

Virginia: At a meeting of the Accomack County Wetlands Board, held in the chambers of the Board of Supervisors on the 28th day of April, 2011, A.D.

Members present:

Mr. George T. Parker, Chairman
Mrs. Lee L. Merrill, Vice-Chairman (ABSENT)
Mr. C. Lee Davis (ABSENT)
Mr. Earl B. Frederick
Mr. George H. Ward, Jr.

Mr. David Fluhart, Secretary
Mrs. Marie E. Fox, Recording Secretary

Alternate Members Present:

Mr. Mikel Patti
Mr. Gene Wayne Taylor

Others present:

Mr. Hank Badger, VMRC

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George T. Parker, and opened to a public hearing at 10 AM. All applications are approved for a one year period from the date of this hearing, unless specifically noted. All applicants, speakers and representatives are sworn in before the Board on the following wetlands applications:

This Board is aware of and complies as closely as possible with the objectives of the Virginia Marine Resource Commission's Wetlands Policy of No Net Loss.

1). MINUTES

Mr. Patti made a motion to approve the minutes of the Thursday, March 24, 2011 meeting as amended. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. Ayes: Mr. Parker, Mr. Frederick, Mr. Ward, Mr. Patti, Mr. Taylor.

2). CONTINUED FROM March 24, 2011

1). An application from Mr. George B. Sterling, Jr., VMRC #11-0224, to construct a bulkhead along the shoreline, thereby impacting wetlands at Craddock Creek, 10089 Ellis Drive, Craddockville, Virginia. TM #108-A-17F

Mr. Sterling appeared before the board to represent this application. He explained the bulkhead is proposed to protect the property and dock along 97' of shoreline and to be constructed beyond the low water mark at Craddock Creek. He described the location of his land in relationship to the adjoining properties.

Mr. Sterling discussed an area he proposes to use for mitigation for this proposal, which is his mother's property, however he presented a signed agreement by his mother to allow the mitigation.

At this time, Mr. Fluhart read a portion of the VIMS Report into the record, which stated, "RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY: Consider a marsh sill with planted marsh or revetment against the bank, instead of bulkhead; Plant riparian buffer vegetation, instead of mowing to the wetland edge."

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the specifications for construction of the bulkhead, possible rip rap toe and concerns regarding protecting the fringe marsh and the amount/location of the mitigation area.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve this application as is with a mitigation plan submitted for 150 square feet of area as stated in the April 22nd email, stamp dated April 26, 2011. Mr. Patti seconded the motion. Ayes: Mr. Parker, Mr. Frederick, Mr. Ward, Mr. Patti, Mr. Taylor.

5). OTHER BUSINESS

1). Wetlands Mitigation

The board discussed at length, the mitigation funds received and how to use those monies. Several options were discussed including the possibility of removing trash on wetlands at County boat ramps and restoring these areas and sharing those funds with the Nature Conservancy to enhance other areas.

Mr. Parker requested further discussion regarding Mitigation and the collected Mitigation Funds at future meetings.

SHIELDS PROPERTIES, LLC, VMRC # 10-1116

Mr. Hank Badger, of VMRC, advised the board that the Corps of Engineers completed a compliance check on this project and observed dredging in the boat ramp area, which was used as backfill behind the bulkhead. He further advised the board of a protest regarding the location of the pier, stating the pier appears to be located partially on the adjacent property, which has been recently purchased and the new owners have had a survey prepared which indicated the location of the pier.

BOARD ALTERNATE NOTIFICATION

Mr. Parker requested a copy of the draft minutes, agenda and results of the meetings be forwarded to the Wetlands Board Alternates in order to keep them up-to-date as far as the projects and discussions the board may have on other issues, i.e. Mitigation.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Frederick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:16 AM. Mr. Patti seconded the motion. Ayes: Mr. Parker, Mr. Frederick, Mr. Ward, Mr. Patti, Mr. Taylor.

Mr. George T. Parker, Chairman