

FINAL Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee
7870 Villa Park Drive – Board Room
Henrico, VA 23228

August 22, 2017

Present: Mr. Watkins Abbitt, Chairman, Mr. Ryan Brown, Mr. Douglas Dear, Ms. Nicole Butterworth,
Board members: Mr. Leon Boyd, Mr. H. S. Caudill, Mr. Brian Vincent, Mr. Brian Ball; **Executive Director:**
Mr. Robert W. “Bob” Duncan; **Senior Leadership Team:** Mr. Gary Martel, Mr. Darin Moore, Mr. Lee
Walker, Mr. David Whitehurst, Mr. Tom Guess, Dr. Gray Anderson, Dr. Mike Bednarski, Major Scott
Naff, Major Bryan Young.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and noted for the record that a quorum was present. The Chairman welcomed staff and public in attendance to the meeting. The Chairman recognized the new board members in attendance, Mr. Ryan Brown, Mr. Brian Ball, Mr. Brian Vincent.

Approval of the February 21, 2017 Committee Meeting Minutes: The Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2017 Wildlife, Boat and Law Enforcement Committee. Ms. Butterworth made a motion to approve the February 21, 2017 Committee Meeting Minutes and Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Brown, Dear, Butterworth.

Mr. Brian Vincent arrived at 10:15 am

Werowocomoco/York River Duck Blinds:

Dr. Gray Anderson presented the recommendation (4 VAC 125-260-115) and public comments that prohibits the licensing of non-riparian blinds in public waters in front of National Park Service land along the north shore of the York River, and York River State land along the South shore of the York River.

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

Mr. Brown made a motion. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board support this regulation as proposed by staff. Mr. Dear seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Brown, Dear, Butterworth.

Off Cycle Terrestrial Wildlife Regulation Proposals:

Dr. Gray Anderson presented 4 VAC 15-70-60 (Bobcat Archery Hunting) and public comments which would add sling bow to provide consistency with HB 1938.

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

Ms. Butterworth made a motion. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board support regulation 4 VAC 15-70-60 as proposed by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Brown. Ayes: Abbitt, Brown, Dear, Butterworth

Dr. Gray Anderson presented 4 VAC 15-90-70 (Deer Archery hunting) and Public Comments which allows counties participating in the urban archery program to exclude non-urban portions of the county.

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

Mr. Brown made a motion. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board support regulation 4 VAC 15-90-70 as proposed by staff. It was seconded by Ms. Butterworth. Ayes: Abbitt, Brown, Dear, Butterworth

Public Comments:

- Mr. John Taylor of Pilgrim Knob spoke regarding Wildlife Values Posted

Statewide Habitat Management Efforts:

Mr. Steve Living, Region 1, Lands and Facility Regional Manager presented the Habitat Management Efforts in working with Prescribed Burning Program.

After questions and comments, the Chairman thanked Mr. Living for his presentation.

Law Update:

Major Bryan Young gave updates on the Dispatch Office, the new academy and partnering with DCR and VRMC.

Major Scott Naff gave updates on Boating Safety and undercover operations.

After questions and comments, the Chairman thanked Major Naff and Major Young for this comments.

Director's Report:

Mr. Duncan reported on:

- Elk Case in Buchanan County update
- The 2017 Sportsman Show
- Upcoming Hunting Season
- New DGIF Signs, Logos, and Flagpoles
- Disease animal update
- 4,000 more acres of land purchased

Bureau Updates:

Mr. Whitehurst gave the Bureau Update:

- Aquatic regulations
- 2018 WBL and Board meeting timeline

Chairman's Report: The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement Committee meeting and for all the staff presentations. The Chairman advised Ms. Butterworth will be conducting the October meeting in his absence.

Next Meeting Date: The Chairman announced the next meeting date will be Wednesday, October 18, 2017.

Additional Business/Comments: The Chairman called on Mr. Caudill for comments. Mr. Caudill spoke regarding coon hunting and a need for permits.

Adjournment: The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Boswell
/s/