

## Final Meeting Minutes

Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee  
Board of Wildlife Resources  
7870 Villa Park Drive, Board Room  
Henrico, VA 23228

August 16, 2023

3:00 pm

**Present:** Mr. Daniel chaired the meeting in the absence of Mr. Formica, **Absent:** Dr. Mamie Parker and Mr. Michael Formica; **Board members present:** Mr. Leon Boyd, Mr. Jon Cooper, Mr. Woody Woodall, Mr. Tom Sadler, Mr. George Terwilliger, **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan Brown; **Deputy Directors:** Ms. Becky Gwynn and Mr. Darin Moore; **Director's Working Group:** Dr. Mike Bednarski, Mr. Tom Guess, Mr. Bob Smet, Mr. George Braxton, Mr. Rob Lewis, Ms. Paige Pearson, Mr. Paul Kugelman

The Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 3:45 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair noted for the record that a quorum was present for the meeting.

**Approval of the May 24, 2023, Meeting Minutes:** The Chair called for a motion to approve the May 24, 2023, Committee meeting minutes. There was not a quorum for the meeting, so the minutes were not approved.

**Public Comment – Non-Agenda Item:** The Chair called for Public Comments on Non –Agenda Items, hearing none, the Chair continued with the meeting.

**Virginia State University Aquaculture Program:** The Chair called on Dr. Nick Romano for a presentation.

Dr. Romano gave a presentation on the Aquaculture Program he is working on at Virginia State University.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Dr. Romano for his presentation.

**Environmental Education Centers:** The Chair called on Mr. Bob Smet for a presentation.

Mr. Smet gave a presentation on Environmental Education Centers.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Mr. Smet for his presentation.

**DWRs Wildlife Cams:** The Chair called on Ms. Meagan Thomas and Ms. Courtney Hallacher for a presentation.

Ms. Thomas and Ms. Hallacher gave a presentation on DWRs Wildlife Cams.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Ms. Thomas and Ms. Hallacher for their presentation.

**Leadership Development:** The Chair called on Mr. Jeff Trollinger for an update.

Mr. Trollinger gave an update on the Leadership Development Lesson Learned and for the 2024 Proposal for the class.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Mr. Trollinger for his update.

**DWR Outdoor Afro Event Update:** The Chair called on Mr. George Braxton for an update.

Mr. Braxton gave an overview of the DWR Outdoor Afro Event that was held at Lake Frederick along with DWR staff and volunteers and had activities that included Archery, Nature Walks, Birdwatching, Fish Demos and Fishing. All events were enjoyed by all that attended.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Mr. Braxton for his update.

**Outreach Division Update:** The Chair called on Mr. Bob Smet.

Mr. Smet Reported:

- Region 4 Hunter Education Coordinator hired.
- Digital Marketing Manager hired.
- R3 Coordinator hired.
- VA Outdoor show was worked and attended by staff.
- Explore the Wild app that Max Goldman and David Murr is soft launching this month – we will ramp up promotion as hunting seasons open, we have agency partners doing cross promotion on some podcasts to help launch the app. 2024 full speed ahead with big promotion.
- Southeast Deer Partnership – Documentary called WildTail: America’s Wildest Conservation Success Story, DWR will be hosting a premiere of WildTail at the Library of Virginia on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, an opening reception will start at 5 pm, the film will be shown at 6 pm.
- Thanked HR-Rebecca Lane for all the help with all the new hires.

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

The Director had no report at this time.

**Chair's Report:**

The Chair thanked all the Board members and Director Brown for the work that is being done by this agency.

The Chair asked if anyone had any further questions or comments and hearing none, the Chair announced the next meeting will be Wednesday, October 25, 2023, and adjourned the meeting at 4:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Frances Boswell