

Teleconference/Virtual meeting

AGENDA

Board of Wildlife Resources
Law Enforcement Committee
7870 Villa Park Drive, Board Room
Henrico, Virginia 23228

September 22, 2020
3:00 pm

Committee Members: Mr. G. K. Washington, Chair, Mr. John Daniel, II, Mr. Brian Vincent

DWR Staff Liaison: Major Scott Naff and Major Bryan Young

1. Call to Order and Welcome
Mr. G. K. Washington
2. Approval of January 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes
Mr. G. K. Washington
3. Accreditation Presentation
Lt. Rob Ham
4. Administration Update
Major Bryan Young
5. Elk Enforcement Opportunities/Challenges
Lt. Jason Culbertson and CPO Matt Arnold
6. Operations Update
Major Scott Naff
7. Director's Report
Mr. Ryan Brown

Final Action

8. Chair's Report
Mr. G. K. Washington

9. Additional Business/Comments
Mr. G. K. Washington

10. Next Meeting Date: To Be Determined
Mr. G. K. Washington

11. Adjournment
Mr. G. K. Washington

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Law Enforcement Committee
Board of Game and Inland Fisheries
7870 Villa Park Drive, Board Room
Richmond, Virginia 23228

January 22, 2020
9:00 am

Present: Mr. G. K. Washington, **Chair**, Dr. Mamie Parker, and Mr. John Daniel II, **Board Members in attendance:** Mr. Leon Boyd, and Mr. Tom Sadler; **Deputy Executive Director:** Mr. Gary Martel; **Director's Working Group:** Dr. Mike Bednarski, Dr. Gray Anderson, Major Scott Naff, Major Bryan Young, Mr. Lee Walker, Ms. Paige Pearson, Mr. Darin Moore.

The Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and welcomed everyone and wished everyone a Happy New Year to the First meeting of the Law Enforcement Committee. The Chair noted for the record that a quorum was present for the meeting.

Meeting Minutes: This was the first meeting of the Law Enforcement Committee so no previous minutes to approve.

Public Comments – Non-Agenda Items: The Chair called for Public Comments, hearing none, he continued with the Agenda.

Accreditation Update: The Chair called on Major Bryan Young for a presentation. Major Young called on Lt. Rob Ham and Mr. Bobby Mawyer to present an Accreditation Update.

Mr. Daniel departed at 9:45 am.

After discussion and comments, the Chair thanked Lt. Ham and Mr. Mawyer for their Update.

Operations Update: The Chair called on Major Scott Naff for an Operations Update. Major Naff presented retiring Canine Justice, and gave an Operations Update.

After discussion and comments, the Chair thanked Major Naff for his update.

Administration Update: The Chair called on Major Bryan Young for an Administration Update.

After discussion and comments, the Chair thanked Major Young for his update.

Director's Report: The Chair called on Deputy Director Mr. Gary Martel for the Director's Report.

Mr. Martel commended Law Enforcement on their Accreditation Update and how the Agency has recognized the value of the Canine Program and how he has enjoyed supervising Law Enforcement.

Chair's Report: The Chair thanked everyone for attending the First Law Enforcement Committee Meeting, and expressed how excited he was about this new Committee and that he is glad to be a part of this Committee.

Chair Dr. Parker commented on the great job Law Enforcement is doing and what can the Board do further to help support them.

Mr. Boyd commented on the new Law Enforcement Committee as a step forward and the Board is looking forward to hearing and understanding how Law Enforcement works.

The Chair asked if anyone had any additional comments or business, hearing none, he announced the next Law Enforcement Committee meeting would be Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 9:00 am. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Boswell

/s/

Law Enforcement Division Accreditation Update



CONSERVE. CONNECT. PROTECT.

Division Written Directives:

Previous Policies

- Policies: 41 with 9 Appendix
- Pages: ~181 Pages

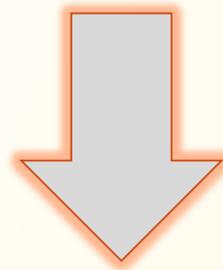
General Orders

- General Orders: 100
- Standard Operating Procedures: ~ 30
- Pages: ~500+ Pages

Quality not Quantity!



Where are we in the Process?



Phase I

- Development and Organization of written directives.
- Establish Consistent Processes
- Education of Accreditation

Phase II

- Educating Officers on written directives and process
- Evidence Facilities Improvements
- Mock Assessment of written directives

Phase III

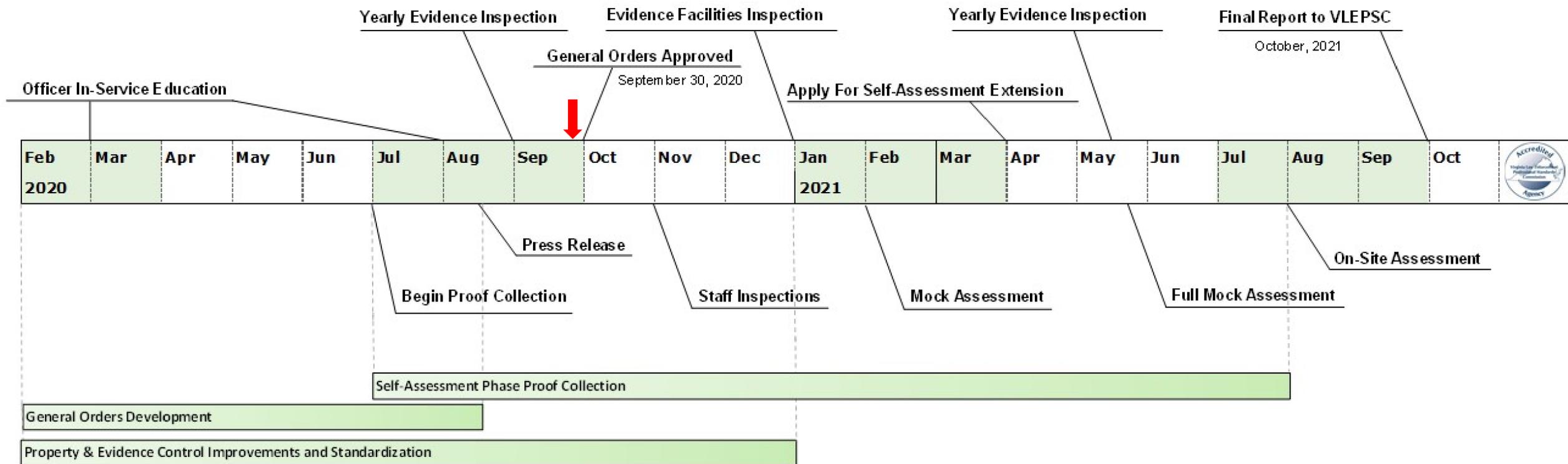
- Collecting Proofs of Compliance to Standards
- Educating Officers on written directives and process
- Mock Assessments

Phase IV

- Onsite Assessment
- Educating Officers on written directives and process
- Begin First Term as an Accredited Agency



Virginia Conservation Police VLEPSC Accreditation Project Goals



“Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction, and skillful execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives.”

— Will A. Foster

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Elk Restoration Project & Law Enforcement



CONSERVE. CONNECT. PROTECT.

Elk Management Zones (EMZ)

Buchanan

Dickenson

Wise

Neighboring Legal Harvest Counties

Russell

Tazewell

Washington

Enforcement practices change between the EMZ and legal harvest counties. Within the EMZ, any deceased elk are investigated to determine the cause of death. Outside the EMZ, elk that are reported in an area are monitored by the CPO assigned to that county, but harvest is legal while using an appropriate white tail deer tag during a legal hunting season.

Approximately 250 elk are in Southwest Virginia.



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Community

- The greatest asset to enforcing elk laws is the community.
 - Since the first elk were stocked in May 2012, reports and tips from residents inside the EMZ have been crucial in providing law enforcement information on any illegal activities pertaining to the elk.
- Community isn't always local, it can be national as well.
 - One of the largest elk-related cases was reported by viewers of the live elk cam. Viewers of the livestream contacted DWR to report spotlighting at the elk release site; this resulted in multiple charges.



Elk Decoy

CPOs utilize an elk decoy multiple times per year to try and apprehend road hunters.

Districts 33 and 34 work together to run decoy operations, often with help from other DWR volunteers.

Due to the size of the decoy, a special trailer is used to haul it. The decoy requires at least two people to lift it, with two others acting as "look-outs" for oncoming vehicles while it is being set.

The decoy is extremely realistic and can move its head.

One of the very first operations ran with the decoy resulted in multiple people on ATVs getting within 15 yards of the decoy to take pictures. They did not realize it was a decoy until the CPOs intervened.







Other Enforcement Techniques

Spotlight patrols

The largest population of elk reside in Buchanan County. There, reclaimed strip mines serve as the perfect habitat for the elk. CPOs monitor multiple strip mines for spotlighting activity due to how removed these lands are from the public eye.

Outreach, Outreach, Outreach

There's more to it than just enforcement!

Multiple times while on patrol, CPOs have been able to show out of state visitors the location of the elk herd that day.

Being able to answer questions about the herd, stockings, and enforcement is a pivotal part of providing information to the public.

Outreach builds relationships between the community and CPOs, which in turn leads to community policing and reporting of violations.

Building trust between CPOs and residents is key.



Questions?

