

Virginia Recreational Fishing Advisory Board
Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Monday, September 10, 2018
5:30 p.m. (Work Session) and 7:00 p.m. (Voting Meeting)

Board Members Present

Sheldon Arey
Carolyn Brown
J. T. Holland
Randy Pack
Meriwether Payne
Charles Randolph
Ed Rhodes

Staff Present

Sheri Crocker
Debbie Corker
Lewis Gillingham
Alicia Nelson

Board Members Absent

Charles Southall

Others Present

Bonnie Fitz
Denny Dobbins
David Anderson
Jim McCaddin
Greg Brown
Charles Clarkson
James Eisenhower
Troy Tuckey
Susanna Musick

The minutes were recorded by Alicia Nelson; an audio recording of the meeting is available.

I. Introduction, Announcements, Comments.

Alicia Nelson noted that a few of the applicants were missing that evening due to storm preparations.

II. Status of Fund.

Sheri Crocker described the estimate of funds available for projects, as from the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund (VSRFDF) was \$762,509 which was the balance in the fund as of June 2018.

III. Review of Minutes from the July 2018 RFAB Meeting.

Mr. Randolph motion to approve the minutes from the July 2018 RFAB meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Brown. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Fishing event applications for 2019 events:

Ms. Brown motioned to take all of the 2019 fishing events as a block. The motion was seconded by Mr. Randolph. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rhodes asked for comments on the items. Mr. Randolph asked about the Sunshine Children's Program; he asked about increasing costs during the time of dwindling

resources. He also asked how many participants were repeat participants from previous years. Mr. Dobbins explained that approximately 20% of participants returned for repeat trips throughout the year. Ms. Brown motioned to recommend funding items A through H. Mr. Randolph seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown (Knight's of Columbus Annual Fishing Day) thanked the board for working with him for many years of the fishing day event and introduced Mr. James McCaddin who will taking over for him in managing the event. The board thanked Mr. Brown for his work and welcomed Mr. McCaddin.

- A) 2019 Knights of Columbus Annual Kids Fishing Day (Year 31). Greg Brown, \$7,510.
- B) 2019 Hope House & Oak Grove Nursing Home Fishing Excursions and Clinics. Joseph Stephenson; George Reich, Great Bridge Fisherman's Association. \$3,825.
- C) 2019 Virginia Beach Anglers Club/Seton Youth Shelter Children's Fishing Trip. Robert Burstein, Virginia Beach Anglers Club. \$2,500.
- D) 2019 Children's Fishing Clinic. Rob Cowling, Newport News Rotary Club and Coastal Conservation Association-Peninsula. \$7,500.
- E) 2019 Kiwanis Club Children's Fishing Clinic. Wesley Brown, Capital District Kiwanis Club. \$7,500.
- F) 2019 Saxis and Morley's Wharf Children's Fishing and Conservation Educational Outings. Steven Elliot, Eastern Shore of Virginia Anglers Club. \$2,200.
- G) 2019 Norfolk Youth Head Boat Fishing Trip. James "Ike" Eisenhower, Norfolk Anglers Club. \$1,200.
- H) 2019 Sunshine Children's Fishing Program. Denny Dobbins, Portsmouth Anglers Club/Sunshine Program. \$9,550.

V. Access Projects

- I) Wormley Creek Waterfront Improvements – Phase 2. Bonnie Fitz, York County. \$58,115.25

Mr. Randolph motioned to not recommend funding item I, and Mr. Arey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Research Projects

- J) Virginia Game Fish Tagging 2019. S. Musick (VIMS), L. Gillingham (VMRC). \$82,487.

Mr. Randolph motioned to approve funding item J, and Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

K) *Estimating Relative Abundance of Young-of-Year American Eel in the Virginia Tributaries of Chesapeake Bay (Yr 16). M. Fabrizio, T. Tuckey, VIMS. \$26,960. (\$13,480 from VSRFDF, and \$13,480 from MFIF)

Mr. Randolph motioned to recommend funding. The motion was seconded by Ms. Brown and approved unanimously.

L) *Federal Assistance (Sportfish Restoration) Matching Funds, Federal FY 2019. R. O'Reilly, VMRC. \$205,723 (\$176,334 from VSRFDF, and \$29,389 from MFIF).

Mr. Randolph motioned to recommend funding. The motion was seconded by Ms. Brown and approved unanimously.

M) Restoration of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Habitat in Chesapeake Bay and the Virginia Coastal Bays. R. Orth, VIMS. \$102,368.

Mr. Randolph motioned to recommend funding. The motion was seconded by Ms. Brown and approved unanimously.

VII. Other Items

N) Mr. Rhodes explained that an item was being proposed by the chairman and vice chairman of the RFAB, for \$200,000 of funding to add material to existing active reefs within the reef program and to obtain feedback from the public about which reefs were more used a productive through a survey. Mr. Randolph motioned to approve the newly added item N; the motion was seconded by Mr. Arey and approved unanimously.

The next meeting was scheduled for the second Monday in May 2019.