

FINAL Board Minutes

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

October 28, 2021  
9:00 am

**Present:** Mr. Brian Vincent, **Chair,** Mr. G. K. Washington, **Vice Chair;** **Board Members:** Mr. Leon Boyd, Ms. Karen Terwilliger, Dr. Mamie Parker, Mr. Frank Adams, Mr. Rovellev Brown, Mr. Tom Sadler, Ms. Catherine Claiborne, and Mr. G. K. Washington; **Absent:** Ms. Tammy Jo Grimes; **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan J. Brown; **Director's Working Group:** Ms. Becky Gwynn, Dr. Gray Anderson, Dr. Mike Bednarski, Mr. Darin Moore, Ms. Paige Pearson, Ms. Rebecca Lane, Colonel John Cobb, Mr. George Braxton

Kelci Block, Assistant Attorney General attended the Board meeting.

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. Rovellev Brown to read the Mission Statement.

**Recognitions of Employees and Others:** The Chair called on Director Ryan Brown for Recognitions of Employees.

The Director called on Dr. Gray Anderson who recognized Mr. Seth Thompson as the Wildlife Biologist of the Year.

The Director presented a Resolution in recognition of The Honorable Matt Strickler, DWR's former Secretary of Natural Resources commending him for his work with DWR.

The Director called for a motion. Mr. Boyd made a motion. Mr. Daniel second the motion. Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Terwilliger, Adams, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Parker, Brown, Sadler.

**Approval of the August 19, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes of the August 19, 2021 minutes have been distributed and posted to the website for review. The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes. G. K. Washington made a motion to approve the August 19, 2021 Board minutes. It was seconded by Dr. Parker.

Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Washington, Vincent, Terwilliger, Adams, Boyd, Parker, Brown, Sadler.

### **Public Comments – Non-Agenda Items:**

The Chair called for Public Comments – Non Agenda Items:

- Mr. Larry Hollowell of Prince Edward, VA spoke regarding Deer hound hunting
- Mr. Judge Charlton of Charlotte, VA spoke regarding support of Virtual call-in

The Chair thanked the speakers for their comments.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Law Enforcement Committee:** The Chair called on Mr. Rovelie Brown to give an update on the October 27, 2021 Law Enforcement Committee meeting.

Mr. Rovelie Brown gave an update on the October 27, 2021 Law Enforcement Committee meeting.

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

The Chair thanked Mr. Rovelie Brown for his Committee update.

The Chair called on Director Ryan Brown for comments. Director Brown recognized Mr. Hall and continued with an update of when and how he met Mr. Hall and how far law enforcement has come since that time and how proud he is for their accomplishments.

The Director called on Lt. Ron Ham who gave an update on Accreditation. Colonel Steve Pike presented Law Enforcement with their Certificate of Accreditation.

Colonel Cobb presented Lt. Rob Ham, Ms. Kim Lettner, Mr. Bobby Mawyer, and Mr. Rick Perry with gifts of appreciation for all of their efforts and work on the accreditation process.

Mr. Hall thanked the Department and Director Brown for the accomplishments that Law Enforcement have made in a short time and acknowledged they are moving in the right direction and personally thanked Director Brown for his leadership in the agency.

The Chair called for 10-minute break at 10:20 am

The Chair resumed the meeting at 10:30 am

**Wildlife and Boat Committee:**

The Chair called on Ms. Karen Terwilliger for an update on the October 27, 2021 Wildlife & Boat Committee meeting.

Ms. Terwilliger gave an update on the October 27, 2021 Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting.

After questions and comments, the Chair thanked Ms. Terwilliger for her comments.

The Chair called on Dr. Mike Bednarski for an update.

Dr. Bednarski gave an update on the Fish Regulation Cycle for 2022-2023.

The Chair asked for questions and comments from the public or the Board.

The Chair thanked Dr. Bednarski for his update.

The Chair called on Dr. Mike Bednarski for a presentation.

Dr. Mike Bednarski presented four (4) Fish Management Plans.

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

The Chair called for a motion, Mr. Sadler made a motion, Madame Chair, I move that the Board of the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources endorse the four (4) new Fishery Management Plans put forth by the Aquatic Wildlife Resources Division. It was seconded by Dr. Parker.

Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Terwilliger, Adams, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Parker, Brown, Sadler.

The Chair called on Ms. Meagan Thomas for a presentation.

Ms. Thomas gave a presentation and update on the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel Sea Bird Colony.

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

The Chair called on Ms. Becky Gwynn for a presentation.

Ms. Gwynn presented the RAWA Readiness Assessment.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Ms. Gwynn for her presentation.

The Chair called for a motion, Mr. Daniel made a motion, Madame Chair, I propose that the Board of Wildlife Resources adopt the resolution in support of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act, with the addition of information about the diverse communities that will be served by passage of this legislation. It was seconded by Dr. Parker. Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Terwilliger, Adams, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Parker, Brown, Sadler.

The Chair called on Director Brown for an introduction.

Mr. Brown introduced Mr. John Culclasure from the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation.

Mr. Culclasure gave a presentation on Sunday Hunting on Public Land.

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

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Boyd made a motion, Madame Chair, I move that the Board of Wildlife Resources approve the Resolution on Sunday Hunting on Public Land. It was seconded by Mr. Frank Adams. Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Terwilliger, Adams, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Parker, Brown Sadler.

### **Closed Session:**

The Chair announced there would be a Closed Session.

The Chairman called on Ms. Catherine Claiborne to read the Close Session Motion.

It was seconded by Mr. G. K. Washington. Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Terwilliger, Adams, Vincent, Washington, Boyd, Parker, Brown, and Sadler

*Closed Meeting Motion  
October 28, 2021*

Mr. Chair,

*I move that the Board go into a closed meeting 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, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of the Department of Wildlife Resources specifically regarding:*

*(i) The performance of the Director.*

*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 Executive Director as it believes his presence will reasonably aid the Board in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting.*

The Board went into Closed Session at: 12:30 pm

The Board reconvened from the Closed Session at 2:00 pm

The Chairman called on Mr. Rovel Brown to read the Certification of Closed Meeting.

*Certification of Closed Meeting  
October 28, 2021*

*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.*

It was seconded by Mr. G. K. Washington.

The Chair called for a roll call vote. Ayes: Daniel, Claiborne, Vincent, Terwilliger, Adams, Washington, Boyd, Parker, Brown and Sadler.

**Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee Report:**

The Chair called on Mr. G. K. Washington to give an update on the October 27, 2021 Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee meeting.

Mr. Washington gave an update on the October 27, 2021 Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee meeting.

The Chair called on Mr. Darin Moore for an overview.

Mr. Moore gave an overview of the first Quarter Finance Report for Fiscal year 2021-2022.

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

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Mr. Moore for his updates and presentations.

**Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee Report:**

The Chair called on Mr. Tom Sadler to give an update on the October 27, 2021 Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee meeting.

Mr. Tom Sadler gave an update on the October 27, 2021 Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee meeting.

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

The Chair thanked Mr. Sadler for his report on the committee meeting.

The Chair called on Mr. George Braxton for a presentation.

Mr. Braxton presented the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Mr. Braxton and congratulated him on the approval of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Plan.

The Chair called on Mr. Jeff Trollinger for a presentation.

Mr. Trollinger presented the Relevancy Roadmap Project.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Mr. Trollinger for his presentation and for leading the project.

The Chair called on Director Ryan Brown for a presentation.

Mr. Brown gave a presentation on Board Member Remote Participation Policy.

After comments and questions, the Chair thanked Mr. Brown.

The Chair called for a motion. Mr. Daniel made a motion. Mr. Chair, I move that the Board of Wildlife Resources adopt the proposed policy on Remote Attendance by Board Members as recommended by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Rovelle Brown. Ayes: Claiborne, Daniel, Terwilliger, Adams, Vincent Washington, Boyd, Parker, Brown, Sadler.

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

Mr. Brown Reported:

- Meeting with Outreach Division staff to talk about where DWR Outreach dollars are spent
- Direct constituent contact
- Outdoors recognitions of men & woman who "Do it Right" in the hunting and fishing arena.
- Predator Hunt Contest

**Chair's Report:**

The Chair thanked all presenters and staff for their work at today's meeting and gave some comments Predator Hunt.

The Chair asked if there were any other comments or questions from the Board, hearing none, he announced the next Board meeting will be on Thursday, January 20, 2022 and adjourned the meeting at 3:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Frances Boswell

/s/