

RICHMOND COUNTY WETLANDS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 28, 2016

The Richmond County Wetlands Board had a meeting on January 28, 2016 in the Public Meeting Room, Warsaw, Virginia.

Wetlands Board Members Present: David Gallagher, Greg Gruner, Bobby Yeatman, Nancy Finnegan, and Michael Sisson.

Others attending the meeting were: Richard English (Code Compliance Officer), Denise Dunaway (Development Services Manager), Harold & Brenda Delano, Chris Self, Cory Attack, Jeff Howeth, Vanelia Gallagher, Chris Frye, and Randy Owen (VMRC).

Chairman Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and welcomed members and guests.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

“On a motion made by Greg Gruner, seconded by Bobby Yeatman, the Board unanimously voted to elect David Gallagher as Chairman of the Wetlands Board.”

“On a motion made by Greg Gruner, seconded by Bobby Yeatman, the Board unanimously voted to elect Michael Sisson as Vice-Chairman.”

MINUTES

“On a motion made by Greg Gruner, seconded by Bobby Yeatman, the Board unanimously approved the October 22, 2015 meeting minutes as written.”

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Attack Properties, Inc., 4130 Innslake Drive, Glen Allen, VA 23060-0000, has applied for permission to install multiple low-profile groins and a community boat ramp along their Rappahannock River shoreline, located at Riverview Road and further identified as Parcels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 of Tax Map 29(5) and Tax Map Parcel 29-37A. (VMRC#15-1740)

Mr. Cory Attack explained that the Wetlands Board issued a permit in 2002 for the same project, which was never started; therefore, he is re-applying. Mr. Sisson asked Mr. Attack if he plans to remove the existing boat ramp. Mr. Attack said that he will not remove the ramp due to the impact it would have on the adjacent shorelines.

Chairman Gallagher opened the floor to the public. Chairman Gallagher closed the public comment period.

Chairman Gallagher informed the staff and audience that the members have read the VIMS report, which did not support the installation of the groins and proposed removing the retaining wall and either grading the bank to a more stable slope, grading the bank and installing a rip-rap revetment, or installing an offshore breakwater with beach nourishment.

“On a motion made by Bobby Yeatman, seconded by Greg Gruner, the Board unanimously voted to approve VRMC application #15-1740 with an expiration date of January 28, 2019.”

- U.S Trust –Bank of America, Mr. Byron Mobley, Trustee, P.O. Box 25718, Richmond, Virginia 23260-5718, has applied for permission to place 352’ of rip-rap revetment, 1,339’ of rip-rap sill, 682’ of rip-rap breakwaters and 68’ of a rip-rap spur along approximately 3,000’ of their Rappahannock River shoreline. The property in question is 1082 Shandy Hall Road, Warsaw, Virginia 22572 and further described as Parcels 24, 25 & 26 of Tax Map 35. (VMRC#12-1362)

Mr. Chris Frye, Agent for the applicant, explained that they are requesting approval and reissuance of a permit that was originally issued by the Wetlands Board in 2012.

Chairman Gallagher asked if any portion of the project has been completed. Mr. Frye said that 205 feet of rip-rap sill was completed back in 2014, but the remainder of the project has not been completed.

Ms. Finnegan asked how the property owner plans to access the property. Mr. Frye said access will be through the owner’s property and that they have no plans to use the neighbor’s access.

Chairman Gallagher asked about the cost of the breakwaters. Mr. Frye said that each breakwater is roughly \$100,000.00.

Chairman Gallagher opened the floor to the public.

Chairman Gallagher closed the public comment period.

Richard English summarized his staff report that was done in 2012, which stated that the project is consistent with an integrated approach to shoreline management through the encouraged use of the living shoreline techniques that have been proposed; therefore, he recommends the project as presented.

Mr. Sisson asked Mr. Frye where the wetland grasses would come from. Mr. Frye said that would be up to the contractor.

“On a motion made by Bobby Yeatman, seconded by Greg Gruner, the Board unanimously voted to approve VRMC application #12-1362 with an expiration date of January 28, 2019.”

- Anne H. Warner, P.O. 1162, Warsaw, VA 22572, has applied for permission to construct a rip-rap revetment and multiple low-profile groins with on site vegetated wetlands mitigation along her Rappahannock River shoreline, located at Accakeek Road, and further identified as Tax Map 29 Parcel 16. (VMRC#16-0018).

Mr. Howeth provided the Board with photographs of the property and explained the current shoreline conditions, consisting of rip-rap revetment and multiple groins. Mr. Howeth discussed the proposed project with the Board.

Mr. Yeatman questioned the placement of the current rock. Mr. Owen said that was placed on site under emergency action. Mr. Howeth said that the rock installed at that time, protected that spot and pushed the problem area farther down river.

Chairman Gallagher opened the floor to the public.

Chairman Gallagher closed the public comment period.

Chairman Gallagher questioned the 48' length of the new groin compared to the existing 58' groin. Mr. Howeth said with approval tonight, he would provide a drawing with a notation stating that the proposed groin would not exceed the length of the regional permit, which is 48' in length.

Chairman Gallagher asked if any grasses are involved. Mr. Howeth said that a few grasses would be located between the back of the rip-rap and the edge of the road.

Mr. English summarized his staff report, which stated that the proposed encroachment of the project is the minimum necessary required to enhance the protection of the shoreline as presented. Mr. English said that a living shoreline project was approved a year ago and due to the cost of that project, this is plan B.

“On a motion made by Greg Gruner, seconded by Michael Sisson, the Board unanimously voted to approve VRMC application #16-0018 with an expiration date of January 28, 2019.”

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Submitted as observed,

Richard English
Acting as Secretary