

Draft Board Meeting Minutes

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

August 21, 2025
9:00 am

Present: Mr. George Terwilliger, **Chair;** Mr. Michael Formica, **Vice Chair;** **Board Members:** Mr. Lynwood Broaddus, Mr. Will Wampler, Mr. Jon Cooper, Mr. James Edmunds, Mr. Parker Slaybaugh, Ms. Marlee Dance, Ms. Laura Walters, Mr. Woody Woodall, Mr. James Maclin; **Executive Director:** Mr. Ryan J. Brown; **Deputy Directors:** Ms. Becky Gwynn and Mr. Darin Moore; **Director's Working Group:** Dr. Mike Bednarski, Mr. Bob Smet, Mr. George Braxton, Mr. Michael Lipford, Ms. Stacey Brown, Ms. Rebecca Lane, Ms. Shelby Crouch, Mr. Paul Kugelman

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 welcomed the 3 new Board Members, Ms. Marlee Dance, Mr. Parker Slaybaugh, and Mr. James Maclin to their first Board meeting.

The Chair led the Pledge to the Flag.

Ms. Kelci Block, Assistant Attorney General attended the Board meeting. (Virtual)

Recognition of Employees and Others: The Chair called on Mr. Ryan Brown for recognitions.

Director Brown called on Colonel John Cobb to present Senior Officer Tim Bostic the 2024 Boating Officer of the Year award.

Approval of the May 22, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of the May 22, 2025, Board meeting minutes have been distributed and posted to website for review. The Chair called for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Slaybaugh made a motion to approve the May 22, 2025, Board Meeting minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Formica. Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus, Dance

Public Comments – Non-Agenda Items: The Chair called for speakers on Non-Agenda Items.

- Mr. Ray Carter spoke regarding the Budget
- Mr. Gary Kimberlin spoke regarding hound hunting
- Mr. Greg Austin spoke regarding hound hunting
- Mr. Taylor Cuevas spoke regarding bear
- Mr. Judge Charlton spoke regarding hound hunting (v)

Committee Reports:

Wildlife and Boat Committee:

The Chair called on Mr. Jon Cooper for an update of the Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting.

Mr. Cooper gave a report on the Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting from August 20, 2025.

- Turkey Regulation Proposal – Mr. Cooper gave the Turkey Regulation Proposal.

Mr. Cooper called for a motion. Mr. Wampler made a motion. Mr. Chair, I move that the Board of Wildlife Resources propose the amendment to the wild turkey bag limit regulation as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Edmunds.

Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broadus, Dance

- Blue Catfish Regulation Proposal - Mr. Cooper gave the Blue Catfish Regulation Proposal

Mr. Cooper made a motion, I move that the Board of Department of Wildlife Resources put forward staff's regulatory recommendations on blue catfish. It was seconded by Mr. Edmunds.

Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broadus, Dance

- Regulatory Reform Proposals - Mr. Cooper gave the Regulatory Reform Proposals

Mr. Cooper made a motion. I move that the Board of Department of Wildlife Resources approve the staff recommendations to meet the Agency's goal of 25% regulatory reduction per Executive Order 19, and that they are put forward for public comment.

Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broadus, Dance

- Regulation Schedule - Mr. Cooper presented the Regulation Schedule.

Mr. Cooper made a motion, I move that the Board of Wildlife Resources adopt the proposed meeting schedule as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Formica.

Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus, Dance

- Mr. Cooper presented the Wildlife Action Plan Revision.

Mr. Cooper made a motion; I move that the Board of Wildlife Resources adopt the 2025 VA Wildlife Action Plan as presented by staff. It was seconded by Mr. Formica.

Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus, Dance

Mr. Cooper presented the Mangle Management Plan and Response Protocol.

- Mr. Taylor Cuevas spoke regarding bears.

Other business at the August 20, 2025, Wildlife and Boat Committee was:

Mr. Michael Lipford gave an Update on the Wildlife Division, Dr. Mike Bednarski gave an update on Aquatic Division, Ms. Stacey Brown gave an update on the Boating Division, Ms. Amy Martin gave an update on the Nongame Division.

The Chair thanked Mr. Cooper for his report of the Wildlife and Boat Committee meeting of August 20, 2025.

Finance, Audit, & Compliance Committee Report:

The Chair called on Mr. Woody Woodall for an update on the Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee meeting from August 20, 2025.

Mr. Woodall gave an update on the Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee meeting of May 20, 2025, that covered the DWR FY 25 Budget to Actual and the FY 25 Capital Outlay Expenditures.

The Chair thanked Mr. Woodall for his report of the Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee meeting of August 20, 2025.

Law Enforcement Committee Report:

The Chair called on Mr. Will Wampler for an update on the Law Enforcement Committee meeting of August 20, 2025.

Mr. Wampler gave an update on the Law Enforcement Committee meeting of August 20, 2025.

Mr. Wampler reported on:

- W3 Natural Resources Training Academy – Progress Report
- VLEPSC State Re-Accreditation (First Term)
- Current Basic Academy – Graduation September 12, 2025
- Current Recruitment Effort for 15th Basic Academy

The Chair thanked Mr. Wampler for his update.

Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee Report:

The Chair called on Ms. Laura Walters for an update on the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee meeting of August 20, 2025.

Ms. Walters gave an update on the Education, Planning, and Outreach Committee Report of August 20, 2025.

Ms. Walters reported on:

- Sponsorship and Partnership Program Overview
- Triple Crossing Falcon Cam Collaboration
- Governance Manual, Code of Ethics and Conduct and Committee Charter Reviews
- Association for conservation Information Convention – Outreach staff received 6 Awards
- Outreach Division welcomed Mr. David Moore as the Hunter, and Landowner Engagement Coordinator

- Ms. Walters had 1 Action Item – Governance Manual, Code of Ethics and Conduct and Committee Charter Reviews

Mr. Wampler made a motion to Defer the Governance Manual, Code of Ethics and Conduct and Committee Charter Reviews to the October 23, 2025, meeting agenda, it was seconded by Mr. Edmunds. Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus, Dance

The Chair thanked Ms. Walters for her update.

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

- Law Graduation is September 12, 2025
- Commended all the skills that the Board bring to the table
- Thanked the Farm Bureau for the support they have given this agency over the years
- Welcomed the 3 new Board members to their first meeting

- Thanked Cale Godfrey for the meeting in Charlottesville

Chairman's Report: The Chair, thanked the Board Members for giving him the opportunity to serve as the Board Chair and is looking forward to working with them this year. The Chair thanked Ryan Brown, our Executive Director for all the work and time he puts in to make this agency a better place.

Additional Business/Comments: The Chair asked if any additional business or comments.

Mr. Wampler, made a motion, concerning the meeting times of the Committee meetings. After discussion, Mr. Terwilliger made a substitute motion, The next committee meeting can begin upon adjournment of the prior committee at the discretion of the Chair. It was seconded by Mr. Formica.

Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus, Dance

Ms. Becky Gwynn gave an update on Ragged Island, with the \$8 million grant from NOAA and \$44.5 million EPA grant for Wetland Restoration and, and how the work is progressing, announcing it is 50% complete.

Next Meeting Date: The Chair announced that the next meeting date will be Thursday, October 23, 2025.

Closed Session: The Chair announced the Board would go into Close Session at 10:45 am.

Mr. Wampler read the Close Session Motion; it was seconded by Mr. Edmunds.

Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus, Dance

Closed Meeting Motion, August 21, 2025

Mr. Chairman,

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 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 Director to also attend this meeting, as it believes his presence will reasonably aid the Board in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 12:35 pm

The Chair called on Mr. Wampler to read the Certification of Closed Meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Cooper.

Certification of Closed Meeting

August 21, 2025

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.

The Board Secretary took a roll call vote: Ayes: Terwilliger, Formica, Slaybaugh, Woodall, Edmunds, Cooper, Maclin, Walters, Wampler, Broaddus

Ms. Dance had departed.

The Chair asked if anyone had any further comments, hearing none, he adjourned the Board meeting at 12:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Frances Boswell