

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

April 12, 2018

Present: Ms. Catherine Claiborne, **Chairwoman**, Mr. Leon Boyd, **Vice-Chairman**, Ms. Nicole Butterworth, Mr. Clayton Spruill, Mr. Douglas Dear, Mr. Ryan Brown, Mr. Brian Ball, Dr. Mamie Parker, Mr. Watkins Abbitt; **Absent:** Mr. Brian Vincent, Mr. H. S. Caudill; **Executive Director:** Mr. Robert W. “Bob” Duncan; **Senior Leadership Team:** Mr. Gary Martel, Mr. Tom Guess, Dr. Gray Anderson, Dr. Mike Bednarski, Mr. Lee Walker, Major Scott Naff, Mr. Darin Moore.

The Chairwoman welcomed Ms. Kelci Block, Assistant Attorney General.

The Chairwoman welcomed Ms. Stephanie Kitchen from the VA Farm Bureau.

The Chairwoman opened the meeting at 9:00 am. The Chairwoman welcomed everyone and noted for the record that a quorum was present for the meeting. Board Member Leon Boyd read the Mission Statement and Sgt. Ivan Kopelove led the 10th Academy of Law Enforcement Recruits in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

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

The Director introduced Mr. Matt Strickler, the new Secretary of Natural Resources.

The Director called on Ms. Jenny West who recognized Ms. Marika Byrd for her donation to VA Wildlife Foundation to support the VA Wildlife Grant Program.

The Director called on Major Scott Naff to introduce Senior Officer Gregory D. Hall as The Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for 2018.

The Director called on Major Scott Naff to introduce New Captain Jaime Davis.

Approval of the January 17, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes:

The Minutes of the January 17, 2018 minutes 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 January 17, 2018 Board minutes as submitted. It was second by Mr. Brown. Ayes: Claiborne, Boyd, Butterworth, Spruill, Dear, Brown, Ball, Abbitt.

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

- Mr. Stephen A. Murden of Chester VA wanted to thank CPO's for finding his father (who was lost) in the woods on Thanksgiving night.
- Mr. Richard Hall of Martinsville, VA spoke regarding Conservation Police Training and Review.

Dr. Mamie Parker arrived at 9:50 am.

Committee Meeting Reports:

Wildlife, Boat and Law Enforcement Committee:

The Chairwoman called on Mr. Watkins Abbitt, Chairman of the Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee for a report.

Mr. Abbitt proposed to approve the Migratory Game Birds hunting Seasons-Federal Frameworks as passed by Committee as a single vote with no staff presentation. Mr. Abbitt made a motion to amend the Dove season recommendation so that only the opening day of Dove season would begin at noon and all other days would begin one-half hour before sunrise. The amendment was seconded by Mr. Dear. Ayes: Claiborne, Spruill, Ball, Butterworth, Abbitt, Boyd, Parker, Dear, Brown. Mr. Abbitt then made a motion to accept the Migratory Game Birds hunting Seasons as amended. This was seconded by Mr. Boyd. Ayes: Claiborne, Boyd, Butterworth, Spruill, Dear, Brown, Ball, Parker, Abbitt.

Mr. Abbitt called on Board Member Ryan Brown to present a Chronic Waste Disease (CWD) Resolution from the Board. Mr. Brown read the Resolution and explained the need for the Resolution.

Mr. Abbitt made a motion to approve the Board Resolution on CWD, it was seconded by Mr. Dear. Ayes: Claiborne, Spruill, Ball, Butterworth, Abbitt, Boyd, Parker, Dear, Brown.

Mr. Dear recommended the Department email information out on the CWD to inform hunters of the disease.

Mr. Abbitt called on Dr. Mike Bednarski to present the Aquatic Wildlife. Dr. Bednarski presented the Aquatic Wildlife – Staff Recommendations.

After discussion and questions, Mr. Abbitt thanked Dr. Bednarski for his presentation.

Mr. Abbitt made a motion, I move that the Board approve the Aquatic Wildlife-Staff Recommendations, it was seconded by Mr. Brown. Ayes: Claiborne, Spruill, Ball, Butterworth, Abbitt, Boyd, Parker, Dear, Brown.

Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee:

The Chairwoman called on Mr. Leon Boyd, Chairman of the Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee for a report. Mr. Boyd called on Mr. Darin Moore to present the Financial Report Summary.

Mr. Spruill had questions on the Compensation Plan and asked for a copy of the Plan.

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

Closed Session: The Chairwoman called on Mr. Ryan Brown for the Closed Session Motion.

*Closed Meeting Motion
April 12, 2018*

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, with respect to:

- (i) Real property located in: Accomack, Highland, Northampton, Roanoke and Amelia.*

Further, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.1.7 of the Code of Virginia for consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

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:

- (ii) 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 Federal Liaison and Capital Planning Director, the Real Property Managers, and the Assistant Chief,

Terrestrial Wildlife Division, and the State Wetlands biologist 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, Ball, Abbitt, Parker.

The Board went into Closed Session at 11:45 am.

Mr. Brian Ball and Mr. Watkins Abbitt departed at 1:35 pm.

The Board reconvened at 1:35 pm.

The Board Chairwoman called on Dr. Parker to read the Certification of Closed Meeting.

*Certification of Closed Meeting
April 12, 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 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: Claiborne, Boyd, Butterworth, Spruill, Dear, Brown, Parker

The Board Secretary conducted the following voice roll call vote:

Ms. Claiborne – Aye
Mr. Boyd – Aye
Ms. Butterworth – Aye
Mr. Spruill – Aye
Mr. Dear – Aye
Mr. Brown – Aye
Dr. Parker – Aye

The Chairwoman called on Mr. Douglas Dear for 2 motions.

Ms. Chairwoman, I move that the board authorize the Director to proceed to acquire approximately 120+ acres of land in Roanoke, Virginia and such authorization shall be according to state procedures.

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

Ms. Chairwoman, I move that the Board authorize the Director to proceed to acquire approximately 192+ acres of land in Highland County, Virginia, and such authorization shall be according to state procedures.

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

Chairwoman's Report: The Chairwoman reported on the following item:

- The Chairwoman appointed a Nominating Committee for 2018-2019 Chair and Vice Chair:

Chairman - Leon Boyd
Nicole Butterworth
Brian Ball

The Chairwoman asked for additional comments.

- Mr. Abbitt commented that the Board needs to be aware of Agency Legislation
- At the next Board meeting Mr. Abbitt would like a discussion on “a ban for shooting female elk, Antlerless only.”

The Chairwoman announced the next Board meeting will be Thursday, May 31, 2018 at 9:00 am and adjourned the meeting at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Boswell

/s/