FINAL Meeting Minutes

Wildlife, Boat, and Law Enforcement
7870 Villa Park Drive – Board Room
Henrico, VA 23228

August 17, 2016
10:00 am

Present: Mr. Watkins Abbitt, **Chairman**, Mr. H. S. Caudill, Ms. Nicole Butterworth, Mr. Leon Boyd**, Board Member**: Ms. Catherine Claiborne, **Director**: Mr. Robert W. "Bob" Duncan; **Senior Leadership Team**: Mr. Lee Walker, Mr. Gary Martel, Acting Chief Clark Greene, Mr. Tom Guess, Mr. David Whitehurst.

The Chairman welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and noted for the record that a quorum was present.

Approval of the June 15, 2016 Committee Meeting Minutes: The Chairman called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2016 Wildlife, Boat & Law Committee Meeting. Ms. Butterworth made a motion to approve the June 15, 2016 Committee Meeting Minutes and Mr. Caudill seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Butterworth, Caudill, Boyd.

Recognition of New Employee: Mr. David Whitehurst introduced a new employee to the Bureau, Mr. Uwe Weindel, Director of Capital Planning and Facilities.

Public Comments – Non Agenda Items: Mr. Abbitt called for Public Comments – Non Agenda Items, hearing none, he continued on with the Agenda.

Staff Recommendations – Aquatic Regulations: Mr. Scott Smith presented the Staff Recommendations for the Aquatic Regulations for Final Action by the Committee.

After discussion and questions on each segment, the Chairman called for motions for each segment.

Definitions and Miscellaneous

4VAC15-30-40 – Importation Requirements, Possession and Sale of Nonnative (Exotic Animals)

Mr. Leon Boyd made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Ms. Butterworth seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

Fishing Generally

4VAC15-320-25 – Creel and Length Limits

Mr. Caudill made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Mr. Boyd seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

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4VAC15-320-120 – Special Daily Permit – Clinch Mountain WMA, Douthat SP, and Crooked and Wilson Creeks

Mr. Caudill made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff..Mr. Boyd seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

Trout fishing

4VAC15-330-120 – Special Provisions Applicable – 16" length Limit
4 VAC15-330-130 – Special Provisions Applicable – Mossy Creek

Mr. Boyd made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Ms. Butterworth seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

4VAC15-330-150 – Special Provision – Catch & Release

Ms. Butterworth made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Mr. Boyd seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

4VAC15-330-160 – Special Provisions – Delayed Harvest

Mr. Boyd made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Mr. Caudill seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

4VAC15-330-210 – Special Provisions Applicable to Youth –Only Stocked Trout Waters (New)

Ms. Butterworth made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Mr. Caudill seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

Seines and Nets

4VAC15-340-30 – Gill Nets

Ms. Butterworth made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Mr. Boyd seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

4VAC15-340-70 – Eel Pots for Taking American Eels for Personal Use

Mr. Boyd made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Ms. Butterworth seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

4VAC15-340-80 – Eel Pots for Taking American Eels for Sale

Ms. Butterworth made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Mr. Caudill seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

Gigs, Grab Hooks, Troutlines, Snares, etc

4VAC15-350-70 – Bow Fishing

Mr. Boyd made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Ms. Butterworth seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

Aquatic Invertebrates, Amphibians, Reptiles, and Nongame Fish

4VAC15-360-10 – Creel Limits – Gar & Bowfin

Mr. Caudill made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Ms. Butterworth seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Boyd, Butterworth, Caudill

The Chairman thanked Mr. Smith for his presentation.

Staff Recommendation – Endangered & Threatened Species Regulations: Ms. Becky Gwynn presented the Staff Recommendations for the Endangered & Threatened Species Regulations.

After discussion and questions, the Chairman called for a motion.

Mr. Caudill made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Ms. Butterworth seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Caudill, Butterworth, Boyd

The Chairman thanked Ms. Gwynn for her presentation.

Staff Recommendation-Waterfowl Blind Regulations: Dr. Gary Costanzo presented the Staff Recommendations for the Ware River Waterfowl Blind Regulations.

After discussion and questions, the Chairman called for a motion.

Ms. Butterworth made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee recommend adoption by the full Board as presented by staff. Mr. Caudill seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Caudill, Butterworth, Boyd

The Chairman thanked Dr. Costanzo for his presentation.

Proposed Schedule for Terrestrial Wildlife Regulation Cycle: Ms. Becky Gwynn presented the proposed meeting schedule for the Terrestrial Wildlife Regulation Cycle for 2016-2017.

After discussion and questions, the Chairman called for a motion.

Mr. Caudill made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee recommend adoption of the schedule as present by staff, subject to the final selection of meeting dates by the Board. Ms. Butterworth seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Caudill, Butterworth, Boyd

The Chairman thanked Ms. Gwynn for her presentation.

Trout Management Plan: Mr. Steve Reeser presented the Trout Management Plan.

After discussion and questions, the Chairman called for a motion to endorse the Plan

Mr. Boyd made a motion, Mr. Chairman, I move that the WBL Committee recommend that the Board endorse the 2016-2025 Virginia Stocked Management Plan. Ms. Butterworth seconded the motion. Ayes: Abbitt, Caudill, Butterworth, Boyd

The Chairman thanked Mr. Reeser for his presentation.

Law Enforcement Update: Acting Chief Clark Greene gave an update and information on the Law Enforcement academy and the promotional opportunities.

After discussion and questions, the Chairman thanked Chief Greene for his comments.

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Bureau Update: Mr. David Whitehurst gave an update of the Bureau Division

- Bureau has hired the Aquatics Deputy Director, Dr. Michael Bednarski
- Statewide Anglers Survey will be conducted in the Fall
- Bureau still working on filling 9 positions
- Fish disease becoming problematic
- Feral Hog update
- Blue Ribbon Panel Update

Director's Report: Mr. Bob Duncan reported on the following:

- 25th Anniversary of Hunters for Hungry
- Outdoor Sportsman Show for 33 Years – Hugh Crittenden is retiring
- Update on the compensation and Classification Study for the Department
- Announced that the Brandt License System President will be in attendance at the Board meeting for an update of the new License system

Chairman's Report: Mr. Watkins thanked staff for their presentations and continued hard work on the regulations and asked for any further business, hearing none he adjourned the meeting at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Frances Boswell