

RICHMOND COUNTY WETLANDS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 28, 2018

The Richmond County Wetlands Board held a meeting on June 28, 2018 in the Public Meeting Room, Warsaw, Virginia.

Wetlands Board Members Present: David Gallagher, Wayne Morris, Nancy Finnegan, Greg Gruner (Absent – Michael Sisson)

Others attending the meeting were: Richard English (Environmental Compliance Agent), Liz Hylan, Randy Owen (VMRC), Craig Palubinski (Bayshore Design, LLC), and approximately 5 others.

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 Nancy Finnegan, the Board unanimously approved the April 26, 2018 meeting minutes as written.”

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- Sharon L. Faina and James F. Kurdziel, 2477 Simonson Road, Farnham, VA 22460, has applied for permission to construct a rip-rap sill with associated beach nourishment and wetlands vegetation plantings along their Lancaster Creek shoreline, located at 2477 Simonson Road and further identified as Parcel 85 of Tax Map 43. (VMRC#18-0821)

Craig Palubinski presented the board with the proposal to construct 275 linear feet of rip-rap sill with an associated 200 cubic yards of high quality beach nourishment and establishment of 3500 square feet of wetlands vegetation along their Lancaster Creek shoreline. Mr. Palubinski noted the high bank on the south facing shoreline with also an existing bulk head that is much deuterated and washed out in some areas. Mr. Palubinski also noted the bulk head will be removed, the sill will be constructed channeling low water that varies from the bank 20 to 38ft. from the base of the bank. Mr. Palubinski mentioned the area between the sill and the base bank will be back filled with beach nourishment and planted with vegetation.

Mr. Palubinski stated on the east side of the property there is an existing french marsh, and the first 48ft will be marsh protection until you get to the pier where the existing bulkhead starts. Mr. Palubinski mentioned there is a slope that contractors can get their equipment down, and bring in the sand to construct the sill. Mr Palubinski also mentioned there are 2 windows in the sill, 5 ft. wares that are lower sections where the wares are no higher than any high water elevation, where a lot of the critters come in and out of the marsh.

Mr. Palubinski stated both neighbors have been notified and has not received any negative comments back. Mr Palubinski noted the application is currently being processed by VMRC and the core of engineers. Mr. Palubinski also noted the core of engineers has issued their permits.

Mr. English noted there are no recommendations or proposed permit conditions for this project.

Chairman Gallagher opened the floor to the public.

Chairman Gallagher closed the public comment period.

On a motion made by Greg Gruner, seconded by Nancy Finnegan, the Board voted unanimously to approve VMRC application #18-0821 with an expiration date of June 28, 2021.

- Paul L. and Loretta G. Kitchen, 8004 University Drive, Richmond, VA 23229, has applied for permission to construct multiple timbre groins with associated beach nourishment and rip-rap scour protection along their Rappahannock River shoreline, located on Little Florida Road further identified as Parcels 1 and 2 of Tax Map 42A. (VMRC#18-0881)

Mr. Palubinski presented the board with the proposal to replace five (5) pre wall dilapidated timber groins along the Rappahannock River at the mouth of Farnham Creek, with four (4) low profile timber groins varying in lengths (48,48,52, & 24 feet channel ward of MHW) with associated spurs. Mr. Palubinski noted their intension is to trap sand and raise the near shore area to an elevation that would move the ordinary day-to-day wave energy off shore. Mr. Palubinski mentioned beach nourishment has been added to jump start the growing cells so it can hold sand a little better.

Mr. Palubinski noted the existing groin at Wilna Point has filled up with sand almost out to the very end, and has deuterated. Mr. Palubinki also noted the new groins will be bumped into the tow of the marsh by adding rip rap planking protection to try and minimize the new groins from being flanked.

Mr. Palubinski commented neighbors have been notified and no negative comments have been received back. Mr. Palubinski also stated the application is currently being processed by VMRC and the core of engineers.

Mr. Morris asked will the groins that already exist be removed. Mr. Palubinki commented the current groins will be removed.

Mr. English noted there are no recommendations or proposed permit conditions for this project.

Chairman Gallagher opened the floor to the public.

Chairman Gallagher closed the public comment period.

“On a motion made by Nancy Finnegan, seconded by Greg Gruner, the Board voted unanimously to approve VMRC application #18-0881 with an expiration date of June 28, 2021.”

OTHER BUSINESS

Nancy Finnegan commented she felt unsettled after last month’s meeting in regards to the Wildlife Refuge Public hearing. Mrs. Finnegan noted she thought that the application was not presented well and the board shot the proposal down before offering the opportunity to Mr. Crouch to come back and present the project in a different way. Mrs. Finnegan stated she wished the board would have focused a little more on the wetlands instead of focusing more on whether the County needs another kayak launch or hunters being disturbed.

Mr. English mentioned there has been no contact from the Wildlife Refuge since a letter had been sent with the Boards decision. Mr. English also mentioned Mr. Crouch was given the option to come back with a revised plan.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted as observed
Liz Hylan
Acting as Secretary