

**Virginia Recreational Fishing Advisory Board  
Virginia Marine Resources Commission  
Monday, May 9, 2005 - 7:00 PM  
Minutes**

**Members Present**

John Barr  
Carlisle Bannister  
Jim Deibler  
Edward Rhodes  
George Hudgins  
Carolyn Brown  
Jesse Duell  
Charles Southall  
Charles Randolph

**I. Introduction, announcements, comments.**

Chairman George Hudgins called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Jane McCroskey announced that, both Jack Travelstead and Rob O'Reilly were at the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting Week, and unable to attend the RFAB meeting tonight.

**II. Status of Fund; Review of Wallop-Breaux Fund**

Ms. McCroskey reminded the Board that any items that were approved tonight would not receive funding before September. She stated that as of September 30, 2005 it is projected that \$1,208,028 would be available in the Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund (VSFRDF).

**III. Review of Minutes from the March 5, 2005 RFAB meeting**

The minutes from the March 5, 2005 meeting were approved as written.

Mr. Rhodes made a motion for an item not on the agenda. Item 334 the Saltwater Development Fund, Advisory Board Travel; an additional \$5,000 allocation was requested. The motion was approved. Chairman Hudgins pointed out to those in attendance that the Rec. Board receives no monetary gain; the \$5,000 goes towards mileage and meal reimbursement.

**IV. Multi-Year Projects for Renewal**

A. 2005 Kiwanis Club Children's Fishing Clinic. Wesley Brown. \$6000

The Board voted 8-0 to fully fund this project.

B. Estimating Relative Abundance of Young-of-year American eel, in the Virginia Tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay. Marcel Montane, VIMS; \$29,929.00

The Board voted 8-0 to fund 50%, or \$14,965.

Ms. McCroskey made note that VMRC would request that the rest of the funding be provided by the Commercial fishery fund.

C. Establishment of a Chesapeake Bay Trophic Interaction Laboratory Services Program. Chris Bonzek, VIMS; \$95,000

Mr. Rhodes asked if there was any funding from the state of Maryland or the Federal Government.

Debra Parthee of VIMS addressed the Board, and explained that there was no other funding.

Mr. Duell asked if this would be the last year this program would seek funding from the VSFRDF.

Mr. Barr reminded all that the Board had funded this project for the past two years and that this was to be the last year the project was projected to need funding. Therefore, in continuing with what they started the Board should fund the full \$95,000. The motion was approved.

The Board voted 8-0 to fully fund this project.

D. Enhancing SAV Habitat: Research and Education for Restoration. Dr. Bob Orth, VIMS; \$93,966.00

Dr. Orth of VIMS informed the Board that this project was going to be funded by the US Army Corps of Engineers and did not request funding from the VSFRDF. Dr. Orth thanked the Board for all the support over the years.

Chairman Hudgins stated that the Board commended Dr. Orth for his past work. Several members also made concurring remarks.

This project was withdrawn.

## V. New Projects

- E. Investigation of Mycobacteriosis in Chesapeake Bay Striped Bass: Large Scale Field Survey and Molecular Diagnostics, David T. Gauthier, VIMS; \$78,448.00

Mr. Deibler requested information about a certain piece of equipment that was budgeted in the proposal.

David Gauthier of VIMS addressed Mr. Deibler's question.

Mr. Bannister asked if this project overlapped with any other studies that have recently been done, or any currently in progress.

Mr. Gauthier and Mr. Wolfgang Vogelbein of VIMS explained in detail what this investigation hoped to accomplish, as well as what has been achieved with the funding from VSFRDF for a previous project.

The Board voted 8-0 to fully fund this project.

- F. Visual Function in Chesapeake Bay sportfishes: striped bass, weakfish, spotted seatrout, Atlantic croaker, spot and red drum. Andrij Harodysky, VIMS; \$42,838.00

The Board voted 8-0 to fully fund this project.

- G. What is the cause of menhaden recruitment failure? Quantifying the role of striped bass predation. Drs. Cynthia Jones and Nathan Smith, ODU; \$76,186.00

Both Mr. Deibler and Mr. Bannister asked if there was funding from any other sources for this project.

Nathan Smith of Old Dominion University explained that there has been a request made for seed money from Sea Grant, but that there was no current funding from any other source.

The Board voted 8-0 to fund 50% or \$38,093.

- H. Virginia Saltwater Angler's Guide – 3rd Edition, Claude Bain, VMRC; \$208,500.00

The Board voted 8-0 to fully fund this project.

I. Estimating Relative Juvenile Abundance of Recreationally Important Finfish and Crustaceans in the Virginia Portion of Chesapeake Bay. Dr. Herbert Austin, VIMS; \$386,030.00

There were several questions from the Board regarding the budget, as well as, past funding for this project.

Marcel Montane and Jane Lopez of VIMS along with Ms. McCroskey addressed these queries.

The Board voted 8-0 to fully fund this project.

**VI. Tentative dates for the remaining 2005 RFAB Meetings**

The Board voted for the following dates for the Second Cycle:

July 11<sup>th</sup>  
September 12<sup>th</sup>  
October 11<sup>th</sup>  
November 14<sup>th</sup>

Chairman Hudgins adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM.