

FINAL MINUTES
Recreational Fishing Advisory Board (RFAB) Meeting
July 12, 2010

Members Present

George Hudgins - Chairman	Carolyn Brown
Edward Rhodes - Vice-chairman	H. "Jim" Deibler
Carlisle Bannister	J. "Jimmie" Duell

Members Not Present

John Barr	Charles Southall
Charles Randolph	

At 7:05 p.m., Chairman Hudgins called the meeting to order.

Ms. Jane McCroskey provided a brief status report of the budget. She explained that the report shows a balance of \$1,562,668. This report includes the expenses for the on-going projects, the VMRC obligations for July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, and the estimated license sales through June 30, 2010. This estimate also includes a one-time return of \$250,000, from the Law Enforcement Division, for the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2010. She also mentioned that the report for the commercial fund included an estimate of around \$143,000, for 2010, but some of those funds may be allocated for on-going projects in July.

Mr. Jack Travelstead provided a short update on options being pursued, regarding the National Angler Registry requirement. In discussions with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), indications are that they may be able to provide an internet registration option, at no cost to Virginia and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission. Even if MDNR provides the internet service, there will still be a need for a phone registration process that would cost the Fund money. Indications from the other state agencies are that only about 5% of the people use a phone registration option. At this point, staff is not sure what the total cost will be. The Commission will advertise to raise license fees to cover the cost of the registration process. Also, there are some grants that are available to assist with the angler outreach. License purchasers will not have to register, but anyone else over the age of 16 that fishes in tidal waters will need to register, except those only fishing on charter and head boats. We will continue to pursue all of these issues and keep everyone updated throughout the summer and fall.

Mr. Hudgins asked for a review of the draft May 17, 2010 RFAB meeting minutes. Mr. Rhodes made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Brown seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous to accept the draft minutes as final.

Multi-Year Projects for 2010 Renewal.

- A) 2010 Sunshine Children's Fishing Program. Denny Dobbins, Portsmouth Anglers Club. **\$7,194.** Mr. Dobbins mentioned that they had started the summer program with the first head boat trip out of Sunset Marina in Hampton on July 9. The other dates scheduled for the head boat trips are July 23, July 30, and August 6. The pier fishing day will be held at the Ocean View Fishing Pier on August 13. No public comment was provided during the meeting.

- B) 2010 Saxis and Morley's Wharf Fishing Piers Youth Fishing Tournaments (Year 9). Allen Evans, Eastern Shore of Virginia Anglers Club. **\$2,000**. No public comment was provided during the meeting.
- C) 2010 Youth Developmental "Hooked on Fishing" Adventure (Year 3). John Wager, Virginia Charter Boat Association. **\$6,100**. Mr. Wager said that they are planning for 120 scouts and chaperones. The Governor has also been invited to speak. The program will be held on Saturday, August 28 at Norview Marina in Deltaville. No public comment was provided during the meeting.

Mr. Rhodes made a motion to approve the funding for Items A, B, and C and was seconded by Mr. Deibler. The vote passed 6-0. The RFAB recommendation for the funding of these three projects will be presented to the Commission on July 27, 2010.

- D) Sheepshead Diet in Chesapeake Bay between 2006 and 2008, Virginia. H. Liao, C. Jones, ODURF. **\$27,724**. Dr. "Hank" Liao was available for questions. No public comment was provided during the meeting.
- E) 2010 Virginia Marine Sportfish Collection (Year 4). J. Grist, J. Cimino, VMRC. **\$10,000**. Mr. Joe Grist was available for questions. No public comment was provided during the meeting.
- F) Federal Assistance (Wallop-Breaux) Matching Funds, Federal FY 2011. Jack Travelstead, VMRC. **\$325,468**. Mr. Travelstead was available for questions. No public comment was provided during the meeting.

Multi-Year Projects for 2011 Renewal.

- G) 2011 Children's Fishing Clinic (Year 14). Rob Cowling, Newport News Rotary Club and Coastal Conservation Association-Peninsula. **\$6,500**. Mr. Wes Brown was available for questions. He invited the RFAB members to the Saturday, July 17, 2010 clinic. No public comment was provided during the meeting.
- H) 2011 Kiwanis Club Children's Fishing Clinic (Year 10). Wesley Brown, Capital District Kiwanis Club. **\$6,500**. Mr. Brown was available for questions. He invited the RFAB members to the Tuesday, July 20, 2010 clinic. No public comment was provided during the meeting.
- I) 2011 Estimating Relative Abundance of Young-of-Year American Eel in the Virginia Tributaries of Chesapeake Bay. M. Fabrizio, T. Tuckey, VIMS. **\$46,574**. No public comment was provided during the meeting.
- J) 2011 Virginia Game Fish Tagging (Year 17). J. Lucy, VIMS and L. Gillingham, VMRC. **\$78,904**. Mr. Gillingham was available for questions. No public comment was provided during the meeting.
- K) 2011 Enhancing and Restoration of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Habitat in Chesapeake Bay and the Virginia Coastal Bays (Year 16). Robert Orth, VIMS.

New Project for 2010.

- L) Messick Point Recreational Fishing Pier, Engineering and Design. Dave Callis, City of Poquoson. **\$50,000**. Mr. Callis was available for questions. No public comment was provided during the meeting.

The date for the next RFAB meetings of this review cycle is September 13, Work Session (5:30 p.m.) and Final Recommendations (7 p.m.).

Chairman Hudgins adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

[Note: Audio files of the meeting are available at <http://www.mrc.virginia.gov/vsrfd/index.shtm> (Choose, Current Proposals, on the left-hand menu)]