

Virginia: At a meeting of the Accomack County Wetlands Board, held in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors on the 23rd day of May, 2013, A.D.

Members present:

Mr. Earl B. Frederick, Chairman
Mr. George H. Ward, Jr., Vice Chairman
Mr. C. Lee Davis
Mr. Gene Taylor
Mr. T. Lee Byrd

Staff present:

Ms. Gracie A. Milbourne, Recording Secretary

Others present:

Mr. Hank Badger, VMRC
Mr. Robert Cole, USACE

Staff absent:

Mr. David Fluhart, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Earl B. Frederick, and opened to a public hearing at 10 a.m. 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. Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2013 meeting as circulated. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. Ayes: Mr. Frederick, Mr. Ward, Mr. Davis, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Byrd.

2). DISCUSSION ABOUT VIMS WORKSHOP HELD ON APRIL 25, 2013

Mr. Frederick discussed the unfavorable statistics in a letter from VIMS regarding

the performance of the local Wetlands Boards, but also mentioned positive comments stated at the workshop from Mr. Tony Watkinson of VMRC.

Mr. Frederick stated that this board is interactive with property owners and realize that a living shoreline is the preferred method of shoreline stabilization.

3). **NEW BUSINESS**

1). An application from Harry E. & Mary H. Deitch, VMRC# 2013-0418 for the installation of a bulkhead within 2-foot channelward of an existing failing bulkhead and the replacement of a breakwater at 4269 Main Street, Chincoteague Channel, Chincoteague, Virginia. TM# 30A5-A-93.

Ms. J. Stacey Hart of J. Stacey Hart & Associates appeared before the board to represent this application. Ms. Hart asked that the property owners be given permission to construct a vinyl bulkhead two feet channelward and a narrow walkway to the boat house. She explained that the breakwater will be put back in the same footprint.

Mr. Davis pointed out that the drawings that were submitted do not show the new piles for the walkway and believed that revised drawings are needed.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Davis made a motion to approve this application pending revised drawings showing the breakwater 50 feet from the boat house and showing piles that will be under the walkway if needed. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Ayes: Mr. Frederick, Mr. Ward, Mr. Davis, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Byrd.

2). An application from Mildred Mason, VMRC# 2013-0679, for the installation of new riprap revetment that includes marsh toe protection, several return walls and a small groin at 24311 Bailey Neck DR, near Onancock, Virginia. TM# 84-A-89 & 89A.

Ms. Ellen Grimes with Coastal Resource Management LLC, appeared before the Board to represent this application. Ms. Grimes explained the plan view for the entire project that revealed 493' marsh toe protection, a 5' small groin on the eastern edge, 1500' revetment, splash apron in front, and the removal of exposed and fallen upland trees for easier management. She stated that most of the work will be done from the uplands with part from the beach and part from the bank and will impact 50 square feet of vegetated wetlands.

The Board asked Mr. Hank Badger of VMRC if he was aware of the impacts. Mr. Badger stated he was aware of the 50 square feet of impacts and estimated it to be accurate.

Mr. Frederick asked Ms. Grimes if the contractor or the property owner considered a living shoreline rather than a revetment for portions of this project. Ms. Grimes asked the contractor to come forward to answer questions.

Mr. Radack Juran, contractor, appeared and discussed the project. He indicated that the property owners chose to cover the entire creek with revetment to prevent further erosion since one acre has already been lost to the creek. Further discussion revealed that a living shoreline would not have any chance of survival during northeasters and would be impossible to maintain without redoing it after every storm.

Mr. Robert Cole of Army Corps appeared before the board and stated he needs construction plans as this is a complex project.

After a lengthy discussion about the construction plans and the proposal, Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve this application with revised drawings showing benchmarks over the entire project (1600 '+ or -) and approved by Mr. David Fluhart,

and mitigation must be paid for 50 square feet of vegetated wetlands. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Ayes: Mr. Frederick, Mr. Ward, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Byrd.

3). **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Ward made a motion to adjourn at 11:07 a.m. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. Ayes: Mr. Frederick, Mr. Ward, Mr. Davis, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Byrd.

Mr. Earl B. Frederick, Chairman