

Draft Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Wildlife Resources
7870 Villa Park Drive
Henrico, VA 23228

March 19, 2026
9:00 am

Present: Mr. George Terwilliger, **Chair;** Mr. Michael Formica, **Vice Chair;** **Board Members:** Mr. Lynwood Broaddus, Mr. Will Wampler, Mr. Jon Cooper, Mr. James Edmunds, Ms. Marlee Dance, Ms. Laura Walters, Mr. Woody Woodall, Mr. James Maclin; **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan J. Brown; **Deputy Directors:** Ms. Becky Gwynn and Mr. Darin Moore; **Director's Working Group:** Dr. Mike Bednarski, Mr. George Braxton, Mr. Michael Lipford, Ms. Stacey Brown, Ms. Rebecca Lane, Ms. Shelby Crouch, Mr. Paul Kugelman, Colonel John Cobb

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair noted for the record that a quorum was present.

The Chair called on Mr. Edmunds to read the Mission Statement.

The Chair led the Pledge to the Flag.

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

Recognition of Employees and Others: The Chair called on Mr. Ryan Brown for recognitions.

Director Brown called on Ms. Kristin Mullins, Voluntary Coordinator, to recognize Mr. Jason Wilmoth as Volunteer of the Year Award for 2025.

Director Brown called on Mr. Alex McCrickard to recognize Mr. Stephen Miklandric for the Master Angler VI Award.

Director Brown called on Mr. Michael Lipford to recognize Mr. T. Moss to receive the Henry S. Mosby Award from the Virginia Chapter of the Wildlife Society. (Mr. Moss was virtually attending the board meeting).

Director Brown called on Mr. Michael Lipford to make a tribute in memory of the life and service of Mr. David Garst, a DWR employee who passed away recently. After his tribute he called for a moment of silence.

Approval of the January 22, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of January 22, 2026, Board meeting minutes have been distributed and posted to website for review. The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Formica made a motion to approve the January 22, 2026, Board Meeting minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Edmunds. Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus, Dance

Public Comments – Non-Agenda Items:

- Mr. Raymond Carter spoke regarding Funding and Outreach
- Mr. Gary Kimberlin spoke regarding hound hunting
- Mr. Chris Rush spoke regarding hound hunting
- Mr. Todd Grubbs spoke regarding hound hunting
- Mr. Judge Charlton spoke regarding hound hunting
- Mr. John Anderson regarding Smith Mountain Lake and Striper Club

Committee Reports:

Wildlife and Boat Committee:

The Chair called on Mr. Jon Cooper for an update of the Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting.

Mr. Cooper gave a report on the Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting from March 18, 2026.

- Migratory Game Bird Season and Bag Limits Proposals Proposal.

Mr. Cooper made a motion: I move that the Board of Wildlife Resources approve the preliminary 2026-2027 Migratory Game Bird Season and Bag Limit recommendations as presented by staff. It was seconded by Ms. Dance.

Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus, Dance

Mr. Cooper reported that Dr. Mike Bednarski gave a report on Public Scoping Period for Sportfishing.

Ms. Stacey Brown reported on Public Scoping Period for Boating.

Ms. Amy Martin reported on Public Scoping Period for Nongame.

Mr. Cooper reported that Dr. John Tracey and Ms. Alexandra Lombard gave a presentation on the CWD Plan.

The Chair thanked Mr. Cooper for his report of the Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting of March 18, 2026.

After comments and questions, The Chair thanked Mr. Cooper for his report.

Finance, Audit, & Compliance Committee Report:

The Chair called on Mr. Woody Woodall for an update on the Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee meeting from March 18, 2026.

Mr. Woodall gave an update on the Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee meeting of March 18, 2026. Mr. Woodall reported Mr. Darin Moore, Mr. Tim Springer and Ms. Stephanie Adams gave a Spending Plan and Budgeting Process Report. Mr. Woodall reported that Mr. Darin Moore and Ms. Doreen Richmond reported on Virginia DWR fee comparisons with other states to Hunt, Fish, Trap, Boat and Watch Wildlife.

Law Enforcement Committee Report:

The Chair called on Mr. Will Wampler for an update on the Law Enforcement Committee meeting of March 18, 2026.

Mr. Wampler gave an update on the Law Enforcement Committee meeting of March 18, 2026.

Mr. Wampler reported that First Sergeant Amanda Nevel gave an overview of the 15th Basic Academy and presented the 10 Recruits. The Recruits gave their name, where they will be assigned and where they had moved from.

Mr. Wampler reported that Captain Rob Ham gave an update on the VCP Roadmap.

Mr. Wampler reported that Colonel Cobb gave a law enforcement update, reporting that there would be a leadership Work Session at Holiday Lake on March 24-26, 2026, there will be a SNHR Public Safety & Law Enforcement Services Display on April 24, 2026, at First Landing State Park. The 8th Annual Game Warden/CPO Retiree Newsletter has just been completed. The 8th Annual VCP Awards Ceremony will be on March 18, 2026, recognizing 32 officers and staff members.

The Chair thanked Mr. Wampler for his update at the Law Enforcement Committee meeting of March 18, 2026.

Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee Report:

The Chair called on Ms. Laura Walters for an update on the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee meeting of March 18, 2026.

Ms. Walters gave an update on the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee Report of March 18, 2026.

Ms. Walters reported that Ms. Steenburgh gave an update on the 2026 Restore the Wild Art Contest held at Main Steet Station on March 6, 2026, there were 254 total art pieces were submitted for the event and 400+ people attended and the committee raised \$4,000 through the Raffle and Silent Auction and the pieces of art were sold.

Ms. Walters reported Mr. Jimmy Mootz gave an overview of Hunter Education Program reporting that 8,500 students were trained, and our volunteers hours were 15,831 representing \$425,000 in grant funds. Our program “The Outdoors are Better Together: has taken off and are having amazing programs and participation Mr. Bryan Moyer gave the Outreach Division Director’s Updated and reported the Restore the Wild Committee did an awesome job on with 254 pieces of art submitted and 400+ people in attendance, the Virginia Nasp State Tournament was also a Hugh success , she reported the 8,500 students were trained and volunteers hour were 15,731, the Elk Lottery and the 3rd Virginia Birding Classic and the banding of baby Falcon Chicks is coming soon, and Outreach and DWR are partnering with Nascar driver Chase Bristow to promote fishing.

The Chair thanked Ms. Walters for her update on the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee meeting of March 18, 2026.

Next Meeting Date: The Chair announced that the next meeting date will be Thursday, May 21, 2026.

Closed Session: The Chair announced the Board would go into Close Session at 10:20 am.

Ms. Dance read the Close Session Motion; it was seconded by Mr. Wampler.

Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus, Dance

Closed Meeting Motion, March 19, 2026

Mr. Chairman,

I move that the Board go into a closed meeting:

First, 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, discipline, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of the Department of Wildlife Resources, specifically regarding the performance of the Director.

Second, 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 public body, specifically regarding real estate located in the City of Chesapeake.

This closed meeting will be attended only by members of the Board. However, pursuant to Section 2.2-3712(F), the Board requests the Department Director, the Deputy Directors, and the Real Property Manager to also attend this meeting, as it believes their presence will reasonably aid the Board in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 1:05 pm.

Certification of Closed Meeting

March 19, 2026

*WHEREAS, the Board of Wildlife Resources 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 Wildlife Resources 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.

The Board Secretary called a Roll Call vote: Ayes: Mr. Woodall, Mr. Edmunds, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Maclin, Ms. Walters, Mr. Wampler, Mr. Broaddus, Ms. Dance, Mr. Terwilliger, Mr. Formica

The Chair called on Mr. Woodall for a motion. I move that the Board of the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources authorize the Director to acquire +243 acres in the City of Chesapeake, VA including the procurement of certain due diligence items. It was seconded by Mr. Formica.

Ayes: Mr. Woodall, Mr. Edmunds, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Maclin, Ms. Walters, Mr. Wampler, Mr. Broaddus, Ms. Dance, Mr. Terwilliger, Mr. Formica

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

Director Brown thanked the Board for their support of this agency and thanked the staff for their presentations and work and dedication to this agency.

Chairman's Report:

The Chair thanked the public who attended and welcomed their remarks. Mr. Terwilliger thanked all staff for their tremendous work for DWR. He appreciates all their hard work and enjoys their presentations at the Board meetings.

Additional Business/Comments: The Chair asked if any additional business or comments.

The Chair asked if anyone had any further comments, hearing none, he adjourned the Board meeting at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Frances Boswell