

AGENDA

Board of Wildlife Resources
Wildlife and Boat Committee
7870 Villa Park Drive
Henrico, Virginia 23228

October 18, 2022
10:00 am

Committee Members: Mr. Leon Boyd, Chair, Ms. Catherine Claiborne, Mr. Michael Formica, Mr. Jon Cooper, (alternate), Mr. George Terwilliger, (alternate)

DWR Staff Liaisons: Dr. Gray Anderson and Dr. Mike Bednarski and Mr. Tom Guess

1. Call to Order and Welcome
Mr. Leon Boyd
2. Approval of the August 17, 2022 Committee Meeting Minutes **Final Action**
Mr. Leon Boyd
3. Public Comment – Non Agenda Item
Mr. Leon Boyd
4. Proposed Eastern Shore Property naming **Final Action**
Dr. Gray Anderson
5. Elk Hunt Report
Mr. Cale Godfrey
6. Wildlife Regulation Cycle schedule and public scoping
Dr. Gray Anderson
7. WMA and Boating Access sites Allowable Activities
Dr. Gray Anderson

8. Nature-based solutions: low cost, high yield approaches to abating the hazards of climate change
Mr. Clay Ferguson, Virginia Coastal and Marine Policy Fellow
9. Wildlife Division Update
Dr. Gray Anderson
10. Fish Division Update
Dr. Mike Bednarski
11. Boating Division Update
Mr. Tom Guess
12. Director's Report
Mr. Ryan Brown
13. Chair's Report
Mr. Leon Boyd
14. Next Meeting Date: January 18, 2023
Mr. Leon Boyd
11. Additional Business/Comments
Mr. Leon Boyd
12. Adjournment
Mr. Leon Boyd

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

August 17, 2022
10:00 am

Present: Mr. Leon Boyd, Chair, Mr. Jon Cooper and Mr. George Terwilliger; **Absent:** Ms. Catherine Claiborne, Mr. Michael Formica; **Board Members** in attendance: Mr. G. K. Washington, Mr. John Daniel; **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan Brown; **Deputy Directors:** Ms. Becky Gwynn; Mr. Gary Martel; **Director’s Working Group:** Mr. Darin Moore, Dr. Mike Bednarski, Dr. Gray Anderson, Mr. Bob Smet, Ms. Paige Pearson, Ms. Stacey Brown, Mr. Paul Kugelman, Mr. George Braxton

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

Approval of the May 18, 2022 Committee Meeting Minutes:

The Chair called for a motion to approve the May 18, 2022 Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Terwilliger made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2022 committee meeting. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion.

Ayes: Leon Boyd, Mr. Jon Cooper, and Mr. George Terwilliger

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

Mr. Eric Fagerholm spoke regarding a compliment to Shirl Dressler in Permits

Recommendations For Foxhound Field Trial Permits (initial presentation, public comment and discussion): The Chair called on Mr. Mike Fies for a presentation.

Mr. Mike Fies presented the Recommendations for Foxhound Field Trial Permits.

The Chair thanked Mr. Fies for his presentation.

Speakers: Mr. Jason. Mull spoke regarding the Foxhound Field Trial Permits
Mr. Kirby Burch spoke regarding the Foxhound Field Trial Permits

After public comments, the Wildlife and Boat Committee and other present Board members discussed potential revisions to the permit conditions as presented by one of the present Board members. To ensure clarity among Board members, staff, and guests on the final form of the potential revisions presented and discussed, the Chair recommended that staffs involved in development and presentation of the permit application and conditions recess to create a final draft of the updated revisions so that the updated revisions could be considered by the Committee later in the meeting. While affected staffs completed this task, the Committee moved through additional portions of the scheduled agenda.

The Chair moved on to the Aquatic Wildlife Regulations.

Aquatic Wildlife Regulations: The Chair called on Dr. Mike Bednarski for a presentation.

Dr. Bednarski presented the Aquatic Wildlife Regulations.

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

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Terwilliger made a motion, Mr. Chair; I move that the Wildlife and Boat Committee of the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources forward the final staff recommendations for aquatic wildlife regulations effective January 1, 2023 to the full Board for approval. It was seconded by Mr. Cooper. Ayes: Boyd, Cooper, and Terwilliger.

Recommendations For Foxhound Field Trial Permits (additional discussion and action):

The Chair called the discussion on the Foxhound Field Trial Permits back to order.

Mr. Fies presented copies of the “revisions” to the application and background material to the committee members and staff..

Further discussion and questions continued on the revisions.

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Cooper made a motion, Mr. Chair, I move that the committee recommend to the Board inclusive of the revisions made during today’s Wildlife and Boat Committee the endorsement of the foxhound field trial permit application and permit conditions, administrative recommendations for these permits, and implementation of the new permit and permitting process on 1 January 2023 as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Terwilliger. Ayes: Boyd, Cooper, Terwilliger

Boat Regulations Proposals: The Chair called on Ms. Stacey Brown for a presentation.

Ms. Stacey Brown presented the Boat Regulations Proposals.

After comments and questions, The Chair thanked Ms. Brown for her presentation.

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Terwilliger made a motion. Mr. Chair, I move that the Wildlife and Boat Committee recommend the Board of Wildlife Resources adopt the final staff recommendations for boating and permitting regulations effective January 1, 2023. It was seconded by Mr. Cooper. Ayes: Boyd, Cooper, and Terwilliger

Wildlife Regulation Cycle Schedule & Proposed Board Meeting Dates: The Chair called on Dr. Gray Anderson for a presentation.

Dr. Anderson presented the Wildlife Regulation Cycle Schedule and Proposed Board Meeting Dates.

After comments and questions, The Chair thanked Dr. Anderson for his presentation.

The Chair called for a motion, Mr. Terwilliger made a motion, Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee recommend to the Board adoption of the proposed terrestrial wildlife regulation review and amendment cycle timeline and proposed Board meeting dates for the coming year as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Cooper. Ayes: Boyd, Cooper, Terwilliger

Wildlife Division Update:

Dr. Anderson reported:

- Eastern Shore Public meeting on August 24, 2022
- CWD update
- Early Waterfowl and Dove Season
- The first Elk License has been awarded

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Dr. Anderson for his update.

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

Dr. Bednarski reported:

- The Intern assigned to Fisheries just completed their Internship and did a great job.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Dr. Bednarski for his update.

The Chair called for 5-minute break at 11:45 am

The Chair resumed the meeting at 11:50 am

Boating Division Update: The Chair called on Ms. Stacey Brown for an update.

- Boating Season slowing down
- Customer Service open 5 days
- Hiring more Customer Service staff
- Working with survey staff and will be sending out Boating survey right after boating season.

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

The Director reported:

- Recognized Stephanie Tallon from the Farm Bureau in attendance today
- Elk License has been awarded
- Attended the Annual Elk Banquet
- Complimented and thanked everyone who worked on the Fox Hund Field Trial Permit for this meeting
- More discussion at Board meeting on the Field Trial Permit

Chair's Report: The Chair thanked everyone for attending the Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting. The Chair thanked the Director and all the DWR staff that came out to the Rocky Mount Elk Foundation banquet and how much he appreciated their attendance.

The Chair asked if anyone had any further comments or questions, hearing none, he announced that the next meeting will be October 18, 2022 and adjourned the meeting at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Boswell
/s/