

Draft Meeting Minutes
Wildlife and Boat Committee
Board of Wildlife Resources
7870 Villa Park Drive – Board Room
Henrico, VA 23228

March 18, 2026
10:00 am

Present: Mr. Jon Cooper, **Chair**, Mr. James Edmunds, **Vice Chair**, Ms. Laura Walters, Mr. Will Wampler (alternate), Mr. Lynwood Broaddus (alternate); **Board Members** in attendance: Ms. Marlee Dance, Mr. George Terwilliger, Mr. Woody Woodall, **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan Brown; **Deputy Directors:** Ms. Becky Gwynn and Mr. Darin Moore; **Director’s Working Group:** Dr. Mike Bednarski, Ms. Stacey Brown, Mr. George Braxton, Mr. Michael Lipford, Ms. Shelby Crouch, Mr. Paul Kugelman, Ms. Rebecca Lane (virtual)

The Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and welcomed everyone. The Chair noted for the record that a Quorum was present for today’s meeting.

Approval of the January 21, 2026, Committee Meeting Minutes:

The Chair called for a motion to approve the January 21, 2026, Wildlife and Boat Committee minutes. Ms. Walters made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2026, committee meeting. Mr. Edmunds seconded the motion. Ayes: Cooper, Edmunds, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus

Public Comment - Non-Agenda Item: The Chair called for Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items.

- Gary Kimberlin spoke regarding dog hunting

Migratory Bird Regulations & Bag Limit Proposal: Mr. Cooper called on Mr. Ben Lewis for a presentation.

Mr. Lewis gave a presentation on the Migratory Bird Regulations & Bag Limit Proposals.

After comments and questions, The Chair thanked Mr. Lewis for his presentation of the Migratory Bird Regulations and Bag Limit Proposal.

The Chair called for a motion, Ms. Walters made a motion, I move that the Wildlife and Boat Committee advance the 2026-2027 Migratory Game Bird Season and Bag Limit recommendations as presented by staff, for consideration by the full Board at the March 19, 2026, meeting. It was second by Mr. Cooper. Ayes: Cooper, Edmunds, Wampler, Walters, Broaddus.

Public Scoping Period: The Chair called on Dr. Mike Bednarski, Ms. Stacey Brown, and Ms. Amy Martin for Sportfishing, Boating, and Nongame public scoping period reports.

Dr. Mike Bednarski spoke on Sportfishing for the Public Scoping Period

Ms. Stacey Brown spoke on Boating for the Public Scoping Period

Ms. Amy Martin spoke on Nongame for the Public Scoping Period

Public Comments:

- Mr. Jonathan Anderson spoke regarding Smith Mountain Lake Striper Club.
- Mr. Jim Johnston spoke regarding Northern Snakehead (virtual)
- Mr. Eric Spade spoke regarding dog hunting (virtual)

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Dr. Bednarski, Ms. Brown and Ms. Martin for their reports.

The Chair called for break at 11:00 am

The Chair resumed the meeting at 11:10 am

CWD Plan: The Chair called on Dr. John Tracey and Ms. Alexandra Lombard for a presentation on the CWD Plan.

Dr. John Tracey and Ms. Alexandra Lombard spoke on four overarching goals:

- Prevent the spread of CWD into new areas of Virginia and reduce transmission in areas where CWD is known to occur.
- Detect CWD in new areas of Virginia at low apparent prevalence levels.
- Increase support and awareness of partners and the public regarding CWD management efforts.
- Contribute to the minimization of human exposure to CWD prions.

The Wildlife Division Report, The Fish Division Report, The Boating Division Update, The Nongame Program Update were not presented due to time constraints and will be heard on Thursday, March 19, 2026 at the Board Meeting.

Director's Report: The Chair called on Mr. Ryan Brown for a Director's report.

The Director reported:

- The Director thanked all the staff for their reports and recognized their knowledge and dedication to their presentations and reports.

Chair's Report: The Chair thanked all the staff for their reports and presentations. The Chair asked if there were any additional business or comments, hearing none, he announced the next meeting will be Wednesday, May 20, 2026, and adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully Submitted,
Frances Boswell
/s/