilize, and I would imagine that NMFS is in that  
24 same position, and I don't know to what degree, but I would  
25 think you would have some extra travel funds, and you probably  
26 have some extra money from your white ships that do the surveys,  
27 SEAMAP and such, when they couldn't get out there, and is there  
28 any possibility to use some of this excess funding, as a result  
29 of COVID, towards funding this, come January?

30  
31 **DR. PORCH:** The Southeast Fisheries Science Center no longer has  
32 any carryover that's available. That was -- Some fraction of  
33 the carryover that we did have that wasn't already obligated for  
34 other activities has actually gone into the National Marine  
35 Fisheries Service pool and has been redistributed to other  
36 priority activities.

37  
38 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. That's sad to hear, because, you  
39 know, when we implemented the cellular electronic logbook  
40 program, if you read the document, the council document, about  
41 the funding for that, at that point, the council wrote a letter,  
42 in 2012, requesting that some of this BP money, this RESTORE Act  
43 money and NRDA money, actually be used to fund this electronic  
44 logbook program for the shrimp industry.

45  
46 It's very disheartening that we always seem to take a backseat  
47 to everything else, and there's all this money out there, and we  
48 started asking for it almost a decade ago, and, yet, none of it

1 has been allocated to the things that we really need as an  
2 industry. Mr. Sanchez, go ahead.

3

4 **MR. SANCHEZ:** I appreciate the acknowledgement, but I don't know  
5 why. My hand is, I think, down, and so I have nothing further.

6

7 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. I am going to pose the question,  
8 I guess, to Dr. Porch, and I think Dr. Gloeckner is listening in  
9 as well. Dale mentioned possible headwinds, and I would like to  
10 hear from you. Are there any headwinds that we need to start  
11 working on now, so that this program could possibly become a  
12 reality?

13

14 **DR. PORCH:** I guess I'm not quite sure what you mean in terms of  
15 headwinds.

16

17 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** The one headwind that I think I have heard  
18 rumblings of is the manner in which the data is submitted to you  
19 all. For this project to become a reality and be implemented as  
20 our new logbook program, is email good enough? Is a thumb-drive  
21 good enough? How exactly do you have to have the data in hand?

22

23 It used to be collected by port agents, and we used to actually  
24 have men on the ground that came and got this data off the boat,  
25 and then Dr. Ponwith changed that and put it under this cellular  
26 program, where the data gets uploaded through a cellphone signal  
27 and goes to NMFS.

28

29 Well, the problem with that is that the technology changes so  
30 fast that the devices can't keep up with it, and so that seems  
31 like a no-go, and so how are you going to need to receive this  
32 data for this to become a reality?

33

34 **DR. PORCH:** Well, we can handle it by getting on thumb-drives,  
35 or potentially people mailing in chips, and I don't know that we  
36 could do it by email, and we can look into that, but, ideally,  
37 it would be transmitted to us through a secure site  
38 electronically, which is what would be in Phase 2 of Dr.  
39 Gallaway's proposal.

40

41 We could possibly have it submitted through an API, and maybe  
42 that's the easiest way to go forward, and so I think there is  
43 ways that we can do it, but it just requires somebody to  
44 download the information off of the machine and go ahead and  
45 send it to us, and so it requires a little bit of labor on the  
46 fishermen's part, or somebody, and so, basically, through a  
47 website, a secure website.

48

1 I think it's doable, and it's more labor intensive for us, and  
2 so we'll have to find a way to do it, and it will slow down the  
3 process, given our current budget, because we're not in the  
4 position to hire a lot more people to process the information,  
5 but it could conceivably be done.

6  
7 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. Well, that's good to hear, and so it  
8 sounds like, if we have to use thumb-drives for a little while,  
9 and mail those into you, that we could get by with that for a  
10 while, until we can get something better and more efficient in  
11 place. I have Dr. Simmons' hand up and then Mr. Diaz.

12  
13 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CARRIE SIMMONS:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I  
14 had a question, and I believe it's for the Science Center or  
15 Regional Office, and then also for Ms. Levy. Based on my  
16 understanding of the current ELBs, there is essentially hardware  
17 still that's associated with that that's on the vessels that  
18 could be maintained, and then, eventually, that information  
19 could be collected on the vessels, and then, eventually, someone  
20 could obtain that data, that effort data, off of there.

21  
22 Have the permit holders that are participating in that program  
23 been notified that they should maintain that hardware on their  
24 vessels, and, if that is indeed, I guess, the will of the  
25 council and NMFS, would we need to make any changes to the  
26 regulations based on that?

27  
28 **DR. PORCH:** I can answer that. We're about to send a letter  
29 notifying all the selected permit holders that they need to keep  
30 turning the machine on, so that it collects the information.

31  
32 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Carrie, that machine that we have on the  
33 boat, it really is something that operates in the background,  
34 and we don't mess with it, and we don't really have to do  
35 anything with it, and so I would imagine they will just keep  
36 collecting data, just like they always have, and the fishermen  
37 won't really touch it.

38  
39 Then, hopefully, through Dr. Gallaway's program, as he  
40 mentioned, as he's going out to some of these boats, he can  
41 start collecting some of that information for us and getting  
42 that back to the Science Center.

43  
44 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Thank you.

45  
46 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Then I have Dale Diaz.

47  
48 **MR. DIAZ:** I sent a motion to staff about writing a letter, and

1 if staff could pull that motion up on the board. I know we're  
2 running short on time, and I am just trying to get something out  
3 of this committee that shows some support for the pilot program,  
4 and I am -- If somebody has some other wording they would like  
5 to add to this, I would be willing to accept some amendments. I  
6 am going to ask you to modify my motion just a little bit.

7  
8 **My motion would be for the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management**  
9 **Council to send a letter to the Southeast Fisheries Science**  
10 **Center supporting the development, implementation, and funding**  
11 **of the P-Sea WindPlot program.**

12  
13 **MR. SANCHEZ:** Madam Chair, if I may, I would like to second  
14 that. I am in support of this as well.

15  
16 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay, and so we have a motion by Mr. Diaz,  
17 and we have a second by Mr. Sanchez. Dale, I think we have your  
18 motion on the board. Just make sure that's how you want it  
19 worded, and I think we've got it the way you asked.

20  
21 **MR. DIAZ:** Yes. That's my motion.

22  
23 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Thank you, sir. We have a couple of hands  
24 up. First, I have Mr. Anson.

25  
26 **MR. ANSON:** It's not relative to the motion. I had raised it  
27 earlier, but I would be in support of the motion. Thank you.

28  
29 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Thank you, Mr. Anson. Do I need  
30 to come back to you after the motion, Mr. Anson?

31  
32 **MR. ANSON:** Please.

33  
34 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. Next, we have Dr. Porch.

35  
36 **DR. PORCH:** Thank you. Just to make sure that I was clear on my  
37 earlier comments about funding, the problem is that, here, we  
38 still have -- We probably are still spending around a million  
39 dollars on the whole program, and so this would be asking for  
40 us, if we were to fund Benny's proposal, to come up with an  
41 additional -- We just don't have that kind of funding in our  
42 budget.

43  
44 **MR. DIAZ:** Ms. Bosarge, can I respond, please?

45  
46 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Yes, sir. Go ahead.

47  
48 **MR. DIAZ:** Dr. Porch, I guess what I am wanting to encourage in

1 my motion is that you pursue funding, and, you know, the funding  
2 might -- I don't know how all of this will work out, and it  
3 might be some partnership between federal funding and private  
4 funding, but I just want to encourage us to move forward and try  
5 to get the system up and running, if possible.

6  
7 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Thank you, Mr. Diaz. Is there any further  
8 discussion on the motion on the board? All right. **Seeing none,**  
9 **is there any opposition to the motion? Hearing no opposition,**  
10 **the motion carries.** I am going to circle back to you, Mr.  
11 Anson.

12  
13 **MR. ANSON:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Just following-up on a  
14 couple of things that were brought up in some of the discussion  
15 that's been had in the last five or so minutes, but you had  
16 asked whether or not the funds that would be remaining or left  
17 over from the council's budget would be available, and maybe Dr.  
18 Simmons could address that, and then the second item is do we  
19 need -- You had posed the question, and maybe even Dr. Freeman  
20 posed the question, about specific items that the committee  
21 would need, or the council would need, to direct staff to do,  
22 and so I'm just wondering if that's still out there in your mind  
23 that we need to do.

24  
25 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right, and so I will let Dr. Simmons  
26 follow up on your question, first. Dr. Simmons.

27  
28 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I mean,  
29 that's up to the council's discretion. We have 2020 funds left  
30 over, and I think it was close to a million, I believe, that was  
31 unspent. It's up to the council. We cannot give the money  
32 directly to the feds though. You have to work a different way  
33 to do that, and so we would have to figure that out.

34  
35 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right, and the second part of Kevin's  
36 question -- Yes, Kevin, I think that we're going to need to have  
37 a Shrimp Committee, at a future meeting, hopefully sooner rather  
38 than later, because we're under a time constraint, and we're  
39 going to need to see, number one, how the regulation reads right  
40 now, as far as the requirement to carry an electronic logbook,  
41 if selected by the Science Center.

42  
43 We need to see that regulation in front of us, in order to have  
44 a discussion, an educated discussion, about what kind of  
45 document is needed, if any, I guess. I see Mara's hand up, and  
46 so let me let her chime in, real quick.

47  
48 **MS. LEVY:** Thank you. We could definitely look at the



1 regulation, and it's basically one sentence, but we also need to  
2 look at what details are both in the framework action that you  
3 most recently did to do the cost-sharing and what is in the  
4 amendment that put the ELB into place, because those things  
5 aren't codified, but they are what the council did, and they do  
6 have the costs and what equipment is required and discussions  
7 about expectations for permit holders, et cetera, and more  
8 details about the program.

9  
10 I just encourage staff, when they put together the current  
11 requirements, or the background, that we look at both the  
12 regulation as well as the details that are not in the  
13 regulations.

14  
15 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Thank you, Ms. Levy. The other  
16 thing that we'll need to have before us will be some more  
17 detailed information on some of these costs and some of these  
18 budgets. We probably need to have in front of us the budget  
19 that Clay was speaking to, the I guess million dollars that they  
20 have right now, and what that million covers for them, what they  
21 run with that. Dr. Gallaway's costs for this program, he put  
22 that in his slides, but we can get some more details on that.  
23 Then what it will cost the industry, what the cost to industry  
24 will be, if we move forward to this, if there is any, but that  
25 needs be fleshed out, and so I think those are all things that  
26 we can take up at a future committee meeting. Mr. Anson, did  
27 you have some more follow-up on that?

28  
29 **MR. ANSON:** Just one more thing to add to the background  
30 material, and it's something that we've discussed off and on  
31 when we have issues related to the ELB units and permits in the  
32 shrimp fishery, and that is a selection process, and that might  
33 need to come from the Science Center staff, as to how the ELB  
34 units, the requirements for the vessels, were established, and  
35 so some of that background material as well could be helpful.  
36 Thank you.

37  
38 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. That sounds good, and I think that Dr.  
39 Gallaway was actually involved in that initial parameterization  
40 of how those were selected, because it is pretty detailed and  
41 pretty in-depth, as to how they went about that, and I think  
42 it's actually in some of our background briefing materials for  
43 this meeting, but I think you're right, that that would be nice  
44 to have presented to us in more detail, when we have more time,  
45 and so that's three things right there that we need to put on a  
46 future Shrimp Committee agenda. I see a couple more hands up  
47 again, and we have Mr. Diaz and then Dr. Gallaway.

48

1 **MR. DIAZ:** Thank you, Madam Chairman. If I could, I emailed  
2 another motion to staff, a little while ago, if they could bring  
3 that up, and so this other motion, Leann, would be to try to get  
4 at what you were just speaking at just now, and so what I'm  
5 trying to accomplish is I'm trying to accomplish to get the  
6 staff to do some of this work for us and to come back at a  
7 future meeting and answer most of the budget questions that you  
8 just talked about, so we had that information in front of us at  
9 future meetings. We might have to wordsmith this a little bit.

10  
11 **My motion would be to request staff to initiate a white paper**  
12 **that explores the associated costs with the expanded number of**  
13 **shrimp vessels participating in the pilot effort collection**  
14 **program using P-Sea WindPlot.** If I get a second, I will  
15 elaborate a little bit more.

16  
17 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay, and so we have a motion on the board.  
18 Do we have a second?

19  
20 **MR. SANCHEZ:** I will second it.

21  
22 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Thank you. Dale, I like your  
23 motion. While they're getting it up there, the one thing I  
24 would say, and I'm not sure if you're capturing this in that  
25 motion right now, but I think it's not only the costs that are  
26 associated with the P-Sea WindPlot program, but we need to be  
27 able to compare that to the funds that may be available, and so  
28 I think that's going to go back to looking at the budget that we  
29 have within the Science Center right now that Clay spoke to and  
30 how those funds are allocated, so that we know do we have the  
31 right number of personnel, how do things need to change there,  
32 and then, also, compare it to I guess the possibility of some of  
33 the carryover funds that are available from the council, which  
34 that's going to be a big discussion, but that needs to be in  
35 front of us, if we think that could be an option. As long as  
36 staff is capturing all of that in this motion, I'm okay with it,  
37 but, if you don't think they are, then we could amend it, if you  
38 would like.

39  
40 **MR. DIAZ:** You basically laid out a lot of what I was going to  
41 say for rationale, and so I will leave that up to Dr. Simmons,  
42 if they need me to change the wording of the motion, and I  
43 intend for them to bring back as much information as they can  
44 related to budget on the items you just discussed and any other  
45 items that they come up with. Is the wording okay, Dr. Simmons,  
46 do you think, to capture what me and Ms. Bosarge are talking  
47 about?

1 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Dr. Simmons.

2  
3 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I think we  
4 might need to bring some of that back to the Admin/Budget  
5 Committee that we're talking about, and then, as far as the  
6 Science Center's budget goes, I mean, we can certainly work with  
7 them, and perhaps put some of that information, potentially, in  
8 the white paper, but we're talking about two different budgets  
9 here, two different pots of money, and so I just think we need  
10 to avoid confusion with that, and be clear, but, yes, we'll do  
11 our best to bring this back to the council with this  
12 information.

13  
14 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Thank you, Dr. Simmons. I think  
15 your motion is fine as it stands then, Dale. Dr. Gallaway,  
16 you've had your hand up for a while. Is it okay if we dispense  
17 with this motion and then I will come to you, or do you want to  
18 go ahead and chime-in now?

19  
20 **DR. GALLAWAY:** You can come back to me.

21  
22 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. Thank you, sir. All right. Is there  
23 any further discussion on the motion on the board? **Hearing**  
24 **none, is there any opposition to the motion on the board?**  
25 **Hearing no opposition, the motion carries.** Dr. Gallaway, go  
26 ahead.

27  
28 **DR. GALLAWAY:** Slide 30 has more detail, and you may notice that  
29 it's heavily weighted towards senior people and travel and  
30 programming, because we've got to go from Brownsville to the  
31 Florida Keys and meeting with all the individual ports and the  
32 port leaders, getting buy-in and sales and cooperation for this  
33 program.

34  
35 We've got to identify people who have their electronics within  
36 port and put together a program that has total buy-in, and so  
37 that's why these initial costs are so heavy. We need to rely on  
38 our history with the industry and make sure that we're all on  
39 the same page and looking to find a working answer, and so  
40 that's the breakout of the budget, and more detail is provided  
41 in Slide 30, which you may have already noted that.

42  
43 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Thank you, Dr. Gallaway, and I'm sure that  
44 staff will probably reach out to you, if they have any  
45 questions, because they'll be bringing some of this information  
46 back to us at a future meeting.

47  
48 All right, and so we are, obviously, over time, and we do have

1 one other agenda item here, an AP summary, but we'll bring this  
2 to a close, and, anything that we missed, we can pick up at Full  
3 Council, unless Dr. Freeman has something that he thinks we need  
4 to follow-up on right now.

5  
6 **DR. FREEMAN:** I think that will be fine, to go through the rest  
7 of this at Full Council.

8  
9 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Then I will bring the Shrimp  
10 Committee to a close.

11  
12 (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned on November 30, 2020.)

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14 - - -  
15