

FINAL Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Game and Inland Fisheries  
7870 Villa Park Drive  
Henrico, Virginia 23228

January 17, 2018  
10:00 am

**Present:** Ms. Catherine Claiborne, **Chairwoman**, Mr. Leon Boyd, **Vice-Chairman**, Ms. Nicole Butterworth, Mr. Clayton Spruill, Mr. Douglas Dear, Mr. Ryan Brown, Mr. Brian Vincent, Mr. Brian Ball; **Absent:** Dr. Mamie Parker, Mr. Watkins Abbitt, Mr. H. S. Caudill; **Executive Director:** Mr. Robert W. "Bob" Duncan; **Senior Leadership Team:** Mr. Gary Martel, Mr. Darin Moore, Mr. Jeff Trollinger, Mr. David Whitehurst, Mr. Lee Walker, Dr. Gray Anderson, Dr. Mike Bednarski, Mr. Tom Guess, Major Scott Naff, Major Bryan Young. Ms. Kelci Block, Assistant Attorney General was in attendance.

The Chairwoman opened the meeting at 10:00 am (time was changed from 9:00 am to 10:00 am because of inclement weather, allowing board members longer travel time). The Chairwoman welcomed everyone and noted for the record that a quorum was present for the meeting. Board Member Brian Vincent read the mission statement and CPO Ivan Kopelove led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The Chairwoman announced there would be a closed session during the Board meeting.

**Recognition of Employees and Others:** There were no Recognitions.

**Approval of the October 19, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes of the October 19, 2017 Board meeting have been distributed and posted to the website for review. The Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Boyd made a motion to approve the October 19, 2017 Board Minutes as submitted. It was seconded by Mr. Brown. Ayes: Claiborne, Boyd, Butterworth, Spruill, Dear, Brown, Vincent, Ball.

**Public Comments (Non-Agenda Items):** The Chairwoman called for Public Comments Non-Agenda Items, hearing none, she moved on with the Agenda.

**Committee Meeting Reports:**

**Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee:**

The Chairwoman called on Mr. Ryan Brown, Acting Chairman of the Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee for a report. Mr. Brown reported that the Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee met on January 16, 2018. Mr. Brown called on Dr. Gary Costanzo.

Dr. Gary Costanzo presented the Migratory Game Bird Hunting seasons – Federal Frameworks and Staff Recommendations.

After discussion and comments, the Chairwoman thanked Dr. Costanzo for his presentation.

The Chairwoman called for a motion, Mr. Boyd made a motion, Ms. Chairwoman, I hereby move the Board approve the 2018-19 Migratory Game Bird season and bag limit recommendations, and the Falconry season and bag limit recommendations as presented by staff, and further authorize staff to modify seasons and bag limits, if necessary, to comply with the final Federal Frameworks. It was seconded by Mr. Ball. Ayes: Claiborne, Boyd, Butterworth, Spruill, Dear, Brown, Vincent, Ball.

Mr. Brown called on Dr. Mike Bednarski for a presentation.

Dr. Mike Bednarski presented the Preliminary Review – Aquatic Wildlife Issues.

After discussion and comments, the Chairwoman thanked Dr. Bednarski for his presentation.

#### **Financial, Audit, and Compliance Committee:**

The Chairwoman called on Mr. Leon Boyd, Chairman of the Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee for a report. Mr. Boyd reported that the Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee met on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Mr. Boyd called on Mr. Darin Moore.

Mr. Darin Moore presented the FY 18 Budget to Actual and the General Assembly Biennial Budget Proposal.

After discussion and questions, the Chairwoman thanked Mr. Moore for his presentation.

#### **Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee:**

The Chairwoman called on Mr. Clayton Spruill, Chairman of the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee for a report. Mr. Spruill reported that the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee met on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Mr. Spruill called on Mr. Lee Walker.

Mr. Lee Walker gave an update on Media Services and Virginia Wildlife.

After discussion and questions, the Chairwoman thanked Mr. Walker for his update.

**Closed Session:** The Chairwoman called on Mr. Boyd for the Closed Session Motion.

*Madam Chair:*

*I move that the Board go into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.3 of the Code of Virginia for discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Board.*

*Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.2 of the Code of Virginia for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public offices, appointees, or employees of the Department of Game and Inland fisheries specifically regarding:*

- (i) The performance of the Director.*

*This closed meeting will be attended only by members of the board. However, pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (F), the Board requests legal counsel, the Department Executive Director, the Deputy Director, and the Director of Human Resources as it believes their presence will reasonably aid the Board in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting.*

It was seconded by Ms. Butterworth. Ayes: Claiborne, Boyd, Butterworth, Spruill, Dear, Brown, Vincent, Ball.

The Board went into Closed Session at 11:10 am

Mr. Brian Ball departed at 12:30 pm

The Board meeting reconvened at 1:15 pm

The Board Chairwoman called on Mr. Dear for the reading of the Certification.

*Certification of Closed Meeting  
January 17, 2018*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries conducted a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and*

*WHEREAS, section 2.2-3712.D of the Code requires a certification by this Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries hereby certifies that, to the best of each members knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening that closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.*

It was seconded by Mr. Boyd. Ayes: Claiborne, Boyd, Butterworth, Spruill, Dear, Brown, Vincent

The Board Secretary conducted the following voice roll call vote:

Claiborne – Aye  
Boyd – Aye  
Butterworth – Aye  
Spruill – Aye  
Dear – Aye  
Brown – Aye  
Vincent – Aye

The Chairwoman called on Mr. Brown for a motion.

Motion presented from the Closed Session:

Mr. Brown made a motion, Ms. Chairwoman, I move the following Resolution.

#### Delegation of Authority for Leases

*WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia, Board of Game and Inland Fisheries (the “Board”) owns lands and waters across Virginia for the purpose of conserving the Commonwealth’s wildlife, connecting people to wildlife and the outdoors, and protecting wildlife resources and people while enjoying those resources;*

*WHEREAS, the board has the authority under VA Code 29.1-105 to enter into contracts respecting and to lease any land or buildings leased or owned by it to other entities with the permission of the Governor;*

*WHEREAS, pursuant to VA Code 29.1-103 (12), the Board may adopt resolutions conferring upon the Director all such powers, authorities and duties as the Board possesses; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Board deems it to be in the best interests of the Commonwealth of Virginia and Department of Game and Inland Fisheries “DGIF” to confer its authority under VA Code 29.105 up the Executive Director of DGIF;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT*

*RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the Executive Director of DGIF or any person he may designate (the "Authorized Officers"), with the approval of the Governor, to negotiate and enter into contracts respecting and to lease any land or buildings leased or owned by it to any entity listed in VA Code 29.1-105 for terms not to exceed five years, on behalf of the Board;*

*RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Authorized Officers may execute and deliver all documents necessary or appropriate in order to effectuate such leases and contracts; and,*

*RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Authorized Officers shall have the power to execute and deliver all documents necessary or appropriate to renew such leases and contracts for terms not longer than five years.*

It was seconded by Mr. Boyd. Ayes: Claiborne, Boyd, Butterworth, Spruill, Dear, Brown, Vincent

The Chairwoman called on the Director for his Director's Report.

**Director's Report:** The Director reported on the following items:

- The Director called on Major Scott Naff who reported on Law Enforcement finding of an elderly gentleman lost in the woods and was found safely by DGIF CPO's
- The Director called on Dr. Mike Bednarski who introduced Mr. Brendan Delbos, the new Hatchery Coordinator
- The Director called on Dr. Gray Anderson to give an update on the CWD
- The Director called on Mr. Tom Guess to give an update on Legislation at the general Assembly

**Chairwoman's Report:** The Chairwoman reported on the following items:

- The Chairwoman announced that Board member Mr. Brian Ball has been appointed by Governor Northam to be the Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade and will be leaving our DGIF Board
- The Chairwoman thanked the VA Wildlife Foundation for the nice reception given in the Board's honor on Tuesday, January 16, 2018
- The Chairwoman announced the Sportsman Caucus will be Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:00 am

The Chairwoman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and asked if anyone had any further questions or comments. She announced the next meeting will be Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 9:00 am and adjourned the meeting at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
/s/ Frances Boswell