

## MINUTES

## COMMISSION MEETING

March 25, 2025

The meeting of the Marine Resources Commission was held at the Marine Resources Commission main office at 380 Fenwick Road, Bldg. 96, Fort Monroe, Virginia with the following present:

Jamie L. Green	Commissioner
Patrick Hand	
Lynn Kellum	
A.J. Erskine	
William Bransom	Associate Members
Jeanette Edwards	
Thomas Preston	
Preston White	
Kelci Block	Assistant Attorney General
Jamie Hogge	Recording Secretary
Randy Owen	Chief, Habitat Management
Pat Geer	Chief, Fisheries Management

Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS):

Lyle Varnell	Emily Hein	Mark Luckenbach
Alex Sabo		

Others present:

Sherri McDearmon	Moe Zasimowich	Dave Pryer
Ken Knull	Karen Knull	Todd Patterson
Revel Walker	Ricky Woody	Amanda Logsdon
Chris Turner	Kailey Martinez	Jackie Shannon
Jordan Krevonick	Rebecca Francese	Matt McQuillen
David Westcott	Kim Huskey	David O'Brien
and others.		

\* \* \* \* \*

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA.** – Commissioner Jamie Green asked if there were any changes from the Board members or staff.

**Associate Member Erskine moved to approve the agenda as presented. Associate Member Bransom seconded the motion. The motion carried, 7-0.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**MINUTES:** Commissioner Green asked if there were any changes or corrections to be made to the February 25, 2025, Commission Meeting minutes.

**Associate Member Bransom moved to approve the minutes as presented. Associate Member Kellum seconded the motion. The motion carried, 7-0.**

\* \* \* \* \*

Commissioner Green swore in the VMRC staff and VIMS staff that would be speaking or presenting testimony during the meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

2. **PERMITS** (Projects over \$500,000.00 with no objections and with staff recommendation for approval).

Randy Owen, Chief, Habitat Management, reviewed the Page 2 items 2A through 2C for the Associate Members. Mr. Owen’s comments are a part of the verbatim record.

2A. **ENVIVA PORT OF CHESAPEAKE, LLC, #23-1428**, requests authorization to conduct new dredging of approximately 4,500 cubic yards of state-owned submerged lands to maximum depths of -44 feet mean low water (MLW) and to maintenance dredge approximately 5,400 cubic yards of state-owned submerged lands to maximum depths of -42 feet MLW, on an as-needed basis, within Paradise Creek adjacent to property serving 1000 Enviva Drive in the City of Chesapeake. Dredged material will be barged and offloaded at either Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area, Shirley Plantation in Charles City, or Precon Marine facility in the City of Chesapeake. Staff recommends a royalty

assessment of \$2,700.00 for the removal of 4,500 cubic yards of state-owned submerged land at a rate of \$0.60/cubic yard. This project requires a subaqueous permit.

- 2B. COLONNA SHIPYARD, #24-1918,** requests authorization to conduct new dredging of approximately 556,700 cubic yards of state-owned submerged lands to achieve maximum depths of -37 feet mean low water, on an as-needed basis, within the Eastern Branch Elizabeth River Federal Navigation Channel in the City of Norfolk. Dredged material will be barged and offloaded at either Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area, Shirley Plantation in Charles City, or Precon Marine facility in the City of Chesapeake. Staff recommends a royalty assessment of \$334,020.00 for the removal of 556,700 cubic yards of material at a rate of \$0.60/cubic yards. This project requires a subaqueous permit.
- 2C. FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, #24-2813,** requests authorization to construct a new causeway bridge across a 214-foot section of Cat Creek and to install two (2) 30-inch HDPE conduits housing a relocated waterline, sewer line, two electrical conduits, and a single communication conduit using the horizontal directional drill method across a 219-foot section of Cat Creek on Wallops Islands in Accomack County. The project requires a VMRC subaqueous permit.

No one spoke in support or opposition of the projects.

The matter was before the Commission for discussion and action.

**Associate Member Erskine moved to approve the Page 2 items 2A through 2C as presented. Associate Member Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried, 7-0.**

\*\*\*\*\*

- 3. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:** There were no Consent Agenda Items presented.

\*\*\*\*\*

**4. CLOSED MEETING FOR CONSULTATION WITH, OR BRIEFING BY, COUNSEL. – No meeting needed**

\* \* \* \* \*

- 5. PUBLIC HEARING:** The Commission proposes to amend Chapter 4 VAC20-510, “Pertaining to Amberjack and Cobia” to 1) amend recreational size limit to 43 inches; 2) repeal the one fish over 50-inch allowance in the recreational fishery; and 3) establish the recreational fishing season.

Pat Geer, Chief, Fisheries Management, gave the briefing of the information provided in the staff’s evaluation, with PowerPoint slides. for the Associate Members. Mr. Geer’s comments are a part of the verbatim record.

No one spoke in support or opposition of the project.

The matter was before the Commission for discussion and action.

**Associate Member Erskine moved to approve the project as presented. Associate Member Bransom seconded the motion. The motion carried, 7-0.**

\* \* \* \* \*

- 6. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, #24-1891,** requests authorization to place, via hydraulic means, approximately 162,500 cubic yards of dredged material from the Quinby Creek Federal Channel maintenance project onto state-owned wetlands and submerged lands situated along Upshur Bay in Accomack County. The project is protested by an adjacent oyster ground leaseholder

Randy Owen, Chief, Habitat Management, gave the briefing of the information provided in the staff’s evaluation, with PowerPoint slides. for the Associate Members. Mr. Owen’s comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Chris Turner, representative of the applicant, was sworn in. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Revel Walker was sworn in and spoke in opposition of the project. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

The matter was before the Commission for discussion and action.

**Associate Member Erskine moved to approve the project as presented with an amendment to dispose spoils to the furthest most northeastern reach of the point. Associate Member Bransom seconded the motion. The motion carried, 7- 0**

\* \* \* \* \*

7. **LEONARD CLARK, #22-1645, NTC 24-06.** Commission reconsideration of this after-the-fact request to retain a 100-foot vinyl bulkhead constructed in York County without VMRC authorization and the civil charges assessed against the responsible marine permitting agent and contractor.

Randy Owen, Chief, Habitat Management, gave the briefing of the information provided in the staff's evaluation, with PowerPoint slides. for the Associate Members. Mr. Owen's comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Matt McQuillen was sworn in. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Mr. McQuillen does not accept responsibility for being the marine permitting agent and contractor. He does not accept responsibility for paying the posed civil charges.

The matter was before the Commission for discussion and action.

**Associate Member Bransom voted to refer Mr. Clark to the Office of the Attorney General for further enforcement action for not accepting the Civil Charges assessed at the January Commission Meeting. Associate Member Preston seconded the motion. The motion carried, 7-0.**

**Associate Member Bransom moved to approve the after-the-fact request permit as presented. Associate Member Preston seconded the motion. The motion carried, 6-1. Associate Member White voted no.**

\* \* \* \* \*

8. **YANKEE POINT MARINA LLC, #24-2369,** requests authorization to construct a replacement boat ramp, temporary cofferdam, new tending pier and

dry hydrant at their existing marina at 1303 Oak Hill Road along Myer Creek in Lancaster County. The project is protested by a nearby property owner.

Randy Owen, Chief, Habitat Management, gave the briefing of the information provided in the staff's evaluation, with PowerPoint slides. for the Associate Members. Mr. Owen's comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Todd Patterson, owner of Yankee Point Marina, was sworn in. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Ken Knull, former owner of the marina, was sworn in and spoke in opposition of the application. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Sherri McDearmon, permitting agent, was sworn in. Her comments are a part of the verbatim record.

The matter was before the Commission for discussion and action.

**Associate Member White moved to approve the project as presented. Associate Member Bransom seconded the motion. The motion carried, 6-0. Associate Member Kellum abstained.**

\* \* \* \* \*

9. **WESTMINSTER-CANTERBURY ON CHESAPEAKE BAY, #24-2475,** requests authorization to remove a failed timber pier and construct a new concrete pier for the exclusive use of Westminster-Canterbury residents as part of the proposed Westminster-Canterbury on Chesapeake Bay campus expansion situated at property off Ocean Shore Avenue along the Chesapeake Bay in the City of Virginia Beach. The project is protested by numerous citizens.

Randy Owen, Chief, Habitat Management, gave the briefing of the information provided in the staff's evaluation, with PowerPoint slides. for the Associate Members. Mr. Owen's comments are a part of the verbatim record.

David Pryer, agent for the applicant, was sworn in. His comments are a part of the verbatim record.

Kailey Martinez was sworn in. Her comments are a part of the verbatim record.

The matter was before the Commission for discussion and action.

**Associate Member Hand moved to approve the project as presented. Associate Member Erskine seconded the motion. The motion carried, 6-1. Associate Member Bransom voted no.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mr. Richard Zasimowich and Mr. David Westcott, watermen, requested the return of their blue crab licenses after being waitlisted during the 2008 reduction in blue crab effort. Deputy Commissioner Joe Grist explained the history of the crab license waitlist. Their comments are a part of the verbatim record.

**Associate Member Bransom moved to approve the send the issue to the Crab Management Advisory Committee for discussion. Associate Member Kellum seconded the motion. The motion carried, 7-0.**

Associate Member Edwards requested clarification on the appropriate procedures for implementing emergency measures, particularly those initiated during the Public Comment period. The inquiry aimed to ensure consistency in decision-making while maintaining public transparency. The response from the representative of the Attorney General's Office is part of the official record. Their comments are a part of the verbatim record.

\* \* \* \* \*

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m. The next Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025.

**Commission Meeting**

**19303**  
**March 25, 2025**

---

Jamie L. Green, Commissioner

---

Jamie Hogge, Recording Secretary