

RICHMOND COUNTY WETLANDS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 18, 2013

The Richmond County Wetlands Board had a meeting on July 18, 2013 in the Public Meeting Room, Warsaw, Virginia.

Wetlands Board Members Present: David Gallagher (Chairman), Billy Walker (Vice-Chairman), Nancy Finnegan, Greg Gruner, and Bobby Yeatman.

Others attending the meeting were: Richard English (Code Compliance Officer), Denise Dunaway (Development Services Manager), Randy Owen (VMRC), Craig Palubinski (Bay Shore Design), and Vanelia Gallagher.

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Bobby Yeatman made a motion to re-elect David Gallagher as Chairman, Billy Walker as Vice-Chairman, Denise Dunaway as Secretary, and Mercedes Pierce as Alternate Secretary. Greg Gruner seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

MINUTES

Minutes from the June 27, 2013 meeting were unanimously approved with a revision in the language.

PUBLIC HEARING

- Kurt and Martha Vogel, 8517 Britewood Circle, Mechanicsville, Virginia 23116, has applied for permission to construct an 83 foot long timber bulkhead channelward of an existing, failing bulkhead along their Rappahannock River shoreline. The property in question is located at 1149 Riverdale Road and is further identified as Parcel 8 of Tax Map Insert 35A. VMRC #13-0900.

Craig Palubinski, agent for the applicant, submitted pictures to the board showing the Vogel's shoreline (Exhibit LWB1). Mr. Palubinski briefly explained the project to the board. Richard English read the staff report which stated the proposed encroachment is the minimum necessary to properly address the applicant's shoreline situation. Chairman Gallagher closed the public hearing and asked for a motion. Bobby Yeatman made a motion to approve the project and Nancy Finnegan seconded the motion. The project was unanimously approved with an expiration date of July 18, 2015.

OTHER BUSINESS

Richard English advised the board that there would not be a meeting in August.

Nancy Finnegan clarified her thoughts to her fellow board members regarding the Bower's public hearing last month. She explained that she felt obligated to consider all of the opposition and the effect this project will have on the adjacent properties, including up river, down river, and across the river. Ms. Finnegan regretted that there had not been more discussion between the board members regarding the public comments. Chairman Gallagher advised Ms. Finnegan that the members looked at the 72 sq. ft. of wetlands impact and Bobby Yeatman said he felt there was no reason to object the project based on the wetland board's jurisdiction. Ms. Finnegan stated that she was not opposed to the development; she just felt there should be a more reasonable option for the pier. Billy Walker and David Gallagher both agreed that this is not the place for a community pier but the board had no choice but to approve the project.

Randy Owen, VMRC representative, informed the board that Ms. Finnegan's concerns will be addressed within their approval process. Mr. Owen reminded the board that Mr. Bowers will need to file a variance with the county in order to construct the proposed pier, due to the length.

AJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Submitted as observed,

Richard English
Acting as Secretary