

Final Board Meeting Minutes

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

February 22, 2017
9:00 am

Present: Mr. Bill Bolling, **Chairman**, Ms. Catherine Claiborne, **Vice Chairwoman**, Mr. Leon Boyd, Mr. Chuck Cunningham, Ms. Nicole Butterworth, Mr. Clayton Spruill, Mr. Douglas Dear, Mr. Watkins Abbitt, Mr. Leon Turner; **Absent:** Mr. H. S. Caudill; **Executive Director:** Mr. Robert W. "Bob" Duncan; **Senior Leadership Team:** Mr. Lee Walker, Mr. Gary Martel, Mr. Darin Moore, Mr. Tom Guess, Major Scott Naff, Major Bryan Young, Dr. Gray Anderson, Dr. Mike Bednarski, Mr. David Whitehurst. Mr. Matt Hull with the Attorney General's Office was in attendance.

Mr. Clayton Spruill arrived at 9:30 am.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9:00 am and welcomed everyone and noted for the record that a quorum was present for the meeting. Board member Mr. Chuck Cunningham read the mission statement and Chairman Bill Bolling led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The Chairman announced there would be a closed session during the Board meeting.

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

The Director recognized Conservation Police Officer Alberto Medina and read a letter of commendation the Agency had received on Mr. Medina's performance as an Officer.

Approval of the January 11, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of the January 11, 2017 Board meeting have been distributed and posted to the website for review. The Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Cunningham made a motion to approve the January 11, 2017 Board Minutes as submitted. It was seconded by Mr. Abbitt. Ayes: Bolling, Claiborne, Boyd, Cunningham, Butterworth, Spruill, Dear, Abbitt, Turner

Public comments (Non- Agenda Items): The Chairman called for Public comments for Non-Agenda items.

- Mr. Floyd F. Smith of Goochland, VA spoke regarding the Future of DGIF

Committee Meeting Reports:

Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee:

The Chairman called on Mr. Watkins Abbitt for a report on the Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee who reported a Wildlife, Boat & Law Enforcement Committee meeting was held on February

21, 2017. Mr. Abbitt called on Dr. Gray Anderson and staff to give the Staff Recommendations for the 2017 Hunting Regulations.

Dr. Anderson presented the Furbearers and Trapping Regulations and Amendments: 4 VAC 15-40-30; 4 VAC 15-40-275; 4 VAC 15-20-50; 4 VAC 15-30-50; 4 VAC 16 40-225

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

- Mr. Kurt Butler of Mechanicsville, VA spoke regarding Furbearers

Mr. Abbitt made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board approve the 2017-2018 Furbearers and Trapping Staff recommendations. It was seconded by Ms. Claiborne, Ayes: Bolling, Claiborne, Spruill, Butterworth, Turner, Abbitt, Boyd, Cunningham, and Dear.

Dr. Anderson presented the Small Game, Bears, Turkey, Migratory Birds, Waterfowl Blinds and Deer Staff recommendations and Amendments by the Board.

Small Game: 4 VAC15-190-10

Bear: 4 VAC 15-50-11; 4 VAC 15-50-71; 4 VAC 15-50-120

(Amendment by the Board – 4VAC 15-50-71 to add Zone 8 to the regulation)

Mr. Boyd made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I hereby move the Board add Zone 8 to the Regulation 4 VAC15-50-71, Mr. Abbitt seconded the motion, Ayes: Bolling, Claiborne, Spruill, Butterworth, Turner, Abbitt, Boyd, Cunningham, Dear.

(Amendment by the Board – 4 VAC 15-50-11 to add Zone 8 to the regulation)

Mr. Abbitt made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I hereby move the Board add Zone 8 to the Regulation 4 VAC 15-50-11, Ms. Claiborne seconded the motion, Ayes: Bolling, Claiborne, Spruill, Butterworth, Turner, Abbitt, Boyd, Cunningham, and Dear.

- Mr. Steve Nicely of Buchanan, VA spoke regarding Bear
- Mr. Richard Sprinkle of Clifton Forge, VA spoke regarding Bear
- Mr. Wilmer Stoneman of Richmond, VA spoke regarding Bear

Turkey: 4 VAC 15-240-40; 4 VAC 15-240-60; 4 VAC 15-240-70

Migratory Birds: 4 VAC 15-290-140; 4 VAC 15-80-10; 4 VAC 15-260-160

Waterfowls Blinds: 4 VAC 15-260-15 (New); 4 VAC 15-260-35; 4 VAC 15-260-45 (New); 4 VAC 15-260-115 (New); 4 VAC 15-260-116;

- Mr. Todd Cocker of Richmond, VA spoke regarding Waterfowl

- Mr. Brandon Sibley of 8825 Woodpecker Road, VA spoke regarding Waterfowl

Deer: 4 VAC 15-40-287 (New); 4 VAC 15-90-70; 4 VAC 15-90-80; 4 VAC-15-90-89; 4 VAC 15-90-90; 4 VAC 15-90-91; 4 VAC 15-90-280; 4 VAC 15-90-291; 4 VAC 15-90-294; 4 VAC 15-270-96 (New)

(Amendment by the Board: 4 VAC 15-90-90)

Mr. Abbitt made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board Increase the regulation to 2 Deer per day. Mr. Boyd seconded the motion. Ayes: Bolling, Claiborne, Spruill, Butterworth, Turner, Abbitt, Boyd, Cunningham, Dear

(Amendment by the Board: 4 VAC 15-90-294)

Mr. Abbitt made a motion to change “deer” to “cervids” in the regulation. It was seconded by Mr. Boyd. Ayes: Bolling, Claiborne, Spruill, Butterworth, Turner, Abbitt, Boyd, Cunningham, Dear

- Mr. Denny Quaiff of Chesterfield, VA spoke regarding Deer

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

Mr. Abbitt made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board approve the Small Game, Bear, Turkey, Migratory Birds, Waterfowl, and Deer Staff Recommended Regulations with Amendments. It was seconded by Ms. Claiborne. Ayes: Bolling, Claiborne, Spruill, Butterworth, Turner, Abbitt, Boyd, Cunningham, Dear

Migratory Gamebird Seasons and Bag Limits: Dr. Gary Costanzo presented the Final Migratory Gamebird Seasons and bag limits.

- Mr. Terry Wagnor of Powhatan, VA spoke regarding Migratory Waterfowl

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

Mr. Abbitt made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I hereby move the Board approve the 2107-208 Migratory Game Bird season and bag limit recommendations, and the Falconry season and bag limit recommendations as presented by staff, and further authorized staff to modify seasons and bag limits, if necessary, to comply with the final Federal Frameworks. It was seconded by Ms. Claiborne. Ayes: Bolling, Claiborne, Spruill, Butterworth, Turner, Abbitt, Boyd, Cunningham, Dear

Finance, Audit & Compliance Committee:

The Chairman called on Ms. Catherine Claiborne for a report on the Finance, Audit, & Compliance Committee who reported the Finance Committee met on February 16, 2017. Ms. Claiborne called on Mr. Darin Moore to give an update on Revenues and Budget versus Expenditures, Cash balances, and the Proposed FY 17-18 Biennial Budget.

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

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

- The Director called on Major Scott Naff and Major Bryan Young for Law Enforcement updates
- The Director called on Tom Guess for a Legislative Update
- The Director announced that the Department is working with VCU and Ducks Unlimited and are planning a Waterfowl Symposium for March 22, 2017
- The Director announced the Wildlife Expo in Fishersville, VA
- The Director announced the One Shot Turkey Shoot is April 22, 2017
- The Director called on Tom Guess for a Wake boarding update
- The Director called on Davis Whitehurst for a Capital Program update

Closed Session: The Chairman called for a motion to move into Closed Session.

Mr. Dear read the Closed Session Motion.

Closed Meeting Motion

February 22, 2017

Mr. Chairman,

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, and for consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel; specifically, for consultation with counsel regarding the agency's legal authority to enter into a cooperative agreement to provide public shooting opportunities 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: Appomattox, Bath, Buchanan, Carroll, the City of Chesapeake, James City, New Kent, Pittsylvania, Roanoke, Rockbridge, Spotsylvania, and Sussex.

Secondly, 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 Director, the Deputy Director, the Bureau Director, the Real Property Manager, the Recreation Program Manager, 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. Claiborne. Ayes: Bolling, Boyd, Butterworth, Cunningham, Spruill, Dear, Turner, Abbitt, Claiborne

The Board went into Closed Session at 12:00 noon

The Board reconvened at 1:00 pm

Mr. Bolling read the Certification of the Closed Meeting.

*Certification of Closed Meeting
February 22, 2017*

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 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. Claiborne. Ayes: Bolling, Claiborne, Boyd, Turner, Spruill, Dear, Abbitt, Cunningham, Butterworth

The Board Secretary conducted the following voice roll call vote:

Claiborne	Cunningham
Spruill	Dear
Bolling	Abbitt
Butterworth	Boyd
Turner	

Chairman's Report: The Chairman reported on the following items:

- The Chairman announced the 2017-2018 Nominating Committee would be Watkins Abbitt, Chairman, Chuck Cunningham and Nicole Butterworth

The Chairman announced the next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 9:00 am. Hearing no further business or comments, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frances Boswell

/s/