

Teleconference/Virtual

FINAL Meeting Minutes

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

May 17, 2021  
10:00 am

**Present:** Ms. Catherine Claiborne, **Chair;** Mr. Leon Boyd, Mr. Frank Adams, Mr. Tom Sadler, Alternate; **Absent:** Ms. Karen Terwilliger; **Board Members** in attendance: Mr. G. K. Washington, Mr. John Daniel, **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan J. Brown; **Director's Working Group:** Mr. Gary Martel, Ms. Becky Gwynn, Mr. Darin Moore, Dr. Mike Bednarski, Dr. Gray Anderson, Mr. Tom Guess, Ms. Paige Pearson, Colonel John Cobb.

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

The Chair read the meeting procedure, this meeting is proceeding under Item 4-0.01, subsection G of the Appropriation Act and section 2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia. It is being held by electronic communication, as the COVID-19 virus has made a physical meeting of the Committee impracticable. This emergency imposed by COVID-19 is observed by Executive Orders issued by the Governor of Virginia. The Committee's actions today shall be solely limited to those matters included on the agenda; all of these proposed actions are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and discharge lawful purposes, duties and responsibilities of this Committee.

The Chair called on the Board secretary for a roll call vote of Board members present: Ms. Catherine Claiborne, Mr. Leon Boyd, Mr. Frank Adams, Dr. Mamie Parker, Mr. Tom Sadler Mr. G. K. Washington and Mr. John Daniel.

**Approval of the March 16, 2021 Committee Meeting Minutes:**

The Chair called for a motion to approve the March 16, 2021 Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Sadler made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2021 Committee meeting. Mr. Adams seconded the motion.

The Board secretary called a roll call vote: Ayes: Claiborne, Adams, Boyd, Sadler

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

➤ Mr. Reg Cook spoke regarding Deer Hound Hunting  
The Chair thanked Mr. Cook for his comments.

**Proposal of 2021-2022 Wildlife Regulation Recommendations:** The Chair called on Dr. Gray Anderson for a presentation.

Dr. Anderson presented the Final Action on the proposed 2021-2022 Wildlife Regulations.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Dr. Anderson for his presentation on staff recommendations.

The Chair called for a break at 11:55 am

The Chair reconvened the committee meeting at 12:05 pm

After each staff recommendation, the Chair called for a motion and vote on each species or regulatory topic:

**Virtual Speaker on Elk:**

- Stephanie Taillon spoke regarding Elk.

**Elk:** 4VAC15-20-65; 4VAC15-20-10(formerly 4VAC15-20-250); 4VAC15-90-500; 4VAC15-90-510; 4VAC15-90-520; 4VAC15-90-530; 4VAC15-90-540; 4VAC15-90-550; 4VAC15-270-10

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Boyd made a motion, Madame Chair, I move that the Wildlife and Boat Committee recommend to the Board of Wildlife Resources the proposed amendments to the elk regulations as present by staff. It was seconded Mr. Sadler.  
The Chair called for a roll call vote: Claiborne, Adams, Boyd, Sadler

**Virtual Speaker on Deer:**

- Stefanie Taillon spoke regarding Deer

**Chronic Wasting Disease:** 4VAC15-90-10; 4VAC15-90-89; 4VAC15-90-260; 4VAC15-50-110; 4VAC15-90-293

**Deer & Muzzleloader Hunting:** 4VAC15-90-70; 4VAC15-90-80; 4VAC15-50-71;  
4VAC15-90-90; 4VAC15-90-91

**Harvest Reporting:** 4VAC15-90-231; 4VAC15-50-81; 4VAC15-240-81; 4VAC15-90-241;  
4VAC15-50-91; 4VAC15-240-91

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Adams made a motion. Madame Chair, I move that the Wildlife & Boat Committee recommend to the Board of Wildlife Resources proposing the amendments to Chronic wasting disease, deer & muzzleloader hunting, and harvest reporting regulations as presented by staff. It was second by Mr. Sadler. The Chair called for a roll call vote. Ayes: Claiborne, Adams, Boyd, Sadler

**Virtual Speakers on Bears:**

- Stefanie Taillon spoke regarding Bears

**Bear & Wild Turkey:** 4VAC15-50-120; 4VAC15-240-20; 4VAC15-240-32; 4VAC15-240-40;  
4VAC15-240-60;

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Boyd made a motion, Madame Chair, I move that the Wildlife & Boat Committee recommend to the Board of Wildlife Resources proposing the amendments to bear and wild turkey regulations as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Adams. The Chair called for a roll call vote. Ayes: Claiborne, Adams, Boyd, Sadler

**Rabbits:** 4VAC15-200-15; 4VAC15-200-30; 4VAC15-200-50; 4VAC15-200-60

**Wildlife Diversity:** 4VAC15-20-130; 4VAC15-30-40; 4VAC15-360-60; 4VAC15-360-10

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Adams made a motion, Madame Chair, I move that the Wildlife and Boat Committee recommend to the Board of Wildlife Resources proposing the amendments to rabbits and wildlife diversity regulations as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Sadler. The Chair called for a roll call vote. Ayes: Claiborne, Adams, Boyd, Sadler

**Lands and Access:** 4VAC15-20-100; 4VAC15-20-150; 4VAC15-20-151; 4VAC15-20-152

**Definitions & Miscellaneous:** 4VAC15-20-240

**General:** 4VAC15-40-220; 4VAC15-40-240

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Boyd made a motion. Madame Chair, I move that the Wildlife and Boat Committee recommend to the Board of Wildlife Resources the proposed

amendments to lands & access, Definitions & Miscellaneous & General regulations as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Sadler. The Chair called for a roll call vote. Ayes: Claiborne, Adams, Boyd, Sadler

**CWD Update:** The Chair called on Mr. Cale Godfrey for an Update.

Mr. Godfrey gave a CWD update on a new finding of CWD in Madison County and a recommendation of DWR for working with this finding.

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Sadler made a motion, Madame Chair, I move that the Wildlife & Boat Committee recommend to the Board of Wildlife Resources the proposed amendments to chronic wasting disease regulations for Disease Management Area 3 as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Boyd.

The Chair called for a roll call vote. Claiborne, Adams, Boyd, Sadler

**Wildlife Division Update:** The Chair called on Dr. Gray Anderson for an update.

Dr. Anderson reported:

- Turkey harvest was 20,550 (new harvest record)
- Youth weekend was down by 30% (from 2020)
- Opening day was up by 15% (from 2020)
- Opening weekend was up by 15% (from 2020)

**Fish Division Update:** The Chair called on Dr. Mike Bednarski for an update.

Dr. Bednarski reported:

- Walleye and saugeye stocking is wrapping up, stocked one million fish
- Striped bass production is underway
- Alabama bass monitoring continues. The Bass anglers Sport's Society was helpful at the recent Northern Open on the James River, providing staff access to fish and identify potential Alabama Bass.
- FishLocalVA website is live and provides links to fishing opportunities in developed areas as well as information on other outdoor activities in the area such as camping, hiking, kayaking, and picnicking. Thanks to Outreach for their support of this effort.

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

The Director reported:

- Welcomed Ms. Becky Gwynn as the new Deputy Director

**Chair's Report:** The Chair thanked everyone for attending the Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting and thanked staff for their exceptional work on the presentations . The Chair asked if anyone had any further comments or questions, hearing none, she announced that next meeting will be determined and adjourned the meeting at 12:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Boswell

/s/

