

RICHMOND COUNTY WETLANDS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 23, 2017

The Richmond County Wetlands Board held a meeting on March 23, 2017 in the Public Meeting Room, Warsaw, Virginia.

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

Others attending the meeting were: Richard English (Environmental Compliance Agent), Mark Eversole (VMRC), Robert “Curly” Lewis, Clifton Jenkins, Vanelia Gallagher and Hope Mothershead.

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

MINUTES

“On a motion made by Bobby Yeatman, seconded by Greg Gruner, the Board unanimously approved the November 30, 2016 meeting minutes as written.”

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 of the Wetlands Board.”

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Lyell E. Jenkins Trust, et. al., c/o Clifton Jenkins, 442 Strangeway Road, Warsaw, VA 22572, has applied for permission to construct multiple low-profile timber groins with beach nourishment along their Rappahannock River shoreline, located at 4011 Naylor's Beach Road and further identified as Parcel 13E of Tax Map 14, Parcels 18 and 19 of Tax Map 14A, and Parcels 27 and 28 of Tax Map 14B. (VMRC#17-0232)

Mr. Lewis approached the members and described the project as follows (per plan presented):

Remove existing and construct four low profile groins 48' in length from existing bulkhead at mean high water in the same footprint; Remove three existing short low profile groins; Construct three proposed groins in new location 48' in length from mean high water; All low profile groins to have a 10' spur to the right and left; Low profile groins to be nourished with beach nourishment (sand) when necessary.

Mr. Lewis noted that sand is vital on the beach for people to swim and for beach nourishment.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Lewis requested a permit that would be good for a period of two years, possibly 3 years.

Mr. English read the staff report as follows:

The applicant proposes to construct seven (7) new 48' long (channel ward of MHW) low profile timber groins along his high energy shoreline of the Rappahannock River. The shoreline currently consists of multiple timber groins, a concrete boat ramp, and a timber bulkhead. The upland area is in a grass lawn mowed to the back edge of the existing bulkhead. The adjacent up- and downriver properties consist of the same shoreline and upland characteristics.

The proposed groins within the application are intended to trap sand and raise the near shore area to an elevation that would move the ordinary day-to-day wave energy off shore. The groins proposed would ultimately build a beach providing for enhanced erosion protection. The proposed groin also expands upon the existing groin field that is present along this stretch of shoreline. The proposed encroachment of the project is the minimum necessary required to enhance protection of the shoreline as presented with the design, in regard to length and spacing, being reasonably consistent with the guidelines provided by DRC, VIMS and VRMC. With a goal of consistency in the permitting process for project sites of similar nature in this vicinity; I would recommend approval of the proposed project.

Mr. Jenkins noted that the three year period would be more desirable since he does not have the funds to do all replacements at one time.

Chairman Gallagher opened the floor to the public.

Chairman Gallagher closed the public comment period.

“On a motion made by Greg Gruner, seconded by Michael Sisson, the Board voted unanimously to approve VMRC application #17-0232 with an expiration date of March 23, 2020.”

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Gallagher noted that he had received correspondence in reference to VMRC#14-0088 for the construction of a community pier. Mr. English noted that this project was permitted in the name of Richard Sanford and now the property has been transferred to Gregory Packett. Mr. Packett is requesting a one year extension on the permit to allow for work to be completed.

“On a motion made by Bobby Yeatman, seconded by Michael Sisson, the Board voted unanimously to grant a one year extension on the permit referenced by VMRC#14-0018 (new expiration date of February 27, 2018).”

Mr. English provided an update on the Attack property project where the groins remained. There will be continuous maintenance, as currently the boat ramp is not useable. Mr. Attack has completed the requested mitigation and wetland plantings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Submitted as observed,

Hope Mothershead
Acting as Secretary