Minutes
Essex County Wetlands Board
109 Cross St., Tappahannock, VA,
Meeting of September 22, 2022
6:00 PM

A meeting of the Essex County Wetlands Board was held on September 22, 2022, in the School Board Meeting Room at 109 Cross St., Tappahannock, Virginia, with the following present:

Present:
Jeff Howeth – Chairman
Wayne A. Davis, Jr. via phone
Nathan Parker IV.

Absent:
Kevin Goff
F. L. Garrett IV.

Also present:
Jay Woodward, Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Darla Odom, Berkley Group Representative
Kelly McKnight, Planning and Zoning Office Manager

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Howeth called the meeting of the Essex County Wetlands Board to order.

ROLL CALL
Ms. McKnight called the roll. A quorum was met.

AGENDA
Chairman Howeth announced Public Hearings on the Agenda

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Chairman Howeth asked for a motion to approve the May 26, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Parker so moved, and Mr. Davis seconded it. AYES: 3 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 2

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Chairman Howeth opened the public comments session and as no one came forward closed the public comments session.

PUBLIC HEARINGS
**VMRC #22-1666**

Chairman Howeth called up Robert Elgin, Jr.

Proposed Work and Purpose

Curly Lewis is representing Mr. Elgin, tax map 38-4-1. He is proposing a 48ft Groin from mean high water then 9 ft landward from that tying into the edge of vegetative wetlands. This will be constructed adjacent to the east side of an existing pier. They want to use beach nourishment sand only on the right-hand side from the mean low water to the high-water mark and just a little above it.

Discussion

Mr. Jay Woodward stated that a portion of the project that is channel ward of low water, the groin that is channel ward and the beach nourishment is in the state’s jurisdiction so VMRC will have to issue a permit as well. They wait on the locality before they take their action.

Mr. Parker made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Davis seconded. Chairman Howeth stated this would be a three-year permit.

AYES: 3 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 2

**VMRC #22-1662**

Chairman Howeth called up Mr. Woodward to discuss this request.

Proposed Work and Purpose

Mr. Ware, tax map 47-11A, is requesting to install a 260 linear feet of quarry stone riprap landward of Mean High Water in association with bank Grading.

Discussion

Mr. Woodward encouraged the Wares to not put concrete and asked that they would be better off to put the timber wall in front of that tree and then the rock.

Chairman Howeth there is a little length, and a vertical wall is not what is best but a wall as a backdrop to the rock.

Chairman Howeth will advise Mr. Ware and Mr. Allen as to what might be a better way to go.

Mr. Parker made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Davis seconded.

AYES: 3 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 2

**VMRC #22-1663**

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Proposed Work and Purpose

Mr. Ware, tax map 47-12, is requesting a 260 linear feet of quarry stone riprap and 50 linear feet of timber bulkhead, in association with bank grading landward of Mean High Water.

Discussion

Mr. Woodward stated there was some disturbance with getting the pier down the banks, temporary impacts but also to make sure there is silt fence in place.

Mr. Parker made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Davis seconded.

AYES: 3 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 2

VMRC #22-1937

Proposed Work and Purpose

Mr. and Mrs. Regensburg, tax map 53A-2-18-A, are requesting to remove two dilapidated timber groins and dispose of in a legal manner. Construct two non-commercial, 48’vinyl groins, one with 8’ spur, and 5 x 8 treated-timber stairs adjacent to the existing pier.

Discussion

Mr. Woodward stated it does require a permit from the VMRC as well and it is beyond repair, so it needs to be replaced.

Mr. Davis made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Parker seconded.

AYES: 3 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 2

VMRC #22-1952

Proposed Work and Purpose

Mr. and Mrs. Terry, tax map 47B-1-5, are requesting to construct two non-commercial 48’ timber groins with 6’ spurs, a 5’ x 31’ catwalk around an existing boathouse, add 8’ x 14’ open-pile extension to an existing L-head platform, and construct 5’ x 12’ timber stairs adjacent to the existing pier.

Discussion

Mr. Woodward stated that the only portion in the jurisdiction is the groin, everything else is in the VMRC. The spurs help block more wave action.

Chairman Howeth recommended a 3-year permit.

Mr. Parker made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Davis seconded.

AYES: 3 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 2
OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Howeth is going to send a letter to the Supervisors about the Wetlands board to make sure that we have legal counsel to represent the wetlands board.

ADJOURN

Having no further business, Chairman Howeth entertained a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Parker so moved. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. AYES: 3 NAYES: 0 ABSENT: 2