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Meeting Minutes

Virginia Recreational Fishing Advisory Board
Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Monday, November 9, 2020 6:00 p.m.
Virtual Voting Meeting

Members Present

Sheldon Arey
J. T. Holland
Wayne Jessie Jr.
Randy Pack
Meriwether Payne
Charles Randolph
Ed Rhodes
Charles Southall
Maggie Whittemor

Staff Present

Sheri Crocker
Debbie Corker
Pat Geer
Lewis Gillingham
Gloria Hatcher
Shanna Madsen
Alicia Nelson
Terri Short

Board Members Absent

None

Others Present

David Anderson
Wes Brown
Rob Cowling
Denny Dobbins
Ike Eisenhower
Steve Elliot
Mary Fabrizio
Lewie Lawrence
Jim McCaddin
Susanna Musick

The minutes were recorded by Alicia Nelson. A recording of the meeting is available.

Agenda:

I. Introduction, Announcements, Comments.

Alicia Nelson explained that the 2021 RFAB meeting dates had not yet been set; however, applications for the 2021 funding cycle will be due April 15, 2021. Sheri Crocker also introduced Gloria Hatcher, a new staff member who will be working with the Finance Division, replacing Terri Short who is retiring next month. Ms. Hatcher introduced herself and gave a brief summary of her history and background.

II. Status of Fund.

Sheri Crocker gave an overview of the funding levels in the VSRFDF. She noted that there was \$2,749,874 available for projects.

III. Review of Minutes from the September 2020 RFAB Meeting.

Mr. Southall motioned to approve the minutes from the September 2020 meeting. Mr. Randolph seconded the motion. The motion passed with all present in favor. Mr. Holland and Ms. Payne were not present because they were not yet logged into the meeting.

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IV. Fishing event applications for 2021 events:

Mr. Southall motioned to take the fishing event applications (items A through H) as a block. Mr. Arey seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Holland and Ms. Payne were not present because they were not yet logged into the meeting.

- A) 0420-01 2021 Knights of Columbus Annual Kids Fishing Day. Jim McCaddin, Knights of Columbus. **\$7,500.**
- B) 0420-01 2021 Hope House & Oak Grove Nursing Home Fishing Excursions and Clinics. Joseph Stephenson; George Reich, Great Bridge Fisherman's Association. **\$1,460.**
- C) 0420-03 2021 Virginia Beach Anglers Club/Seton Youth Shelter Children's Fishing Trip. David Anderson, Virginia Beach Anglers Club. **\$2,500.**
- D) 0420-04 D 2021 Children's Fishing Clinic. Rob Cowling, Newport News Rotary Club and Coastal Conservation Association-Peninsula. **\$7,500.**
- E) 0420-05 E 2021 Kiwanis Club Children's Fishing Clinic. Wesley Brown, Capital District Kiwanis Club. **\$7,500.**
- F) 0420-06 F 2021 Saxis and Morley's Wharf Children's Fishing and Conservation Educational Outings. Steven Elliot, Eastern Shore of Virginia Anglers Club. **\$2,200.**
- G) 0420-07 G 2021 Norfolk Youth Head Boat Fishing Trip. James "Ike" Eisenhower, Norfolk Anglers Club. **\$1,200.**
- H) 0420-08 H 2021 Sunshine Children's Fishing Program. Denny Dobbins, Portsmouth Anglers Club/Sunshine Program. **\$9,904.**

Mr. Randolph motioned to approve the fishing event items A through H. Ms. Whittemor seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. Research Projects

- I) 0420-09 I Virginia Game Fish Tagging 2021. S. Musick (VIMS), L. Gillingham (VMRC). **\$88,806.**

Mr. Randolph motioned to approve the item. Mr. Arey seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- J) 0420-10 J *Estimating Relative Abundance of Young-of-Year American Eel in the Virginia Tributaries of Chesapeake Bay. M. Fabrizio, T. Tuckey, VIMS. \$28,906. **(\$14,453 from VSRFDF, and \$14,453 from MFIF).**

Mr. Southall motioned to approve the item as described with split funding. Ms. Payne seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

- K) 0420-11 *Federal Assistance (Sportfish Restoration) Matching Funds, Federal FY 2020. P. Geer. \$283,835 **(243,287 from VSRFDF, 40,548 from MFIF)**

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Mr. Jessie motioned to approve the item. Mr. Holland seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Access Projects

- L) 0420-12 Reconstruction of a Saltwater Fishing Pier on the Severn River. L. Lawrence, MPPDC. **\$50,000.**

Mr. Rhodes noted that Mr. Lawrence had already provided a signed VMRC Facility Grant Provision Checklist, and reviewed the items with the board. He noted that the only one that was not typical was the item referring to law enforcement at the pier because the MPPDC is not the municipality in charge of enforcement.

Ms. Nelson explained that enforcement activities and jurisdictions would not shift in this case because it was not a new pier location. Mr. Southall asked about the rest of the checklist items and how they applied to this case. Ms. Nelson explained that the checklist is standard for all projects, so that not each item applies as much to this project (a reconstruction). The most important items for this case were the replacement and insurance items, as well as the item about the pier being free at this time to the public.

Mr. Southall motioned to approve the item. Mr. Randolph seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourn:

Applicants and members thanked everyone for their efforts during this atypical year and wished everyone happy holidays until the board meets again in the spring.