

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
WETLANDS BOARD**  
Minutes  
November 21, 2012

This was the regular meeting of the Northampton County Wetlands Board held on Wednesday, November 21, 2012 in the Board Chambers located at 16404 Courthouse Road in Eastville, Virginia for the purpose of conducting regular business.

Those members present were Chair Marshall Cox, Vice-Chair Bowdoin Lusk, Nancy Wells Drury, Dot Field, Mark Gates and John Chubb, Jr. Absent from the meeting was Will Brown.

Also attending were Katrina Hickman, Zoning Inspector and Enforcement Agent to the Board; and Kay Downing, Board Secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m., and a quorum established. All those wishing to speak at today's meeting were sworn in by the Chair.

**Public Hearing**

The scheduled public hearing was called to order.

**VMRC 2012-1524:** David B. Tankard, Jr., has applied to install a rip rap breakwater approximately 200 feet long. The property, located at 2316 Old Neck Road, has frontage on Killmon Cove and is described as Tax Map 1A, double circle 1, parcel BC.

All Board members present and Ms. Hickman had conducted a field inspection of the property prior to the meeting this day.

No staff report or decision tree was prepared by the Zoning Administrator, Melissa Kellam.

Stephen Bunce, Jr., agent for the applicant, stated that backfill would be placed behind the return wall. Ms. Hickman noted that any part of the project above the mean high water mark would require administrative approval and not Board approval.

The Chair called for public comments. There being none the hearing was closed.

When asked, Mr. Bunce noted that due to impacts on the shoreline contours by Hurricane Sandy, the breakwater will need to be installed in a more straightened alignment than what was depicted on the original project drawings. He also noted that the alignment will not move channelward and that water will be able to flow through the rock.

Action:

Motion was made by Mr. Chubb to accept the application with the understanding that the breakwater will be installed in a more straightened alignment. Second was made by Mr. Gates and the motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

The Board then continued discussion on Karla Hehl's extension request related to VMRC 2011-0375. New photos of the completed project were presented and Ms. Hickman noted that new plantings have been installed. The Board also received written confirmation from Collins Engineers, Inc., that the limits of the rip rap upgrades were found to be in general conformance with the design plans dated October 18, 2011 and consisted of cast concrete blocks which, although not true stone, were observed to meet the weight ranges specified for standard Class II-III rip rap.

John Burdiss, counsel for Ms. Hehl, stated that her landscape architect, Bob Hardned, was present to answer any questions the Board may have.

Ms. Hehl expressed her appreciation to both the Board and especially to Ms. Hickman who was so helpful in assisting Ms. Hehl with the whole process. She expressed her opinion that the concrete blocks will not only work well but will look nice once all plantings are established.

Mr. Hardned also thanked Ms. Hickman for her expertise and noted that the county was fortunate to have such a professional and helpful staff member. He noted that an on-going maintenance program for this project would be needed. He encouraged the Board to consider natural alternatives when looking at shoreline solutions as it was his opinion that vegetation is always a better way to stabilize in the long run.

Mr. Badger stated that he has not yet visited the completed project site.

Ms. Hickman informed the Board that the civil penalty had been paid in full prior to its due date.

Based on testimony presented at the meeting along with photos and verification of general conformance construction standards made by Collins Engineers, Inc., the Board, by consensus, agreed that this project has been satisfactorily completed.

**New Business:** none.

**Statements from the Public:** none.

There was no report from the Agent to the Board Chair due to the absence of Ms. Kellam.

Based on her inspection, Ms. Hickman reported that Brass, Inc., has completed its restoration efforts at Red Bank. The turbidity curtain and concrete have been removed and the small piece

of wetlands has been replanted. The Board accepted Ms. Hickman's verification and deemed the case closed.

Ms. Hickman informed the Board that a violation at Shooting Point Subdivision has occurred and this matter will come before the Board probably in January 2013.

When asked if many applications had been received related to the impacts of Hurricane Sandy, Ms. Hickman replied no. However, she noted that there are real problems in the Latimers Bluff area but she is unaware of any emergency situations.

Ms. Hickman reported Robert Cole, agent with the Army Corps of Engineers, has verified that no violation has occurred related to VMRC 12-0628 for Guy Doughty. Mr. Cole has determined that the replacement bulkhead conforms to alignment regulations and that no further action is required.

Prior to adjourning Mrs. Downing informed that Board that she was unaware of any pending permits for December. Then the Board was informed by Mr. Bunce that a second JPA had been submitted for Guy Doughty's property at Concord Wharf. However, Mrs. Downing stated that she had not been informed of the filing. The Board then agreed by consensus that a December meeting would be held based on Mr. Badger's confirmation that there is another JPA submission to VMRC as filed by Mr. Doughty.

**Consideration of Minutes**

The minutes of the September 19, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted upon motion by Mr. Lusk and second by Ms. Drury.

**Adjournment**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

---

Chair

---

Secretary