

FINAL Board Minutes

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

January 23, 2020  
9:00 am

**Present:** Dr. Mamie Parker, **Chair, Vice Chair:** Mr. John Daniel, II; **Board Members:** Mr. G. K. Washington, Mr. Leon Boyd, Ms. Karen Terwilliger, Mr. John Daniel, Mr. Tom Sadler, Ms. Catherine Claiborne, Mr. Frank Adams, Mr. Douglas Dear, Mr. Brian Vincent; **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan Brown; **Director's Working Group:** Mr. Gary Martel, Mr. Tom Guess, Dr. Gray Anderson, Dr. Mike Bednarski, Mr. Darin Moore, Mr. Lee Walker, Ms. Rebecca Lane, Major Bryan Young, Major Scott Naff, Ms. Paige Pearson

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

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:00 am. The Chair welcomed everyone attending the meeting, wishing everyone a Happy New Year and Happy New Decade, the Chair noted for the record that a quorum was present, and announced there would be a Closed Session during the meeting.

The Chair called on Mr. Brian Vincent to read the Mission Statement and CPO Cramer to lead the pledge to the flag.

**Recognition of Employees and Others:**

The Chair called on Director Ryan Brown for Recognitions.

\*\*The Director explained how the Agenda was going to be handled today to accommodate our Guests who are here to speak. He explained that after the Recognition of Employees we would rearrange the Agenda to move the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel presentation to the front of the Agenda and then hear the comments of our guests.\*\*

The Director called on Dr. Gray Anderson to introduce Mr. Gary Norman as the Wildlife Biologist of the Year.

Dr. Anderson also introduced Mr. Toby McClanahan as the Lands and Access Specialist of the Year.

The Director called on Dr. Mike Bednarski to introduce Mr. Tim Lane as the Fish Biologist of the Year.

The Director called on Ms. Rebecca Lane who introduced the Human Resources Department,

Mr. Lester Brantley, Human Resources Assistant Director  
Ms. Deanna Wood, Human Resources Generalist  
Ms. Lisa Fore, Human Resources Assistant  
Mr. Bill Brenzovich, Human Resource Special Project Consultant  
Mr. Ray Hudgins, Human Resources Recruiter and Employee Engagement Coordinator  
Mr. Christian Spencer, Human Resource Consultant  
Mr. Josue Rodriguez, Human Resources Generalist

The Director introduced Mr. Rick Perry who is working in the Law Enforcement Division working on Career Track and Change of Command.

**Approval of the October 24, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes of the October 24, 2019 minutes have been distributed and posted to the website for review. The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Terwilliger made a motion to approve the October 24, 2019 Board minutes as submitted. It was seconded by Mr. Daniel.

Ayes: Parker, Washington, Boyd, Terwilliger, Daniel, Claiborne, Vincent, Dear, Sadler, Adams

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

- Judge Charlton from Charlotte Court House, VA spoke regarding Fox Trial
- Robert Robbins from Coeburn, VA spoke regarding Elk Management Zone

\*\* The Chair and the Director rearranged the Agenda and moved the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel Feasibility Study to Public Comments section of the Agenda

The Chair called on Ms. Becky Gwynn to present the HRBT Feasibility Study.

After discussion and comments, the Chair called the Public to the podium to make comments.

- Michael Parr of Washington, DC spoke regarding HRBT Bird Colony
- Terri Cuthriell of Smithfield, VA spoke regarding HRBT Seabirds
- Roberta Kellam of Franktown, VA spoke regarding the HRBT Birds

- Kim Harrell of Richmond, VA spoke regarding the HRBT Bird Colony
- John Roberts of Richmond, VA spoke regarding the South Island
- Laura Neale of Fairfield, VA spoke regarding the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel
- Guy Babineau of Earlysville, VA spoke regarding the HRBT
- Barbara Slatcher of Richmond, VA spoke regarding the Birds at Hampton Roads
- Teta Kain of Gloucester, VA spoke regarding the Birds nesting on HRBT South Island
- Wendy Ealding of Midlothian, VA spoke regarding the Hampton Roads Bridge tunnel Tern Colony
- Julie Kacmarcik of Chester, VA spoke regarding the HRBT
- Ross Furbush of Alexandria, VA spoke regarding the Hampton Roads Bridge – Terns
- Cathy Martens of Charlottesville, VA spoke regarding the Save the Terns
- Aylett Lipford of Richmond, VA spoke regarding the HRBT Seabirds
- Robert Ake of Norfolk, VA spoke regarding the HRBT bird nesting
- Nancy Archer of Richmond, VA spoke regarding the HRBT impact on Birds
- Bill Leighty of Richmond, VA spoke regarding the HRBT Bird issue
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Director Brown thanked all the speakers for coming to our Board meeting today and thanked them for their professionalism at the podium.

The Chair thanked all the speakers and read a portion of the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel Resolution to the HRBT attendees to show DGIF’s commitment

- Be it resolved that the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries supports the staff’s efforts to collaborate with the Virginia Department of Transportation and find solutions that allow the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel expansion to continue while protecting these important to the greatest extent possible;

Be it also resolved that the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries conveys its intention via this resolution to the Secretaries of Natural Resources and Transportation.

Adopted the 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2019

The Chair called for Break at 10:55 am

The Chair resumed the meeting at 11:05 am

### **Committee Meeting Reports:**

**Law Enforcement Committee:** The Chair called on Mr. G. K. Washington to report on the Law Enforcement Committee.

Mr. Washington reported that the First Law Enforcement Committee met on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 and had an Update from Lt. Ham and Mr. Bobby Mawyer on the Accreditation process and heard updates from Major Naff on operations and from Major Bryan Young on Administration.

After discussion and comments, the Chair thanked Mr. Washington for his Committee update.

The Chair requested a have a Resolution prepared for the march 19, 2020 meeting on Accreditation.

**Wildlife and Boat Committee:** The Chair called on Mr. Leon Boyd to report on the Wildlife and Boat committee meeting.

Mr. Boyd reported that the Wildlife and Boat Committee met on Wednesday, January 22, 2020. The committee had a presentation from the Blue Ridge PRISM and had presentations on Wood Turtle Management Plan and Fish Habitat Improvements and the Wild Trout Management Plan. The Waterfowl Regulation Changes were presented and voted on, and updates on Wildlife Division and Fish Division were given.

Mr. Boyd called on Dr. Gray Anderson to give a CWD Update,

Mr. Boyd called on Ms. Becky Gwynn for a Relevancy Roadmap Update.

Mr. Boyd called on Dr. Gary Costanzo to present the Waterfowl Regulation Changes to the Board

After discussion and comments, the Chair thanked Dr. Anderson, Ms. Gwynn, and Dr. Costanzo for their updates and presentations.

The Chair called for a motion, Mr. Boyd made a motion, Madame Chair, I move that the Full board approve the 2020-2021 Migratory Game Bird Season and Bag Limit recommendations as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Daniel. Ayes: Parker, Washington, Boyd, Terwilliger, Daniel, Claiborne, Vincent, Dear, Sadler, Adams

**Finance, Audit, & Compliance:** The Chair reported on the Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee meeting.

Dr. Parker reported that the Finance, Audit, and Compliance committee met on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 and called on Mr. Darin Moore for a Finance Report.

Mr. Moore presented the FY20 Second Quarter Finance Report.

After discussion and comments, the Chair thanked Mr. Moore for his report.

**Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee:** The Chair called on Ms. Karen Terwilliger to report on the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee.

Mr. Lee Walker introduced 2 new employees, Ms. Molly Kirk as the New Creative Content Manager and Ms. Lindsay Kagalis as the Special Events Coordinator.

Ms. Terwilliger reported that the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee met on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 and heard updates on 2019 RBFF and R 3, an update on Recreational Outdoor Plan/Relevancy Roadmap and the DGIF Website.

The Director introduced Mr. George Braxton, the Diversity and Inclusion Officer who presented his Diversity and Inclusion First 90 Day Plan.

After discussion and comments, the Chair thanked Mr. Braxton for his report.

### **Closed Session**

The Chair called on Mr. Daniel for the reading of the Closed Session Motion.

*Closed Meeting Motion  
January 23, 2020*

*Madam Chair,*

*I move that the Board go into a closed meeting pursuant to:*

*(1) 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, Northampton, and Washington 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 Assistant Chief Wildlife Resources Division, Regional Manager for DGIF Region 1, and the Real Property Manager as it believes their presence will reasonably aid the Board in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting.*

Ms. Claiborne seconded the motion, Ayes: Parker, Claiborne, Daniel, Terwilliger, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Dear, Sadler, Adams

The Board went into Closed Session at 12:45 pm

The Board meeting reconvened at 3:25 pm

The Chair called on Ms. Claiborne for the reading of the Certification of Closed Meeting.

*Certification of Closed Meeting  
January 23, 2020*

*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 Mr. Daniel. Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Terwilliger, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Parker, Dear, Sadler, Adams

The Board Secretary conducted the following voice roll call vote:

Mrs. Claiborne

Aye

Mr. Washington

Aye

Mr. Daniel	Aye	Mr. Boyd	Aye
Mr. Sadler	Aye	Dr. Parker	Aye
Mr. Dear	Aye	Mr. Vincent	Aye
Mr. Adams	Aye	Ms. Terwilliger	Aye

\*\*The Chair called on Mr. Dear for a motion. Madame Chair, I move that the Board authorize the Director to acquire approximately 8,654+ acres of land in Accomack and Northampton Counties, Virginia, and such authorization shall be according to state procedures. It was seconded by Mr. Boyd. Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Parker, Dear, Sadler, Adams, Terwilliger

\*\* The Chair called on Ms. Claiborne for a motion. Madame Chair, I move that the Board authorized the Director to proceed to acquire approximately 113+ acres of land in Washington County, Virginia, and such authorization shall be according to state procedures. It was seconded by Mr. Washington. Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Parker, Dear, Sadler, Adams, Terwilliger

**Director's Report:** The Chair called on Executive Director Ryan Brown for his report.

The Director reported on:

- Director called on Mr. Tom Guess, Legislative and Policy Analyst to give a Legislative update
- The Director gave the Harvest update – Harvested 2,083 Bears, 178,675 Deer, 1,773 Turkeys
- The first year of Electronic checking of Bears was exceptionally well received
- The Director signed an MOU with the Ward Burton Foundation to help fund the cost of our Canine Program

**Chair Report:** The Chair thanked Staff for their work and presentations. The Chair announced the next Board Meeting will be Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 9:00 am and adjourned the meeting at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Boswell

/s/