

Teleconference/Video Board Meeting

FINAL Board Minutes

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

May 27, 2020
9:00 am

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

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

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:00 am. The Chair welcomed everyone attending the virtual meeting and thanked everyone for being able to teleconference; the Chair thanked the Director and staff for making this virtual meeting possible, the Chair noted for the record that a quorum was present. The Chair, Dr. Mamie Parker announced that 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 Board impracticable. This emergency imposed by COVID-19 is observed by Executive Orders 51, 53, and 55 issued by the Governor of Virginia. The Board's actions today shall be solely limited to those matters included on the agenda; while there will be opportunities for public comment on agenda items, there is no public comment on non-agenda items. All of these proposed actions are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and discharge lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities of the Board.

Approval of the January 23, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of the January 23, 2020 minutes have been distributed and posted to the website for review. The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Sadler made a motion to approve the January 23, 2020 Board minutes as submitted. It was seconded by Ms. Terwilliger. The Board Secretary took a roll call vote. Ayes: Parker, Washington, Boyd, Terwilliger, Daniel, Claiborne, Vincent, Dear, Sadler

Waterfowl Regulation Changes:

The Board Chair called on Dr. Gary Costanzo to present the final Waterfowl Regulation Changes.

The Board Chair thanked Dr. Costanzo for his presentation.

The Board Chair asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board or the public.

The Board Chair called for a motion.

Mr. Leon Boyd made a motion. Ms. Chairwoman, I move that the Board approve the 2020-2021 Migratory Game Bird Season and Bag limit recommendations as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Dear. The Board Secretary took a roll call vote. Ayes: Parker, Washington, Boyd, Terwilliger, Daniel, Claiborne, Vincent, Dear, Sadler

FY21 Operating & Capital Budget Proposal:

The Board Chair called on Mr. Darin Moore to present the FY 21 Operating & Capital Budget Proposal.

The Board Chair thanked Mr. Moore for his presentation.

The Board Chair asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board or the public.

The Board Chair called for a motion.

Mr. Daniel made a motion, Ms. Chairwoman, I move that the Board adopt the FY21 Operating and Capital Budget, as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Dear. The Board Secretary took a roll call vote. Ayes: Parker, Washington, Boyd, Terwilliger, Daniel, Claiborne, Vincent, Dear, Sadler

No Boating Zone – Seabird Conservation Initiative:

The Board Chair called on Ms. Becky Gwynn to present the No Boating Zone-Seabird Conservation Initiative.

The Board Chair thanked Ms. Gwynn for her presentation.

The Board Chair asked if there were any questions from the Board or the public.

The Board Chair called for a motion.

Mr. Washington made a motion. Ms. Chairwoman, I move that the Board adopt the request to place regulatory waterway markers at the identified location in the City of Hampton at the confluence of the James River and Chesapeake Bay. It was seconded by Mr. Dear. The Board Secretary called a Roll Call Vote. Ayes: Parker, Washington, Boyd, Terwilliger, Daniel, Claiborne, Vincent, Dear, Sadler

** The Board Chair requested that the minutes reflect that the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries are grateful to the staff and Director for their efforts and hard work on this project. They commend the work and time commitment that staff have invested to make this project what it is today.

Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair for FY 2020-2021:

The Board Chair called on Board Member Leon Boyd to present the 2020-2021 Nomination Committee Report for the Chair and Vice Chair. Ms. Chairwoman, the Nominating Committee's slate of officers for the FY 2020-2021 will be Mr. John Daniel, as Chair and Mr. Brian Vincent as Vice Chair for FY 2020-2021.

The Board Secretary called a Roll Call vote: Ayes: Parker, Washington, Boyd, Terwilliger, Daniel, Claiborne, Vincent, Dear, Sadler

Director's Report:

The Board Chair called on Executive Director Ryan Brown for his report.

- Thanked Darin Moore and the Budget Team for all of their work on the 20-21 Budget.
- Gave an Update on COVID-19 - Reported the Agency still has no Positive COVID-19 cases. Office and Field staff are still teleworking and the work of the agency deadlines are being met.
- Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel - Gave an update and explained what will take place next as we move forward on this project, thanked Becky Gwynn and Ruth Boettcher for all the time and work dedicated on HRBT Bird Management Plan. Read a letter received from the America Bird Conservancy from Mr. Carr and several others Birding groups thanking and commending the Department of Game and Inland staff on a job well done on the HRBT project in a short timeframe.
- Gave an update on the new agency name Department of Wildlife Resources that will begin on July 1, 2020

- CWD Update- Gave an update on CWD and an update on Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease
- Spring Gobbler numbers are 20,525, up 14% from last year
- Recognized Board members - The Director recognized and thanked Mr. Leon Boyd who has been on the Board for 8 years and Mr. Douglas Dear who has been on the Board for 4 years who are both rotating off the Board June 30, 2020 The Director thanked them for their service to our board and their friendship. The Director also, thanked Dr. Mamie Parker for her service as Chairwoman of the Board for the past year and thanked her for her guidance during his first year as Director.

Chair's Report:

- The Chairwoman thanked staff and the Director again for organizing the Teleconference meeting.
- As her outgoing remarks, she talked about the checklist that was made when she took over as Chair and how it is almost complete and what a great year the board has had and how much she had enjoyed being Chair of the Board.
- The Chair thanked Mr. Boyd for his 8 years and Mr. Dear for his 4 years of service and leadership on the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Boswell

/s/