

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

January 24, 2019
9:00 am

Present: Mr. Douglas Dear, **Chairman,** Dr. Mamie Parker, **Vice-Chairwoman;** **Board Members:** Ms. Nicole Butterworth, Mr. Leon Boyd, Ms. Karen Terwilliger, Mr. Ryan Brown, Mr. Brian Vincent, Ms. Catherine Claiborne, Mr. G. K. Washington; **Absent:** Mr. H. S. Caudill, Mr. John Daniel, II; **Executive Director:** Mr. Robert W. “Bob” Duncan; **Senior Leadership Team:** Mr. Gary Martel, Mr. Tom Guess, Mr. Darin Moore, Dr. Gray Anderson, Dr. Mike Bednarski, Ms. Rebecca Lane, Major Ryan Young, Major Scott Naff, Mr. Lee Walker

Ms. Kelci Block, Assistant Attorney General attended the Board meeting.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9:00 am. The Chairman welcomed everyone attending and noted for the record that a quorum was present for the meeting and announced there would be a Closed Session. The Chairman called on Board member Brian Vincent to read the Mission Statement and Canine Officer Jim Patrillo to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Recognition of Employees and Others: The Chairman called on Director Bob Duncan for recognitions.

The Director introduced Ms. Laura Newell-Furniss from Hunters for the Hungry. The Director presented Ms. Newell-Furniss with a plaque from the Department in honor of her Retirement and talked about the partnership the Department has had with Laura and Hunters for the Hungry for many years.

The Director called Mr. David Whitehurst to the podium for a presentation and plaque. Mr. Whitehurst has retired recently from the Department with 44 years of service. The Director talked about the many awards and honors Mr. Whitehurst has received through his 44 years and wished him well on his retirement.

The Director recognized 3 members of the JLARC staff visiting our Board meeting. Ms. Christine Wolfe, Ms. Kate Hopkins, and Mr. Joe McMahon

Approval of the October 25, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of the October 25, 2018 minutes have been distributed and posted to the website for review. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the October 25, 2018 Board minutes as submitted. It was seconded by Dr. Parker. Ayes: Dear, Parker Claiborne, Terwilliger, Butterworth, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Brown

Public Comments (Non-Agenda Items): The Chairman called for Public Comments

- Ms. Erin Ward of Fairfax, VA spoke regarding the Proposed Regulations (Little Hunting Creek)
- Mr. Randolph J. Myers of Northern, VA spoke regarding the Proposed Regulations (Little Hunting Creek)
- Ms. Claire Kluskens of Alexandria, VA spoke regarding the Proposed Regulations (Little Hunting Creek)
- Ms. Debbie Pittman of Northumberland, VA spoke regarding Dog Deer Hunting
- Mr. Judge Carlton of Charlotte Court House, VA spoke regarding Dog Deer Hunting
- Mr. William Birch of Champlain, VA spoke regarding Dog Hunting
- Mr. John Lynch of Caret, VA spoke regarding Hunting from Roads
- Ms. Kathy Funk of Stuarts Draft, VA spoke regarding a Separate Elk Tag for Hunting
- Mr. Sean McGowan of McDonough, GA spoke regarding Officer concerns

Committee Meeting Reports:

Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee:

The Chairman called on Mr. Ryan Brown to report on the Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee.

Mr. Brown reported that the Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee had met on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 and called on Dr. Gray Anderson to present the Commercial Harvest of Snapping Turtle Regulation.

After discussion and comments, the Chairman thanked Dr. Anderson for his presentation.

The Chairman called for a motion, Mr. Brown made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board adopt the proposed regulation amendments for the commercial harvest of snapping turtles as presented by staff, with an effective date of March 1, 2019, to align with the permits issuance and harvest period. It was seconded by Ms. Terwilliger. Ayes: Brown, Butterworth, Washington, Boyd, Claiborne, Vincent, Parker, Dear, Terwilliger

Mr. Brown called on Dr. Gary Costanzo to present the Proposed Migratory Bird Regulations.

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

The Chairman called for a motion, Mr. Boyd made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board adopt the preliminary 2019-2020 Migratory Game Bird Season and Bag Limit recommendations as presented by staff, for advertisement to the public. It was seconded by Mr. Brown. Ayes: Brown, Butterworth, Washington, Boyd, Claiborne, Vincent, Parker, Dear, Terwilliger

Mr. Brown called on Dr. Gray Anderson to present the Public Scoping Period Summary.

After discussion and comments, the Chairman thanked Dr. Anderson for his presentation.

Public Comments on Agenda Items:

- Ms. Stefanie Kitchen from the VA Farm Bureau Federation spoke regarding the Public Scoping Period
- Mr. Mack Smith from Lexington, VA spoke regarding Bear Damage

Mr. Brown advised the Board that The Elk Management Plan was tabled in Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee until the March 20, 2019 Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee meeting.

Public Comments on Agenda Items:

- Ms. Stefanie Kitchen from the VA Farm Bureau spoke regarding The Elk Management Plan
- Mr. Jason Carter from Daleville, VA spoke regarding The Elk Management Plan

Mr. Brown called on Dr. Gray Anderson for a Clinch Mountain WMA Update.

After discussion and comments, the Chairman thanked Dr. Anderson for his update.

Mr. Brown called on Ms. Jaime Sajecki for a presentation on the Black Bear Program.

After discussion and comments, the Chairman thanked Ms. Sajecki for her update.

Public Comments on Agenda Items:

- Mr. Hunter Thrasher of Buchanan, VA spoke regarding Bear Management
- Mr. Richard Sprinkle of Buchanan, VA spoke regarding Bear Management

Mr. Brown called on Dr. Gray Anderson for an update on CWD (Chronic Waste Disease)

After discussion and comments, the Chairman thanked Dr. Anderson for his update.

Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee:

The Chairman called on Dr. Mamie Parker to report on the Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee meeting.

Dr. Parker reported that the Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee met on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 and called on Mr. Darin Moore for a presentation.

Mr. Moore presented the Boat Registration and Title Proposal.

After discussion and comments, the Chairman thanked Mr. Moore for his presentation.

The Chairman asked for a motion, Dr. Parker made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board adopt the original fee increase proposal for Boat Registration and Titles.

This includes:

- *An increase for all boat registrations, duplicate registration, change in boat motor, and duplicate title by \$5; and*
- *An increase for title, supplemental lien title, and transfer by \$3*

It was seconded by Mr. Brown. Ayes: Dear, Brown, Claiborne, Terwilliger, Butterworth, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Parker

Mr. Moore continued with the FY19 First Quarter Finance Report and an Audit Update.

After discussion and comments, the Chairman thanked Mr. Moore for his presentations.

Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee:

The Chairman called on Mr. Brian Vincent for a report of the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee.

Mr. Vincent reported that the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee had met on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 and Mr. Lee Walker, and Ms. Carol Heiser and Ms. Paige Pearson had updates and presentations on Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) Lapsed Boating Retention Report, Native Plants for the Capital Region and Updates on the Virginia Wildlife Magazine and notes from the Field and Social Media.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Vincent for his report.

Closed Session:

The Chairman called on Mr. Brown to read the Closed Session Motion. Mr. Vincent seconded the motion. Ayes: Dear, Parker, Terwilliger, Claiborne, Butterworth, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Brown.

The Board went into Closed Session at 1:15 pm.

*Closed Meeting Motion
January 24, 2019*

Mr. Chair,

I move that the Board go to into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.3 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, with respect to:

- (i) Real property located in: Carroll, Madison, and Chesterfield Counties*

And Finally, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, 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, the Real Property Managers, the Senior Legislative Analyst (JLARC), and the Principal Legislative Analyst (JLARC), as it believes their presence will reasonably aid the Board in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting.

*********Mr. Ryan Brown did not participate in a portion of the Closed Session governed by Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries specifically regarding:

- (i) The performance of the Director**

The Board reconvened at 3:15 pm

The Board Chairman called on Ms. Terwilliger to read the Certification of Closed Meeting

*Certification of Closed Meeting
January 24, 2019*

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 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 member's 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 the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

It was seconded by Ms. Butterworth. Ayes: Dear, Parker, Claiborne, Terwilliger, Butterworth, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Brown

The Board Secretary conducted the following voice roll call vote:

Ms. Claiborne – Aye
Ms. Terwilliger – Aye
Ms. Butterworth – Aye
Mr. Vincent – Aye
Mr. Washington – Aye
Mr. Boyd – Aye
Dr. Parker – Aye
Mr. Dear – Aye
Mr. Brown – Aye **

**Board member Ryan Brown did not participate in a portion of the Closed Session governed by Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries specifically regarding;

- (i) The performance of the Director

The Chairman called on Mr. Ryan Brown for motions:

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board authorize the Director to acquire approximately 144.51 acres of land in Chesterfield County, Virginia, and such authorization shall be according to state procedures. It was seconded by Ms. Claiborne. Ayes: Dear, Parker, Claiborne, Terwilliger, Butterworth, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Brown

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board authorize the Director to proceed to acquire approximately 97+ acres of land in Madison County, Virginia, and such authorization shall be according to state procedures. It was seconded by Ms. Butterworth. Ayes: Dear, Parker, Claiborne, Terwilliger, Butterworth, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Brown

Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board authorize the Director to proceed to acquire approximately 86+ acres of land in Carroll County, Virginia, and such authorization shall be according to state procedures. It was seconded by Mr. Boyd. Ayes: Dear, Parker, Claiborne, Terwilliger, Butterworth, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Brown

Director's Report: The Chairman called on Mr. Bob Duncan for his report. Mr. Duncan reported on:

- The Director called on Major Bryan Young for a Law report concerning the National Wild Turkey Federation Leadership Banquet where Officer Wes Billings was recognized as Officer of the Year.
- Major Young reported that the OPS Section (Office of Professional Standards) has begun using an Electronic Commendation complaint system and from May 2018 until December 2018 (63 Commendations calls were received and 3 negative calls were received)
- Major Young reported that Law Enforcement has begun a Game Warden/CPO Appreciation Retiree program and during September and October had reached out to the 121 retirees.
- Announced April 27, 2019 as the date for the VA One Shot Turkey Hunt

Chairman's Report:

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance at today's meeting and thanked staff for the work and for their presentations.

The Chairman asked if anyone had any questions or comments, hearing none, the Chairman announced the next Board meeting will be Thursday, March 21, 2019 and Dr. Parker made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 3:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Frances Boswell

