

**Board of Game and Inland Fisheries
Meeting Minutes
4000 West Broad Street, Board Room
Richmond, Virginia 23230**

**March 1, 2011
9:00am**

Present: Mr. James W. Hazel, Chairman, Mr. Ward Burton, Vice-Chairman, Ms. Mary Louisa Pollard, Mr. John W. Montgomery, Jr., Mr. Curtis Dixon Colgate, Mr. F. Scott Reed, Jr., Mr. James Brent Clarke, III, Mr. Charles Yates, Ms. Lisa Caruso, Mr. Leon O. Turner, Sr.; **Absent:** Mr. Randy Kozuch; **Executive Director:** Robert "Bob" W. Duncan; **Chief Operating Officer:** Mr. Matt Koch; **Senior Leadership Team:** Dr. Joice Conyers, Mr. Larry Hart, Mr. Lee Walker, Mr. David Whitehurst, Mr. Tom Gelozin and Colonel Dabney "Dee" Watts; **Legal Counsel:** Mr. Ryan Brown; **LDP Peer Group 1:** Mr. Ernie Aschenbach, Mereme Martin, Alicia Ivey and Brian Moyer.

[\(Listen: Call to Order and Welcome\)](#)

The Chairman called the meeting to order and noted for the record that a quorum was present for today's meeting. The Chairman introduced Delegate Tony Wilt and thanked him for his support to the Board and Agency during the 2011 General Assembly and his attendance at today's meeting. Mr. Colgate read the Agency Mission statement into the record and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Leadership Development Program, Peer Group 1.

Recognition of Employees and Others: [\(Listen\)](#) The Chairman called on the Director for Staff recognitions.

The Director recognized Ms. Frances Anderson for her 45 years of Service to the Commonwealth and the Agency. Ms. Anderson was presented her certificate signed by the Governor, the Secretary of Natural Resources and the Director.

The Director congratulated Majors Mike Minarik and Ron Henry on their recent promotions.

The Chairman congratulated everyone on their accomplishments and thanked them for their service and dedication to the Agency.

Public Comments - Non Agenda Items: [\(Listen\)](#) The Chairman called for public comment on non-agenda items and called attention to the need to limit individual comment to 3 minutes and comments supporting a group to 5 minutes. The Chairman also reminded everyone wishing to make a comment to move to the podium so all comments can be made a part of the record and to state their name and city.

Public Comments:

Mr. Floyd F. Smith, Goochland, Virginia, spoke regarding habitat.

Mr. Bobby Smith, Fairfield, Virginia, spoke regarding the right retrieve dogs.

Mr. Wilmer Stoneman, Richmond, Virginia, who represented the Virginia Farm Bureau, spoke regarding goose season East of I-95.

Mr. Kirby Burch, Powhatan, Virginia, who represented the Virginia Hunting Dog Alliance, spoke regarding the separation of the Bear tag..

The Chairman thanked everyone for their comments and attendance during today's meeting.

Approval of October 5, 2010 Meeting Minutes: ([Listen](#)) The Chairman noted there were technical changes to the minutes. They will be carried forward to the March 21, 2011 Board Workshop.

Committee Reports: ([Listen: Wildlife and Boat Committee Report](#)) The Chairman called on Mr. Scott Reed, Chairman of the Wildlife and Boat Committee. Mr. Reed reported on the activities of the December 6, 2010 and February 9, 2011. Mr. Reed thanked Mr. Hazel and Mr. Colgate for attending the February 9, 2011 meeting and reported that the Committee received staff updates and a report on the activities of the 2011 General Assembly. The Committee also approved the minutes of the December 6, 2010 Committee Meeting. Mr. Ellis presented updates on the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program and the Elk Restoration project. The Director reported on Chronic Wasting Disease and the Lyme Disease Task Force. Mr. Ellis and members of the Wildlife Bureau Staff gave an overview of the regulation process and noted for the record that staff would present their recommendations during the March 1, 2011 Board Meeting.

Public Meeting Schedule

Monday	March 21 – Wytheville	Wytheville Meeting Center
Tuesday	March 22 – Suffolk	Kings Fork High School
	March 22 – Roanoke	Northside High School
Wednesday	March 23 – Richmond	DGIF Board Room
	March 23 – Lebanon	Russell Co. Government Center
Thursday	March 24 – Gloucester Point	VIMS Main Auditorium
	March 24 – Woodstock	Peter Muhlenberg Middle School
Tuesday	March 29 – Centreville	Fairfax Chapter Izaak Walton League
	March 29 – Farmville	Prince Edward High School
Thursday	March 31 – Buffalo Gap	Buffalo Gap High School

All Meetings will be from 6 pm – 10 pm

6:00- 6:30 Open house, view proposals

6:30 -7:30 Presentation and public comment on Department's revenue proposals

7:45 -9:45 Presentation and public comment on Hunting and Trapping regulations

A discussion was held on the current regulation process. The Committee approved the Public Meeting Schedule and will present this to the Board for adoption during the March 1, 2011 Board Meeting.

([View Presentation: 2011-2012 Proposed Hunting and Trapping Regulation Amendments](#))

Mr. Reed called on Mr. Ellis to present the staff's recommendations for the **2011-2012 Proposed Hunting and Trapping Regulation Amendments.**

DEER

4 VAC 15-90-23 - Game: Deer: Youth deer hunting day.

Summary

Remove current exception for the youth deer hunting day in Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties, making the youth day open statewide.

Rationale

Establish a statewide youth deer hunting day
Increase youth deer hunting opportunity and recruitment

4 VAC 15-90-70 - Game: Deer: Bow and arrow hunting.

Summary

Establish criteria that will provide for additional urbanized counties and cities to participate in the urban archery deer season.

Rationale

Local governments of highly urbanized counties have requested the urban archery season.
Extends eligibility to counties with 300 persons/sq mile or more
Provides additional opportunities for urbanized localities to address human-deer conflicts.

4 VAC 15-90-80 - Game: Deer: Muzzleloading gun hunting.

Summary

Increase either sex deer hunting days from six days to full season during the late muzzleloader season in the cities of Chesapeake, Suffolk (east of the Dismal Swamp line) and Virginia Beach.

Rationale

Deer population management objectives in the Deer Plan call for population reduction in these areas.
The change will help meet the deer population objective.

4 VAC 15-90-91 - Game: Deer: General firearms season either-sex deer hunting days.

Summary

Recommending either sex deer hunting days on private lands:

- Increase in 12 counties
- Decrease in 3 counties

Recommending either sex deer hunting days on public lands :

- Increase on 2 WMA, C.F. Phelps, Mattaponi (new area)
- Decrease on 1 WMA, Turkeycock

Rationale

Either-sex deer hunting days are used to achieve population goals outlined in the Deer Management Plan

4 VAC 15-90-231 - Game: Deer: Validating tags and checking deer by licensee or permittee and in 4 VAC 15-90-241 Validating tags and checking by license exempt hunter.

Summary

Require that any deer killed in the late deer seasons be checked using the telephone or internet.

Establish criteria for possession of unmarked deer carcass parts.

Rationale

The recommended change will result in a more streamlined and timely checking capability during these late seasons.

More than 82% of the deer killed during the 2009-10 late deer seasons were checked electronically.

Possession of unmarked deer carcass parts is not addressed in regulation and has been a law enforcement concern.

4 VAC 15-90-90 -Game: Deer: Bag limit, bonus deer permits and special antlerless provision for youth hunters and earn a buck.

Summary

Remove the daily bag limit for deer in Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties making it unlimited.

Clarify language in Earn A Buck subsection.

Rationale

More aggressive harvest strategies are needed to meet the goal of reducing the deer population in these counties.

The governments and citizens in these three counties are demanding the deer population be reduced.

New language in subsection F under Earn a Buck is a housekeeping change to allow the original intent of the regulation to be realized.

4 VAC 15-90-293 - Game: Deer: Chronic Wasting Disease carcass importation restrictions.

Summary

Amend language so that carcass importation prohibition only applies to deer carcasses that originate from a designated CWD containment area rather than the entire province or state.

Rationale

Current regulation prohibits importation of any deer carcass originating from a CWD positive state.

Presents a burden on hunters crossing the state line after hunting in areas that are far from known cases of CWD.

The recommended change is a reasonable approach while still maintaining the necessary safeguard in preventing CWD being transported into the state.

4 VAC 15-270-95 - Model ordinances for archery deer hunting. (new section)

Summary

Develop model ordinances for archery deer hunting, as mandated by Code of Virginia §29.1-528.1.

Rationale

A General Assembly mandate to develop regulations establishing model ordinances for archery deer hunting.

The ordinances were to include the times at which such hunting shall commence and end each day and the number of deer that can be taken.

Elk

4 VAC 15-90-85 - Game: Deer: Hunting elk of either sex.

Summary

Close the hunting of elk in Buchanan, Dickenson, and Wise counties.

Require that elk legally killed outside these 3 counties be made available for collection of biological specimens for disease testing.

Rationale

The closure of elk hunting seasons in the restoration area is necessary to establish and manage an elk population and is consistent with other state elk restoration programs.

The monitoring of wild elk for disease is essential to elk management.

The regulation amendments will result in more complete and timely submissions of biological material for disease testing.

Bear

Non – Regulatory Issue - Proposed Black Bear Population Objectives for Hunting Season Recommendations.

Development of Objectives

Staff has proposed population management objectives to meet a Cultural Carrying Capacity (CCC) balance in each of the bear management zones.

Public values provide the foundation for determining the CCC and the resulting population objectives in each zone. Public values were developed by diverse groups of bear stakeholders currently involved in the revision of the plan.

The objectives are based on these public values and other available technical information.

Population objectives are not necessarily related to the current population trends or even the relative population size. Instead, they are intended to simply reflect a balanced assessment of the zone-wide CCC.

4 VAC 15-50-11 - Game: Bear: Open season; generally (new section)

Summary

Simplify 5 current regulation sections into one regulation section for Bear firearm seasons .

Recommending Bear Firearm season :

Increase in 17 counties from 2 weeks to 3 weeks

Increase in 1 county and portions of 4 counties by adding a Saturday

Decrease in 3 counties and portions of 3 counties by one day

Decrease in 15 counties from 6 weeks to 1 week

Decrease from 2 weeks to 1 week in western portion of Campbell and Pittsylvania

Rationale

The amendments are recommended to meet bear population objectives in the revised Black Bear Management Plan for the described areas and simplify current regulations.

4 VAC 15-50-70 - Game: Bear: Muzzleloading gun hunting.

Summary

Establishes a 6-day muzzleloading gun bear season in 18 counties that previously were closed.

Reduces the muzzleloading gun bear season from 12 days to 6 days in 33 counties and 4 cities.

Rationale

The amendments are recommended to meet bear population objectives in the revised Black Bear Management Plan and provide a diversity of hunting opportunities in appropriate areas.

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Rationale

The amendments are recommended to meet bear population objectives in the revised Black Bear Management Plan and provide a diversity of hunting opportunities in appropriate areas.

4 VAC 15-40-282 - Game: Bear: Unauthorized feeding of bear.

Summary

Strengthen and clarify language in the existing regulation prohibiting bear feeding .

Rationale

Amendments will allow for more effective enforcement of the law and reductions in human/bear conflicts across the Commonwealth.

Broadens the scope of public responsibility for attractants left out for bears

Trash is one of the most cited items that attract bears around homes and businesses in the Commonwealth.

Quicker response and removal of the attractant leads to a more timely resolution of the problem and reduces the opportunity for negative interactions between bears and people.

Turkey

4 VAC 15-240-10 Open season; generally.

Summary

Uniformly open and close the December segment of the fall season on the Monday nearest Dec 2 through the last Saturday in December.

Establish a January segment of the fall turkey season beginning the second Saturday in January and continuing for 12 hunting days.

Rationale

Simplifies regulations.

Increase fall turkey hunting opportunities.

Stimulates hunter recruitment and retention.

4 VAC 15-240-20 Open season; certain counties and areas; Saturday prior to the last Monday in October and for 11 hunting days following, and on Thanksgiving Day.

Summary

Remove 7 counties and the City of Suffolk from the 2 week fall season they will be added to the 4 week season.

Remove Buchanan county from the 2 week season it will have a 6 week season.

Add 11 counties to this section which will shorten their fall season from 6 weeks to 2 weeks.

Rationale

Increase turkey hunting opportunities in areas with high turkey densities.

Reduce season in west central counties showing declines over 10 year period.

Public has expressed concerns about low turkey densities in these areas.

4 VAC 15-240-31 Open season; generally; certain counties and areas; Saturday prior to last Monday in October and for 11 hunting days following and on Thanksgiving Day.

Summary

The recommendation is to add 7 eastern counties and the City of Suffolk to the 4-week fall season which will add 2 additional weeks of fall hunting.

Rationale

Counties have high turkey populations.

Interest in fall hunting in the region is apparently low as evidenced by the low fall harvests.

Adding 2 additional weeks of fall hunting is biologically sound and will provide for increased hunter recruitment and retention opportunities.

4 VAC 15-240-81 Game: Turkey: Validating tags and checking turkey by licensee.

Summary

Establish the option to check a fall turkey killed prior to the January segment of the fall season using the telephone or internet.

Require that turkeys killed during the January segment of the fall season can only be checked using the telephone or internet.

Rationale

The option to check by phone or internet will provide hunters greater convenience.

Requiring checking by phone or internet during January is necessary as checkbooks are collected at the end of the regular deer and turkey season.

4 VAC 15-240-91 Game: Turkey: Checking turkey by persons exempt from license requirement or holding a license authorization number.

Summary

Provide persons exempt from license requirements or holding a license authorization number the same options and requirements in checking a fall turkey kill as hunters holding a license

Rationale

same as previous

Small Game

Rabbit

4 VAC 15-200-30 - Game: Rabbit: Trapping with box traps.

Summary

Clarify language to allow transport of trapped rabbits and insure rabbits cannot be released on the lands of another without permission.

Rationale

Current language leaves room for interpretation on whether a trapped rabbit can be transported

The recommended language makes it explicit that rabbits trapped can be transported
Insures that rabbits being transported cannot be released onto the lands of another without permission.

4 VAC 15-230-21 - Game: Squirrel: Spring season for gray and red squirrels.

Summary

Establishes the June squirrel season statewide except on National Forest lands

Rationale

Removes complexity of establishing public lands open to the June squirrel season every two years.

Allows public land entities who want to have the season to do so without waiting for the next regulation cycle.

Areas open to June squirrel hunting will be identified in the annual hunting regulations digest to eliminate confusion among sportsmen.

4 VAC 15-230-61 - Game: Squirrel: Spring season for fox squirrels.

Summary

Establishes the June fox squirrel season on all lands where fox squirrels are legal to hunt during the regular fox squirrel season except on National Forest lands

Rationale

Allows all public land entities in areas open to the regular fox squirrel season who would want to have a June fox squirrel season to do so without having to wait for the next regulations cycle.

Areas open to June squirrel hunting will be identified in the annual hunting regulations digest to eliminate confusion among sportsmen.

Furbearer and Trapping

Trapping

4 VAC 15-40-200 - Game: In general: Restricted use of above ground body-gripping traps in excess of five inches.

Summary

Increase the maximum size of body-gripping traps from 6½” to 7½” jaw spread that can be used within trap enclosures.

Rationale

Trappers requested the use of the larger 220 size Conibear (7” in diameter) within boxed enclosures.

Most trappers already own Conibears of this size and they are more readily available.

The dimensions of the restricted entrance to the enclosure would remain the same.

Furbearer

4 VAC 15-40-275 - Game: In general: Sale of Furbearer parts. (new section)

Summary

Allow parts of legally taken furbearers to be sold at any time to fur dealers that are permitted by the department.

Rationale

Trappers have requested clarification of the law on the sale of parts of legally taken furbearers.

The marketability of specific furbearer parts has increased in recent years.

Trappers would like to supplement their trapping income by selling additional parts from harvested animals that would otherwise go to waste.

Otter

4 VAC 15-170-20 - Game: Otter: Open season for trapping in counties east of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Summary

Combine east and west of the Blue Ridge otter regulations

Remove requirement for carcass checking.

Retain season bag limit of 2 otters per trapper per season west of the Blue Ridge.

Rationale

Combine otter regulations since season dates are the same statewide.

Remove the carcass collection requirement since biological sampling goals have largely been met.

Maintain the 2 otter per trapper season bag limit west of the Blue Ridge until 5 years of population data from carcass collections can be completely analyzed.

4 VAC 15-170-21 - Game: Otter: Open season for trapping in counties west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, carcass presented to department agent; season bag limit.

Summary

Repeal this section.

Rationale

Same as described in previous regulation.

Raccoon

4 VAC 15-210-10 - Game: Raccoon: Open season; counties east of Route 29; possession of certain devices unlawful.

Summary

Establish a continuous open season for chasing raccoons statewide, except on department lands west of the Blue Ridge Mountains and on National Forest lands. Expand the area of department lands west of the Blue Ridge Mountains and National Forest lands where raccoon chase is allowed during the bear hound training season.

Rationale

Raccoon hunters in western Virginia have expressed interest in the same opportunities afforded those in the eastern portion of the state. Raccoon hunters also have requested that additional areas of National Forest lands with a bear hound training season also be opened for raccoon chase during this period. No biological impacts to raccoons are expected as a result of these proposed changes.

4 VAC 15-210-20 - Game: Raccoon: Open season; counties west of Route 29; possession of certain devices unlawful.

Summary

Repeal this section.

Rationale

This regulation will no longer be necessary since staff is recommending a statewide raccoon chase season and special restrictions for department and National Forest lands in western Virginia are incorporated into recommended changes to 4 VAC 15-210-10.

Waterfowl

4 VAC 15-260-90 - Game: Waterfowl and Waterfowl Blinds: Blinds prohibited in sections of Accomack County

Summary

Allow public waterfowl hunting from floating blinds in waters adjacent to the Saxis Wildlife Management Area

Clarify language describing the area in Michael Marsh closed to waterfowl hunting.

Rationale

Waterfowl hunters have requested opening previously closed bodies of water to sea duck and other float blind waterfowl hunting.

Opening this area to floating blinds will provide more opportunities for public waterfowl hunting.

Clarifying language is needed to identify area of Michael Marsh closed to waterfowl hunting.

4 VAC 15-260-180 - Game: Waterfowl and Waterfowl Blinds: Tundra swan hunting permit. (new section)

Summary

The recommendation is to establish a regulation that requires a permit to hunt tundra swans.

Rationale

Establishing the recommended regulation would more clearly define the requirement of a tundra swan permit.

Will enhance the enforcement and prosecution of permit violations.

General Regulations

4 VAC 15-30-50 – Definitions and Miscellaneous: Importation, possession, sale etc., of animals: possession, transportation, and release of wildlife by authorized persons.

Summary

Authorize animal shelters or similar facilities to temporarily possess, confine, and euthanize certain wildlife.

Provides provisions by which certain wildlife can be transported to animal shelters by the public.

Provides provisions for non-wildlife agencies and private contractors to assist with pickup, transport, and disposal of road-killed wildlife.

Rationale

County and city animal control officers can legally euthanize certain wildlife not clear if animal shelters contracted by animal control could do the same.

Current regulation does not specifically allow the public to transport wildlife legally to animal shelters.

Provisions are needed to allow non wildlife agencies and private contractors to assist in picking up and disposal of road killed wildlife.

4 VAC 15-40-285 - Game: In general: Unauthorized feeding of wildlife. (new section)

Summary

Prohibit the feeding or attracting of wildlife when it causes property damage, endangers people, or creates a public health concern.

Rationale

Currently, there is no legal recourse for individuals who experience property damage caused by neighbors who intentionally or unintentionally feed or attract wildlife.

In some cases, feeding of wildlife has also created a public health concern (i.e. concentrating numbers of rabies-vector species like raccoons).

This regulation would provide the Department with the necessary means to restrict wildlife feeding (or attraction) that creates a public concern.

The Chairman called for questions from the Board before hearing public comment. The Chairman thanked Mr. Ellis for his presentation.

Mr. Clarke spoke regarding **4 VAC15-90-23** regarding youth being required to wear blaze orange during youth deer hunting days in Fairfax County. Can anybody hunt with fire arms? Mr. Ellis responded that they could. Mr. Clarke stated that he was aware there was a provision for the use of fire arms and wanted to know if anybody was exercising this provision. Mr. Ellis responded the provision was being used. Mr. Clarke confirmed that it was necessary for kids to wear blaze orange. The staff agreed.

Mr. Montgomery spoke regarding the Elk Regulation (**4 VAC 15-90-85**) and asked how many elk were harvested this year from the 3 counties where the proposed closed elk season would take effect. In Wise County 4 were taken; Tazewell County 1 taken; Lee County 1 taken, for a total of 6 taken.

Mr. Colgate spoke regarding **4 VAC 15-90-293** which deals with Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). Is there any concern the language might be too permissive in trying to stay ahead of the CWD curve? Also, is there any thought of widening the area? Mr. Ellis stated he believed the recommendation follows that of what most other states have adopted as the practice of where CWD is identified in a containment area - importation is limited from that area. Mr. Ellis does

not see an increased concern about getting CWD by allowing importation from other areas. The staff will continue to monitor the carcasses and if additional problems arise, staff will make the needed changes to the regulation.

Ms. Pollard spoke regarding **4 VAC 15-90-293**. Just to follow-up on the discussion, for her personal information. Is Hampshire County, West Virginia the only county in the containment area. Mr. Ellis stated that was correct. One case has been identified in Hardy County and the staff will be meeting with staff in West Virginia to see if this locality will be included in the containment area.

Mr. Clarke spoke regarding the Turkey Season in December **4 VAC 15-240-31**. Why is it set as the first Monday in December vs. the first Saturday closest to December 2nd? Mr. Ellis called on Mr. Godfrey. Mr. Godfrey stated that having the season open on the first Saturday closest to December 2nd was the original idea, however, staff identified that it would overlap the end of the deer season in the western part of the state which would affect a large number of hunters looking to harvest turkeys during this period of time. There were lots of biological concerns. This option seemed to be the best.

Mr. Burton spoke regarding **4 VAC 15-240-31**. Can the season be adjusted to the Saturday, Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday leading up to Thanksgiving so that turkeys can be harvested for Thanksgiving Day? Mr. Ellis stated that would add another day that would overlap the deer season. Mr. Ellis said the staff would continue to look at the option.

Mr. Yates spoke on turkeys. He noticed that Buchanan County was added in with everyone that has a six week season. Mr. Ellis stated that by adding Buchanan County into the group provides extra opportunities for hunters in the area.

The Chairman asked Mr. Yates if he would like to speak regarding elk. Mr. Yates stated that he did.

Mr. Yates stated that he liked the idea of an Elk Conservation Stamp. He is not sure of the process and what there is to gain financially, but he would suggest the Board consider the idea. Mr. Ellis stated it would work similarly to that of the former voluntary duck stamp.

The Chairman stated he agreed with the merit of the idea, but since it is voluntary, the Chairman stated he was not sure that it had to be in a regulation format. Mr. Ryan Brown stated that since it was voluntary it did not necessarily have to be in a regulation format. Mr. Hazel asked staff to follow-up on the process and report back at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Montgomery stated with regards to the voluntary duck stamp it was cost neutral until it generated some interest. Mr. Montgomery suggested that if the Board chooses to move forward with the voluntary Elk Conservation Stamp, the program should follow the existing programs so we are able to minimize the cost. Mr. Montgomery stated the stamp should fall under the Board's guidance.

Mr. Montgomery also wanted to know under the current moratorium for elk, when is the optimal plan to begin hunting in the 3 counties? Mr. Ellis stated they are looking to put elk on the ground beginning next spring (2012). More than likely hunting would begin four years from next spring. A discussion was held on reducing the harvest by Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Ellis.

Mr. Turner spoke on whether the Board would have the opportunity to come back and make changes to the recommendations. Mr. Hazel stated that the Board would have the opportunity to make changes to the proposed regulations today. During the next meeting, the Board will either vote to adopt, amend, or not adopt.

Mr. Yates spoke again regarding the Elk Conservation Stamp. Mr. Yates requested the Chairman ask staff to work with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to have a recommendation ready for the Board during the next meeting. The Chairman stated the Board concurred with the idea. Mr. Yates stated that once we have an elk tag that elk could no longer be taken on a deer tag anywhere in the Commonwealth. Is that correct? Mr. Ellis confirmed by nodding his head.

Mr. Yates spoke regarding the Bear tag. The Board is authorized to separate the Bear Tag. Why has it not yet been done?

The Chairman stated that is was a fair question. The Chairman's preference is that on the regulations people are here to talk about today, he would prefer to take comment now because people may be here to speak to that issue. Mr. Yates withdrew is question for a later date.

Mr. Reed asked for Mr. Ellis to speak very briefly to what was not presented by staff. Mr. Ellis referred to the table listed in the regulations. Items of interest were deer, bear and turkey. If the Board chooses could we move one of these forward. Mr. Ellis stated they could do so.

Mr. Colgate spoke regarding proposed changes on the feeding of deer **4 VAC 15-40-285** on whether or not that includes baiting in order for a property owner to inventory wildlife on the property. Mr. Ellis stated that it does not.

Mr. Burton asked for clarification of " Nor, upon written notification by department personnel, shall any person continue to place or distribute any food, salt, mineral or similar substances for any purpose if the placement of these materials results in the attraction of and/or feeding of deer. " as stated in the proposed amendment to **4 VAC 15-40-285**. Mr. Ellis stated if someone is given a verbal notice and they continue to bait, then CPO's can go back and site the violation of this regulation. Why are you asking CPO's to give notification, when a person is either doing right or wrong? Mr. Ellis referred to Colonel Watts. Colonel Watts stated that notification is required for those who are inadvertently creating a problem (ex. Bird feeder). It is legal to feed birds but if the bird feeders are creating a nuisance (such as a bear problem), then the birders would be notified that the bears are creating a nuisance and to remove the food. The birders would be given a certain length of time to remove the food and if this does not occur, then a written notice would be given. If they continue, then they will be charged. The proposed regulation is for the inadvertent situations. Ms. Caruso stated that if it is not inadvertent, the person is immediately charge.

The Chairman called on Mr. Duncan for comment. Mr. Duncan stated just for clarification back on page 57 in the Board Book regarding trapping of rabbits with box traps and relocating them **4 VAC 15-200-30** that as Mr. Ellis indicated, as long as the rabbit can be trapped and it is also been provided that the rabbit can be transported anywhere in the Commonwealth. This clarifies an issue that came before the General Assembly several years ago.

The Chairman thanked the Board for their comments and thanked the public for their patients and called for public comment.

Public Comment:

All persons requesting to make public comment on agenda items are requested to complete the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Board Meeting Comment Form. This form requests the following information: Date; Topic of Discussion; Name and address; Telephone number; Whether or not you are representing a group and, if so, the name of the group represented; Are your comments for or against the proposals; other.

Mr. Alvin B. Estep, Fulks Run, Virginia, who represented the Western Virginia Deer Hunters Association, spoke regarding deer.

Mr. Keith Wilt, Lexington, Virginia, who represented the Quality Deer Management Association, spoke regarding antler point restrictions for Rockingham County.

Mr. Tony Wilt, Broadway, Virginia, spoke regarding deer.

Mr. Allen Biller, Linville, Virginia, spoke regarding deer limits and antlers.

Mr. Randy Mongold, Mount Solon, Virginia, who represented the Shenandoah Valley Sportman's Alliance, spoke regarding antler restrictions for Rockingham and Augusta Counties.

Mr. Rodney Sandridge, Mount Crawford, Virginia, spoke regarding deer.

Mr. Wilmer Stoneman, who represented the Virginia Farm Bureau, spoke regarding deer, elk and bear regulations.

Mr. Myron Reed, Fulks Run, Virginia, who represented the Shenandoah Valley Sportsman's Alliance, spoke regarding antler restrictions for Rockingham and Augusta County.

Mr. Kirby Burch, Powhatan, Virginia, who represented the Virginia Hunting Dog Alliance, spoke regarding deer and bear regulations.

Mr. J. E. Fugate, Duffield, Virginia, who represented the Scott County Farmer's Coalition, spoke regarding elk.

Ms. Kathy Funk, Greenville County Virginia, who represented the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, spoke regarding elk.

Mr. Jacob Wright, Covington, Virginia, spoke regarding bear hunting and

Mr. David Steger, Catawba, Virginia, who represented the Virginia Bear Hunters Association, spoke regarding bear regulations specifically youth bear hunting day.

Mr. Richard Sprinkle, Buchanan, Virginia, who represented the Virginia Bear Hunters Association, spoke regarding a separate bear tag and bear regulations.

Ms. Patsy McKinnery, Covington, Virginia, spoke regarding the right to trespass.

Ms. Anne L. Wright, Covington, Virginia, spoke regarding bear hunting and the right of trespass.

Mr. Wayne Howard, Covington, Virginia, spoke regarding bear hunting.

Mr. Gilbert Shockley, Richmond, Virginia, prepared to speak regarding fall turkey seasons.(withdrew his remarks)

Mr. Steve Colvin, Barboursville, Virginia, who represented the Virginia Trappers Association, spoke regarding furbearer proposed trapping reg. issues.

Mr. Jim Cridlen, East Stone Gap, Virginia, who represented the Southwest Virginia Coon Hunters Federation, spoke regarding approval of raccoon chase season west of Route 29.

Mr. Scott Barras, Moseley, Virginia, who represented the USDA Wildlife Services, spoke regarding the proposed feeding regulations.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and comments during today's meeting.

The Chairman called for additional comments from the Board before voting on the proposed regulation amendments.

Mr. Turner and Mr. Burton spoke regarding the antler point restrictions. A discussion was held by the Board and Staff on the regulation. **Mr. Turner made the motion to amend 4 VAC 15-90-90 to add Rockingham County to Shenandoah antler point restrictions. Motion Seconded: Mr. Colgate. Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton.**

Mr. Turner spoke regarding muzzle loading season regarding antlerless deer season in his county **4 VAC 15-90-91**. Mr. Turner suggested adding additional days to muzzle loader season and requested staff to pick the number of days. The Chairman called for additional comments from the Board. Mr. Burton stated this would address some of Mr. Stoneman's concerns regarding 2 limit for either sex. Mr. Ellis stated the staff had addressed these concerns and did not make the recommendation at this time. Mr. Turner stated he was not looking to add additional day but move some of the days already in place to the current muzzle loading season.

The Chairman called on Mr. Turner for a specific motion. Additional discussion was held by the Chairman, Mr. Turner and staff regarding the language of the motion, and proposed regulation amendment if adopted by the Board. The Chairman called for any additional discussion. Hearing none, the Chairman called for a motion.

Mr. Turner made the following motion: For Counties that have the full antlerless season and the ones that have just one day of muzzle loading season some of those days be moved over. The days moved over would be at the discretion of the staff of when and how many days. Mr. Turner stated he did not care how many days but more days were needed for muzzle loader season. The Chairman asked Mr. Clarke his action indicated a second or comment. The Chairman stated that a motion had been made and would like to have a second. Mr. Clarke seconded the motion. The Chairman then called for discussion. Mr. Clarke stated that he could not support the when called for the final vote.

Mr. Yates wanted to know if the motion was to control herd size or open more days in muzzle loader season. The response by the Chairman and Mr. Turner was for more days in muzzle loader season.

The Chairman called for any additional comment from staff before calling for the final vote. Mr. Ellis stated the staff had no additional comments.

Mr. Montgomery called for clarification of the motion before calling for the final vote. The Chairman asked Mr. Turner to restate his motion for what he is trying to achieve. Mr. Turner stated the motion would be on private land only in the counties where we have the full season during the general fire arms season and the county that has one day during muzzle loading season either sex day; that we move some of the days (The Chairman encouraged Mr. Turner to pick the number of days because "some days" is too broad) Mr. Turner stated 5 days out of the general fire arms season to muzzle loading season. Up to staff what week. Mr. Clarke seconded the motion. Mr. Burton asked on the counties. Multiple counties not statewide.

The Chairman called for the vote: All in Favor: voice vote: Turner, Clarke, Yates; Opposed: Caruso, Hazel, Reed, Montgomery, Pollard, Burton, Colgate. The Chairman again called for the vote by show of hands. All in favor; Turner, Clarke, and Yates; Opposed: Caruso, Hazel, Reed, Montgomery, Pollard, Burton and Colgate. Motion opposed.

Mr. Colgate spoke regarding **4VAC 15-90-293** Chronic Wasting Disease. A discussion was held by the Board and Staff on the restrictions of importing deer parts from CWD Counties and those adjacent to them. Mr. Colgate stated the current language as presented was too permissive. Mr. Colgate made the motion to amend 4 VAC 15-90-293 as presented to restrict importation of deer parts from CWD counties and those adjacent to them and containment zones.

The Chairman called for the motion: Mr. Colgate made the motion to amend 4 VAC 15-90-293 as presented to restrict importation of deer parts from CWD counties and those adjacent to them and containment zones. Motion seconded: Mr. Montgomery. Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton

The Chairman called for any further discussion on deer regulations.

Mr. Colgate spoke regarding unauthorized feeding of deer **4 VAC 15-40-285. Mr. Colgate moved to amend the regulation to allow limited baiting during off season so property owners can see what animals are on their property.**

The Chairman asked if he was in favor of the status quo. Mr. Colgate stated he wanted to open the restrictions a little more. Mr. Reed wanted to know if after this process; would this be a broadening of scope or lessening of scope following the next comment period. Mr. Brown encouraged the Board to decide on what the regulation should be prior to proposing it for public comment.

Ms. Pollard suggested that if the Board moves forward with the amendment to state a specific time frame.

The Chairman asked Mr. Ellis if Mr. Stoneman's agribusiness concerns are addressed in this regulation. Mr. Ellis indicated they are addressed in the last sentence of the regulation.

Hearing no further discussion, The Chairman called on Mr. Colgate for a motion: To amend 4 VAC 15-40-285 to allow people to distribute substances to attract game to a game cameras during the off season. Ms. Caruso offered a friendly amendment to the motion - One month prior to hunting season. Mr. Colgate accepted the friendly amendment offered by Ms. Caruso.

The Chairman asked Mr. Colgate to restate his motion: Mr. Colgate made the following motion: an exception for using attractants to attract game to a game camera limited in scope to one month prior to hunting season. August how about that?

The Chairman stated that if this amendment were to pass we would be taking just the status quo? Mr. Clarke and Ms. Caruso responded no - just the opposite. The Chairman asked for clarification.

Mr. Clarke stated he believed that what is being proposed is that current prohibitions prevent feeding deer from September 1 - Jan. That regulation would stay. Mr. Clarke believes that what is being proposed is prohibit feeding of deer from September 1-July 31 and then allowing the feeding of deer during the month of August to take pictures so landowners could see what they have. Mr. Colgate stated that was correct.

Mr. Turner asked if Law Enforcement had any issues with this? Colonel Watts deferred to his colleagues, but it does not create problems. Colonel Watts has concerns regarding technology - pictures can now be sent to a person's home. The Code addresses remote hunting devices and other devices if it is limited just to the month of August.

The Chairman called on the Director for comment. The Director asked Colonel Watts what was the time period that bait has to be legally removed from a site before you can legally hunt waterfowl? Colonel Watts responded by federal law it is 10 days. Mr. Duncan wanted to know what is the earliest deer season that we have? Mr. Ellis responded - the first Saturday in September. Mr. Duncan stated he had 2 concerns: (1) The 10 day period in which bait must be removed from the site for waterfowl hunting is there for a specific purpose. Mr. Duncan's concern with the proposal that is currently before the Board is that if you allow a person to put out bait for feed for trail cameras, people will use this to habituate animals to a certain site with the season coming in as early as September 2nd. (2) Mr. Duncan's concern is that if you allow sometime for people to do as Mr. Colgate has requested, there should be a period of time (30 days before any hunting season) that a big game animal cannot be baited or fed. Colonel Watts cited 4-VA 15-42-283. Unlawful to chase, hunt or train from a baited site. Mr. Duncan stated he just wanted to remind everyone of this regulation that is currently in place.

Mr. Duncan also expressed concern regarding the stopping of deer feeding or all feeding that it may have an impact on vendors and we may receive comment from vendors who sell feed and equipment. Mr. Duncan is not a proponent of baiting, but is sensitive to the business impact of any feeding regulation.

The Chairman asked for clarification on Mr. Duncan's remarks. The Chairman asked if Mr. Duncan was speaking to regulation as presented notwithstanding the amendment - is that correct? Mr. Duncan said that was correct. He was speaking to the prohibition year round.

Mr. Clarke asked if the regulation was presented to the public as written today< could the Board put in the effective date of July 1 2012 when they adopt the regulation? Mr. Ellis stated that was correct. The Chairman stated that would be a good idea based on the concerns expressed by Mr. Duncan to put an extended date out there for comment.

The Chairman said first (if I understand correctly) we have Mr. Colgate's amendment which has been seconded to amend it to allow for the use of attractants and other minerals for the purpose of photographing wildlife during the month of August. Is that correct? Ms. Caruso stated now based on the statements heard and the current law placed on the books, I do not believe August would be appropriate. Ms. Caruso backed it off to the month of July. The Chairman called for the vote: All in Favor: Hazel, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton. Opposed: Pollard Motion carries.

The Chairman called on Mr. Clarke for his motion to amend the proposal as presented to have an effective date of July 1, 2012. Motion Seconded by Mr. Colgate. The Chairman called for any additional discussion. Mr. Montgomery said that if we move the effective date to July 1, 2012 as it is written. If we advertise for 2012, certainly we cannot move it back to July 1, 2011. Mr. Montgomery stated we (the Board) maintain maximum flexibility if in fact our Attorney General Rep says we can push it out - I would suggest we leave it as it is. The urgency may be there for more comment rather than to fuel if it is about to go into effect in shorter period of time. Mr. Montgomery stated he would suggest the regulation remain as presented. Mr. Clarke responded that his motion to the comment regarding the specificity of the regulations that we advertise the better of we would be and he understands Mr. Montgomery's point. Mr. Clarke withdrew the motion and deferred to Mr. Montgomery's suggestion.

The Chairman called for any more discussion regarding the regulation of feeding as amended by Mr. Colgate. The Chairman stated we have completed this issue and called for any additional discussion on the deer regulations as presented.

The Chairman called on Mr. Ellis to present the motions.

DEER

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 4 VAC 15-90-23 | Youth deer hunt day in 3 counties |
| 4 VAC 15-90-70 | Bow and arrow hunting, urban archery criteria |
| 4 VAC 15-90-80 | Muzzleloading gun hunting, full season in additional counties |
| 4 VAC 15-90-91 | General firearms either-sex deer hunting days |
| 4 VAC 15-90-231 | Validating tags and checking by licensee, telecheck in late season |
| 4VAC 15-90-241 | Validating tags and checking by exempt persons |
| 4 VAC 15-90-90 | Bag Limit remove 2/day in NOVA, EAB language clarify |
| 4VAC 15-90-293 | CWD carcass importation from CWD designated areas |
| 4 VAC 15-270-95 | Model archery ordinances |
| 4 VAC 15-40-285 | Unauthorized feeding of deer, year round, statewide |

The Chairman called for the motion on the proposed deer regulation amendments as presented by staff. Mr. Montgomery made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board propose the regulation as has been amended here today by the Board for deer as presented by staff with the amendments brought forward by the Board and adopted. Motion seconded by: Clarke: Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton.

Public Meeting Schedule

Monday	March 21 – Wytheville	Wytheville Meeting Center
Tuesday	March 22 – Suffolk	Kings Fork High School

	March 22 – Roanoke	Northside High School
Wednesday	March 23 – Richmond	DGIF Board Room
	March 23 – Lebanon	Russell Co. Government Center
Thursday	March 24 – Gloucester Point	VIMS Main Auditorium
	March 24 – Woodstock	Peter Muhlenberg Middle School
Tuesday	March 29 – Centreville	Fairfax Chapter Izaak Walton League
	March 29 – Farmville	Prince Edward High School
Thursday	March 31 – Buffalo Gap	Buffalo Gap High School

All Meetings will be from 6 pm – 10 pm

6:00- 6:30 Open house, view proposals

6:30 -7:30 Presentation and public comment on Department’s revenue proposals

7:45 -9:45 Presentation and public comment on Hunting and Trapping regulations

The Chairman called for the motion to approve the Public Meeting Schedule as presented by Staff. Mr. Reed made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board approve the March public meeting locations as presented by staff. Motion Seconded by Caruso. Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton

ELK

4 VAC 15-90-85 Hunting elk of either sex

The Chairman called for a motion to adopt the Elk regulation as presented. Mr. Yates made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board propose the regulation amendments in 4 VAC 15-90-85 as presented by staff. Motion Seconded by: Montgomery.

The Chairman called for discussion on the motion. Mr. Turner asked if Buchanan County, Wise, County and Dickenson County would be closed seasons. The Chairman stated that was correct. A discussion was held regarding a barrier around Buchanan County. Mr. Turner said he does not see that as a barrier unless you include Tazewell and Russell Counties. Mr. Ellis stated there was not a buffer around those 3 counties. The 3 counties are in the restoration zone and in the plan we said that we would allow elk to be taken outside the restoration zone. You have Buchanan County (the county we have to protect) and there are 2 other counties boarding that county. Mr. Turner said it should be Tazewell and Russell not Dickenson. Mr. Clarke stated he has some sympathy for Mr. Turner's position but we may have to refer to Mr. Yates. Mr. Clarke stated when we (the Board) adopted the Elk Management Plan, some months ago, we indicated then we would permit elk hunting everywhere except in the 3 counties that we identified. At the risk of upsetting the apple cart, I am saying upfront - I am going to support the recommendations made in the plan. I don't believe we can expand the area without revisiting what was approved in the plan.

Mr. Turner said - so this leaves Tazewell County and Russell County where you can hunt elk? Mr. Clarke said on a deer tag-yes sir. Mr. Turner said that could be as much as five miles from where the stocking is taking place. Mr. Clarke said that Mr. Turner was preaching to the choir.

The Chairman asked Mr. Yates if he had any further comments. Mr. Yates said that would be a deviation from the plan as adopted by the Board. Mr. Yates said he would discourage that from happening. The Chairman called for further discussion. Mr. Montgomery said he looked forward to seeing the comments.

Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed Burton. (Mr. Yates stated that Ms. Caruso take her proxy and vote yes for the proposed regulation).

Note: The Board Governance Manual under procedural standards states: Voting by proxy is prohibited by law. Ms. Caruso was advised of this and her vote was noted for the record and the motion still carried.

BEAR

4 VAC 15-50-11	Open season; new section, combination of current sections into one
4 VAC 15-50-10	Open season; repeal section
4 VAC 15-50-20	Open season; repeal section
4 VAC 15-50-21	Open season; repeal section
4 VAC 15-50-22	Open season; repeal section
4 VAC 15-50-25	Open season; repeal section
4 VAC 15-50-71	Muzzleloading gun hunting, 6 day season
4 VAC 15-40-282	Unauthorized feeding of bear, strengthen language

The Chairman called for a motion to adopt the Bear regulations as presented. Mr. Clarke made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board propose the regulation amendments for bear as presented by staff. Motion Seconded by: Burton/Pollard. Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton.

The Chairman called for discussion. Mr. Yates spoke regarding the Bear Stamp. Mr. Yates stated it was an issue as far as the regulations were concerned and there obviously is interest in people purchasing the stamp.

The Chairman stated as he understood it because of the statutory regulation granted, the Board can do this by regulation. Mr. Brown stated that was correct. Mr. Burton wanted to know if Mr. Yates was making a motion. Mr. Yates stated he was putting it on the table for further discussion. The issue has been brought before the Board on numerous occasions and I am asking the question "why not, unless someone can explain why we should not, do it?" Mr. Montgomery said as a suggestion, perhaps we adopt the proposal before us now and that may give Mr. Yates a moment to draft a motion. Mr. Yates said he would withdraw to a later date. The Chairman called for any further discussion on the regulations as presented by staff. Hearing none, the Chairman stated he had a motion, second and called for the vote. Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton.

Mr. Yates commended the staff and the Bear Hunters Association for their work on the regulation amendment proposals.

The Chairman called on Mr. Burton for comment. Mr. Burton stated that the Bear Hunters Association and the Hunting Dog Alliance that Mr. Burch represents are for the tag. Mr. Burton stated that Mr. Burch recommends that if the Board moves forward with the tag that a certain percentage of the tag to go toward elk management. I support that idea and I propose we move forward with a separate tag. Can we vote on that today? The Chairman stated that it was his understanding that if a motion is made, we could do that but we have to get a regulation drafted today to the right section, the Board could do that today to put forward for public comment.

The Chairman called on Mr. Reed. Mr. Reed said that he had no objection to this. But to give staff time to work with other stakeholders, I am happy to take this item up for action with the Wildlife and Boat Committee to come up with a formal procedure and think about it a little more and have a recommendation ready for the next meeting or subsequent meeting - Board's prerogative.

Mr. Colgate stated if the Board chose to go that route, the public would not have a chance to comment and have an opportunity to have a separate tag on this cycle. The Chairman stated that was correct. To be consistent, we need to propose the separate bear tag this cycle.

Mr. Montgomery suggested the Board continue to move through the regulations as presented and have Mr. Yates work with staff to draft a proposal broad enough so that we could contract it back down if necessary - if that is something Mr. Yates wishes to do. Possibly over the lunch break. The Chairman asked the staff to prepare the proposed regulation for review following the lunch break. Mr. Ellis reminded the Board this proposal was presented last cycle for \$25.00 and it was opposed. The Chairman stated he appreciated this information.

TURKEY

4 VAC 15-240-10	Open seasons; uniform Dec. season and a January season
4 VAC 15-240-11	Open season; repeal section
4VAC 15-240-20	Open season; reduce fall season in certain counties
4VAC 15-240-31	Open season; increase fall season in certain counties
4 VAC 15-240-81	Validating tag by licensed hunter; add telecheck option
4 VAC 15-240-91	Checking turkeys by licensed exempt hunter; add telecheck option

The Chairman called for the motion to adopt the Turkey regulations as presented. Mr. Clarke made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board propose the regulation amendments for turkey as presented by staff. Motion Seconded by Mr. Yates. The Chairman called for discussion on the motion. Mr. Turner moved to amend the motion to amend 4 VAC 15-40-285 Unauthorized feeding of deer, year round, statewide to include turkey as well. Mr. Turner made the motion to amend the motion to use the same language for turkey as was used for deer as far as feeding. If we are changing it for one we need to change for all three -deer, bear and turkey. The Chairman called for a second on Mr. Turner's motion. Mr. Yates wanted to know how many turkeys were diseased due to feeding. Mr. Ellis said that any time you congregate animals with feeding you run the risk of spreading disease. Mr. Ellis also stated that the deer regulation pertains to feeding or attracting deer. Mr. Montgomery called for a point of clarification. If we use that exact

same language, we would be limiting the photographing of turkeys to that one 30 day period in the summer which I do not know if you put out corn how you separate taking picture of a turkey vs. taking a picture of a deer. I know that we cannot attract turkey when other game is legally hunted. A discussion was held on the baiting language; the purpose of the regulation; disease issues and sending mix messages by Board. Mr. Turner withdrew his motion.

SMALL GAME

4 VAC 15-200-30 Rabbit; clarify language for transport
4 VAC 15-230-31 Squirrel; spring season will be on all lands except NF.
4 VAC 15-230-61 Squirrel; spring fox squirrel season on all lands where there is a season

The Chairman called for a motion to adopt the small game regulation as amended by staff. Ms. Pollard made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board propose the regulation amendments for small game as presented by staff. Motion Seconded by: Mr. Yates.

Mr. Turner stated quail was not addressed in any of these regulation amendments. We have a quail plan in place and we are not doing anything to regulate these. The Chairman stated there was a motion and second on the floor for the 3 regulations presented. Mr. Turner, Could we vote on these first? Mr. Turner agreed.

The Chairman called for the vote. All in favor of adopting the regulation amendments as presented say Aye: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton. Those motions carried.

The Chairman called for any additional discussion. Mr. Turner spoke regarding the Quail program. Mr. Turner made the motion to close the Quail Season west of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The Chairman called for a second. Hearing no second. The Chairman moved forward with the business at hand. Mr. Yates requested the Chairman ask the staff to come back with an answer to Mr. Turner's request. Mr. Ellis suggested a report be presented by staff during the next Wildlife and Boat Committee.

FURBEARER AND TRAPPING

4 VAC 15-40-200 In general; change trap size for trap enclosures
4 VAC 15-40-275 In general; sale of certain furbearer parts
4 VAC 15-170-20 Otter; statewide season; bag limit west of Blue Ridge
4 VAC 15-170-21 Otter; repeal section
4 VAC 15-210-10 Raccoon; year round chase; limited on public lands
4 VAC 15-210-20 Raccoon; repeal section

The Chairman called for a motion to adopt the regulation amendments for Furbear and Trapping. Mr. Montgomery made the following motion: Mr. Chairman,

I hereby move that the Board propose the regulation amendments for furbearers and trapping as presented by staff. Motion seconded by: Colgate Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton.

WATERFOWL

4 VAC 15-260-90 Waterfowl; open areas for float blind hunting on Saxis WMA
4 VAC 15-260-180 Waterfowl; establish regulation for tundra swan permit

The Chairman called for a motion to adopt the regulation amendments for Waterfowl as presented. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Clarke made the following motion: I hereby move that the Board propose the regulation amendments for waterfowl as presented by staff. Motion Seconded by Mr. Reed. Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

4 VAC 15-30-50 Definitions; possession, transportation of wildlife by shelters and others
4 VAC 15-40-285 Unauthorized feeding of wildlife under certain conditions

The Chairman called for a motion to adopt the regulation amendments for General Regulations as presented. Ms. Caruso made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board propose the regulation amendments for 4VAC 15-30-50 and 4VAC 15-40-285 as presented by staff. Motion Seconded by: Pollard. The Chairman called for discussion.

Mr. Reed requested feedback from staff on why in other regulations it states a written notice for violation and in 4 VA 15-40-285 is states just a notice is given. Mr. Ellis stated it was an oversight and it could be corrected to state either verbal or written. Mr. Reed stated he felt it should be written. Mr. Reed made a motion to amend the motion to include a written notice in 4 VAC-15-40-285. The Chairman called for a second to Mr. Reed's motion. Hearing no second to the motion, the chairman called for the motion on the floor to adopt the regulations as presented. Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton.

The Chairman asked staff to prepare a regulation amendment proposal for the Bear Stamp to be presented following the certification of closed session.

[\(Listen: Motion to Move into Closed Session\)](#)

At 1:14.43 The Chairman called on Mr. Burton for the motion to move into Closed Session. Mr. Burton made the following motion:

*Closed Session Motion
March 1, 2011*

Mr. Chairman,

I hereby move that the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries go into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia for discussion or consideration of

employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointee, or employees of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries specifically regarding:

The performance of the Director and the assignments of the Board Secretary.

This closed meeting will be attended only by members of the Board. However, pursuant to Section 2.2-3712(F), the Board requests counsel, the Director of the Department, and the Chief Operating Officer to attend this closed meeting, as it believes their presence will reasonably aid the Board in its consideration of the topics that are the subjects of this closed meeting.”

And

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.3 of the Code of Virginia for discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property with respect to:

An update on DGIF Headquarters Relocation.

Motion Seconded by Mr. Clarke. Ayes: Hazel, Pollard, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed, Burton.

[\(Listen: Certification of Closed Session\)](#)

At 2:22pm, The Chairman called the meeting back to order and asked Mr. Burton to present the Certification of the Closed Session.

*Certification of Closed Meeting
March 1, 2011*

WHEREAS, the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712.D of the Code requires a certification by this Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Board.

Following the reading of the Certification, The Chairman asked the Board Secretary to conduct a roll call vote. The following voice vote was recorded for the Certification: Hazel, Pollard, Montgomery, Turner, Clarke, Yates, Reed and Burton. For the record Mr. Colgate and Ms. Caruso were absent.

[\(Listen: Wildlife and Boat Committee Report, continued\)](#)

The Chairman called on Mr. Yates who stated he would like to see the Board proposal for public comment on the Bear tag for the same price as last time. Mr. Yates suggested the Board support this. Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to make a motion following Mr. Ellis's presentation.

Mr. Ellis presented the staff's proposed regulation for **4 VAC 15-40-22 (new) Game; In General: Special license for hunting deer.**

4 VAC 15-40-22 (new)

Game: In General: Special license for hunting bear.

Summary:

The proposal is to establish a special license to hunt bears which shall be \$25 for residents and \$150 for nonresidents.

Proposed language of amendment:

4 VAC 15-40-22 (new). Game: In General: Special license for hunting bear.

There shall be a special license to hunt bears that shall be in addition to the state resident license to hunt or state nonresident license to hunt. The fee for the special bear license shall be \$25 for a resident and \$150 for a nonresident.

Rationale:

Under the authority of § 29.1-305, the Board may create a special bear license. The Virginia Bear Hunters Association made a recommendation to the Board at the February 27, 2009 Board meeting to enact their authority to create a special bear license to hunt bear in Virginia that would be required of resident and nonresident hunters at a cost of \$25 for residents and \$150 for nonresidents. The Board proposed the establishment of the special bear license to obtain public discussion on the issue.

4 VAC 15-20-65

Definitions and Miscellaneous: In General: Hunting, trapping, and fishing license and permit fees.

Summary:

The proposal is to (i) add a resident bear hunting license (fee of \$25) to the list of license and permit fees, (ii) add a nonresident bear hunting license (fee of \$150) to the list of license and permit fees, (iii) eliminate bear from the resident bear, deer, and turkey hunting license, for licensees 16 years of age or older, (iv) eliminate bear from the resident junior bear, deer, and turkey hunting license, for licensees under 16 years of age, and (v) eliminate bear from the nonresident bear, deer, and turkey hunting licenses.

Proposed language of amendment:

4 VAC 15-20-65. Definitions and Miscellaneous: In General: Hunting, trapping, and fishing license and permit fees.

In accordance with the authority of the board under § [29.1-103](#) (16) of the Code of Virginia, the following fees are established for hunting, trapping, and fishing licenses and permits:

Virginia Resident Licenses to Hunt	
Type license	Fee
Resident License to Hunt, for licensees 16 years of age or older	\$17.00
County or City Resident License to Hunt in County or City of Residence Only, for licensees 16 years of age or older	\$10.00
Resident Senior Citizen Annual License to Hunt, for licensees 65 years of age or older	\$6.00
Resident Junior License to Hunt, for licensees 12 through 15 years of age, optional for licensees under 12 years of age	\$7.50
Resident Youth Combination License to Hunt, and to hunt bear, deer, and turkey, to hunt with bow and arrow during archery hunting season, and to hunt with muzzleloading guns during muzzleloading hunting season, for licensees under 16 years of age	\$15.00
Resident Sportsman License to Hunt and Freshwater Fish, and to hunt bear, deer, and turkey, to hunt with bow and arrow during archery hunting season, to hunt with muzzleloading guns during muzzleloading hunting season, and to fish in designated stocked trout waters (also listed under Virginia Resident Licenses to Fish)	\$102.00
Resident Junior Lifetime License to Hunt, for licensees under 12 years of age at the time of purchase	\$250.00
Resident Lifetime License to Hunt, for licensees at the time of purchase:	
through 44 years of age	\$255.00

45 through 50 years of age	\$205.00
51 through 55 years of age	\$155.00
56 through 60 years of age	\$105.00
61 through 64 years of age	\$55.00
65 years of age and over	\$15.00
Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Special Lifetime License to Hunt	\$10.00
Service-Connected Totally and Permanently Disabled Veteran Resident Lifetime License to Hunt and Freshwater Fish (also listed under Virginia Resident Licenses to Fish)	\$10.00

Virginia Resident Licenses for Additional Hunting Privileges	
Type license or permit	Fee
Resident Bear, Deer, and Turkey Hunting License, for licensees 16 years of age or older	\$17.00
Resident Junior Bear, Deer, and Turkey Hunting License, for licensees under 16 years of age	\$7.50
<u>Resident Bear Hunting License</u>	<u>\$25.00</u>
Resident Archery License to Hunt with bow and arrow during archery hunting season	\$17.00
Resident Crossbow License to Hunt with crossbow during archery hunting season	\$17.00
Resident Muzzleloading License to Hunt during muzzleloading hunting season	\$17.00
Resident Bonus Deer Permit	\$17.00

Virginia Nonresident Licenses to Hunt	
Type license	Fee
Nonresident License to Hunt, for licensees 16 years of age or older	\$85.00
Nonresident Three-Day Trip License to Hunt	\$45.00
Nonresident Youth License to Hunt, for licensees:	
under 12 years of age	\$12.00
12 through 15 years of age	\$15.00
Nonresident Youth Combination License to Hunt, and to hunt bear, deer, and turkey, to hunt with bow and arrow during archery hunting season, and to hunt with muzzleloading guns during muzzleloading hunting season, for licensees under 16 years of age	\$30.00
Nonresident Lifetime License to Hunt	\$505.00

Virginia Nonresident Licenses for Additional Hunting Privileges	
Type license or permit	Fee
Nonresident Bear , Deer, and Turkey Hunting License, for licensees:	
16 years of age or older	\$65.00
12 through 15 years of age	\$15.00
under 12 years of age	\$12.00
<u>Nonresident Bear Hunting License</u>	<u>\$150.00</u>
Nonresident Archery License to Hunt with bow and arrow during archery hunting season	\$30.00
Nonresident Crossbow License to Hunt with crossbow during archery hunting season	\$30.00
Nonresident Muzzleloading License to Hunt during muzzleloading hunting season	\$30.00
Nonresident Shooting Preserve License to Hunt within the boundaries of a licensed shooting preserve	\$17.00
Nonresident Bonus Deer Permit	\$30.00

Miscellaneous Licenses or Permits to Hunt	
Type license or permit	Fee
Waterfowl Hunting Stationary Blind in Public Waters License	\$22.50
Waterfowl Hunting Floating Blind in Public Waters License	\$40.00
Public Access Lands for Sportsmen Permit to Hunt, Trap, or Fish on Designated Lands (also listed under Miscellaneous Licenses or Permits to Fish)	\$17.00

Virginia Resident and Nonresident Licenses to Trap	
Type license	Fee
Resident License to Trap, for licensees 16 years of age or older	\$40.00
County or City Resident License to Trap in County or City of Residence Only	\$15.00
Resident Junior License to Trap, for licensees under 16 years of age	\$10.00
Resident Senior Citizen License to Trap, for licensees 65 years of age or older	\$6.00
Resident Senior Citizen Lifetime License to Trap, for licensees 65 years of age or older	\$15.00
Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Special Lifetime License to Trap	\$10.00
Service-Connected Totally and Permanently Disabled Veteran Resident Lifetime License to Trap	\$10.00
Nonresident License to Trap	\$155.00

Virginia Resident Licenses to Fish	
Type license	Fee
Resident License to Freshwater Fish	\$17.00
County or City Resident License to Freshwater Fish in County or City of Residence Only	\$10.00
Resident License to Freshwater Fish, for licensees 65 years of age or older	\$6.00
Resident License to Fish in Designated Stocked Trout Waters	\$17.00
Resident License to Freshwater and Saltwater Fish	\$29.00
Resident License to Freshwater Fish for Five Consecutive Days	\$10.00
Resident License to Freshwater and Saltwater Fish for Five Consecutive Days	\$15.00
Resident Sportsman License to Hunt and Freshwater Fish, and to hunt bear, deer, and turkey, to hunt with bow and arrow during archery hunting season, to hunt with muzzleloading guns during muzzleloading hunting season, and to fish in designated stocked trout waters (also listed under Virginia Resident Licenses to Hunt)	\$102.00
Resident Special Lifetime License to Freshwater Fish, for licensees at the time of purchase:	
through 44 years of age	\$255.00
45 through 50 years of age	\$205.00
51 through 55 years of age	\$155.00
56 through 60 years of age	\$105.00
61 through 64 years of age	\$55.00
65 years of age and over	\$15.00
Resident Special Lifetime License to Fish in Designated Stocked Trout Waters, for licensees at the time of purchase:	
through 44 years of age	\$255.00
45 through 50 years of age	\$205.00
51 through 55 years of age	\$155.00
56 through 60 years of age	\$105.00
61 through 64 years of age	\$55.00
65 years of age and over	\$15.00
Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Special Lifetime License to Freshwater Fish	\$10.00
Service-Connected Totally and Permanently Disabled Veteran Resident Lifetime License to Hunt and Freshwater Fish (also listed under Virginia Resident Licenses to Hunt)	\$10.00

Virginia Nonresident Licenses to Fish	
Type license	Fee

Nonresident License to Freshwater Fish	\$35.00
Nonresident License to Freshwater Fish in Designated Stocked Trout Waters	\$35.00
Nonresident License to Freshwater and Saltwater Fish	\$47.00
Nonresident License to Freshwater Fish for Five Consecutive Days	\$15.00
Nonresident License to Freshwater and Saltwater Fish for Five Consecutive Days	\$20.00
Nonresident Special Lifetime License to Freshwater Fish	\$505.00
Nonresident Special Lifetime License to in Fish in Designated Stocked Trout Waters	\$505.00

Miscellaneous Licenses or Permits to Fish	
Type license or permit	Fee
Permit to Fish for One Day at Board-Designated Stocked Trout Fishing Areas with Daily Use Fees	\$3.50; effective January 1, 2007: \$5.50
Public Access Lands for Sportsmen Permit to Hunt, Trap, or Fish on Designated Lands (also listed under Miscellaneous Licenses or Permits to Hunt)	\$17.00
Special Guest Fishing License	\$55.00

Rationale:

Under the authority of § 29.1-305, if the Board establishes a special license for hunting bear, the special license for hunting bear, deer, and turkey shall authorize the hunting of deer and turkey only. The Virginia Bear Hunters Association came to the February 27, 2009 Board meeting with a recommendation to establish the special bear hunting license. The Board proposed the Virginia Bear Hunters Association recommendation to obtain public discussion on the issue.

4 VAC 15-50-81

Game: Bear: Validating tags and checking bear by licensee or permittee.

Summary:

The proposal is to remove references to deer and turkey in this regulation.

Proposed language of amendment:

4 VAC 15-50-81. Game: Bear: Validating tags and checking bear by licensee or permittee.

A. Any person killing a bear shall, before removing the carcass from the place of kill, validate an appropriate tag on their special license for hunting bear, ~~deer, and turkey~~ or special permit by completely removing the designated notch area from the tag. Place of kill shall be defined as the location where the animal is first reduced to possession. It shall be unlawful for any person to validate (notch) a bear tag from any special license for hunting bear, ~~deer, and turkey~~ or special permit prior to the killing of a bear. A bear tag that is mistakenly validated (notched) prior to the killing of a bear must be immediately voided by the licensee or permittee by writing, in ink, the word "VOID" on the line provided on the license tag.

B. Upon killing a bear and validating (notching) a license tag or special permit, as provided above, the licensee shall, upon vehicle transport of the carcass or at the conclusion of legal hunting hours, whichever occurs first, and without unnecessary delay, present the carcass and validated (notched) license tag or special permit to an authorized bear checking station or to an appropriate representative of the department in the county or adjoining county in which the bear was killed. Upon presentation of the carcass and validated (notched) license tag or special permit to the bear checking station, the licensee shall surrender or allow to be removed one premolar tooth from the carcass. At such time, the person checking the carcass will be given a game check card. The successful hunter shall then immediately record the game check card number, in ink, on the line provided adjacent to the license tag that was validated (notched) in the field. The game check card must be kept in possession with the carcass until the carcass is processed. If the carcass is left unattended, the game check card must be securely attached to the carcass.

C. It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy the identity (sex) of any bear killed unless and until the license tag or special permit is validated (notched) and checked as required by this section. Successful bear hunters are allowed to dismember the carcass to pack it out from the place of kill, after an appropriate license tag has been validated (notched) as required above, as long as the sex of the animal remains identifiable and all the parts of the carcass are present when the bear is checked at an authorized bear checking station. Any bear found in the possession of any person without a validated (notched) license tag or documentation that the bear has been checked at an authorized

bear checking station as required by this section shall be forfeited to the Commonwealth to be disposed of as provided by law.

Rationale:

The Virginia Bear Hunters Association came to the February 27, 2009 Board meeting with a recommendation to establish a special bear hunting license. The Board proposed establishing a special bear hunting license to obtain public discussion on the issue. The specific reference to the special license to hunt bear, deer, and turkey needs to be amended to reflect the proposal to establish a special bear hunting license.

4 VAC 15-90-231

Game: Deer: Validating tags and checking deer by licensee or permittee.

Summary:

The proposal is to remove references to bear in this regulation.

Proposed language of amendment:

4 VAC 15-90-231. Game: Deer: Validating tags and checking deer by licensee or permittee.

A. Any person killing a deer shall, before removing the carcass from the place of kill, validate an appropriate tag on his special license for hunting ~~bear~~, deer, and turkey, bonus deer permit, or special permit by completely removing the designated notch area from the tag. Place of kill shall be defined as the location where the animal is first reduced to possession. It shall be unlawful for any person to validate (notch) a deer tag from any special license for hunting ~~bear~~, deer, and turkey, bonus deer permit, or special permit prior to the killing of a deer. A deer tag that is mistakenly validated (notched) prior to the killing of a deer must be immediately voided by the licensee or permittee by writing, in ink, the word "VOID" on the line provided on the license tag.

B. Upon killing a deer and validating (notching) a license tag, bonus deer permit or special permit, as provided above, the licensee or permittee shall, upon vehicle transport of the carcass or at the conclusion of legal hunting hours, whichever occurs first, and without unnecessary delay, present the carcass and validated (notched) license tag, bonus deer permit or special permit to an authorized checking station or to an appropriate representative of the department in the county or adjoining county in which the deer was killed or report the kill through the department's automated harvest reporting system. At such time, the person checking or reporting the carcass will be given a game check card furnished by the department or a confirmation number from the automated reporting system. The successful hunter shall then immediately record the game check card number or confirmation number, in ink, on the line provided on the tag that was validated (notched) in the field. If checked at a big game check station, the game check card must be kept in possession with the carcass until the carcass is processed. If the carcass is left unattended, the game check card must be securely attached to the carcass. If the kill is reported using the automated harvest reporting system, no check card is required as long as the hunter who killed the animal is in possession of the carcass. If the automated harvest reported carcass is left unattended or transferred to the possession of another individual, written documentation including the successful hunter's full name, the date the animal was killed, and the confirmation number must be created and kept in possession with the carcass until the carcass is processed. If the carcass is left unattended, this written documentation must be securely attached to the carcass.

C. It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy the identity of the sex of any deer killed unless and until the license tag, bonus deer permit or special permit is validated (notched) and checked as required by this section. Successful deer hunters are allowed to dismember the carcass to pack it out from the place of kill, after an appropriate license tag has been validated (notched) as required above, as long as they do not destroy the identity of the sex and all the parts of the carcass are present when the deer is checked at a big game check station or reported through the automated harvest reporting system. Any deer found in the possession of any person without a validated (notched) license tag or documentation that the deer has been checked (via a big game check station or the automated harvest reporting system) as required by this section shall be forfeited to the Commonwealth to be disposed of as provided by law.

Rationale:

The Virginia Bear Hunters Association came to the February 27, 2009 Board meeting with a recommendation to establish a special bear hunting license. The Board proposed establishing a special bear hunting license to obtain public discussion on the issue. The specific reference to the special license to hunt bear, deer, and turkey needs to be amended to reflect the proposal to establish a special bear hunting license.

4 VAC 15-240-81

Game: Turkey: Validating tags and checking turkey by licensee.

Summary

The proposal is to remove references to bear in this regulation.

Proposed language of amendment:

4 VAC 15-240-81. Game: Turkey: Validating tags and checking turkey by licensee.

A. Any person killing a turkey shall, before removing the carcass from the place of kill, validate an appropriate tag on his special license for hunting ~~bear~~, deer and turkey by completely removing the designated notch area from the tag. Place of kill shall be defined as the location where the animal is first reduced to possession. It shall be unlawful for any person to validate (notch) a turkey tag from any special license for hunting ~~bear~~, deer, and turkey prior to the killing of a turkey. A turkey tag that is mistakenly validated (notched) prior to the killing of a turkey must be immediately voided by the licensee by writing, in ink, the word "VOID" on the line provided on the tag.

B. Upon killing a turkey and validating (notching) a license tag, as provided above, the licensee shall, upon vehicle transport of the carcass or at the conclusion of legal hunting hours, whichever occurs first, and without unnecessary delay, present the carcass and validated (notched) license tag to an authorized checking station or to an appropriate representative of the department in the county or adjoining county in which the turkey was killed or report their spring kill (as provided by [4VAC15-240-40](#)) through the department's automated harvest reporting system. At such time, the person checking or reporting the carcass will be given a game check card furnished by the department or a confirmation number from the automated harvest reporting system. The successful hunter shall then immediately record the game check card number or confirmation number, in ink, on the line provided on the license tag that was validated (notched) in the field. If checked at a big game check station, the game check card must be kept in possession with the carcass until the carcass is processed. If the carcass is left unattended, the game check card must be securely attached to the carcass. If a spring-season kill is reported using the automated harvest reporting system, no check card is required as long as the hunter who killed the animal is in possession of the carcass. If the automated harvest reported spring carcass is left unattended or transferred to the possession of another individual, written documentation including the successful hunter's full name, the date the animal was killed, and the confirmation number must be created and kept in possession with the carcass until the carcass is processed. If the carcass is left unattended, this written documentation must be securely attached to the carcass.

C. It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy the identity of the sex of any turkey killed unless and until the license tag is validated (notched) and checked as required by this section. Any turkey found in the possession of any person without a validated

(notched) license tag or documentation that the turkey has been checked (via a big game check station or the automated harvest reporting system) as required by this section shall be forfeited to the Commonwealth to be disposed of as provided by law.

Rationale:

The Virginia Bear Hunters Association came to the February 27, 2009 Board meeting with a recommendation to establish a special bear hunting license. The Board proposed establishing a special bear hunting license to obtain public discussion on the issue. The specific reference to the special license to hunt bear, deer, and turkey needs to be amended to reflect the proposal to establish a special bear hunting license.

The Chairman thanked the staff for their efforts. Mr. Yates stated he was prepared to make the motion if that was appropriate. The Chairman asked Mr. Yates to proceed. Mr. Yates made the following motion: **Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board propose the regulation amendments for a separate bear license as presented by staff. Motion Seconded by Mr. Reed. The Chairman called for discussion on the issue. Mr. Turner asked for point of clarification if this was the same issue the Board had before them several years ago. The Chairman indicated that was correct. Mr. Ellis stated it was the same as presented several years ago. The Chairman confirmed that was correct. It gives the Board the ability to set in Code the regulation for the separate license. Mr. Ellis stated the fees were also set in code. Mr. Ellis stated the opposition was on the cost.**

A discussion was held on the exemption for children 16 and under. By Virginia Code, children under 16 would not be required to have a license. Colonel Watts stated the Code gives the exemption for 12 and under for hunting. Is there a separate charge for a youth license? It does not give a break.

Mr. Clarke and Mr. Brown held a discussion on advertising procedure for the license.

Ayes: Hazel, Burton, Colgate, Montgomery, Caruso, Burton, Reed, Yates and Clarke. Opposed: Turner. Mr. Turner stated he was not opposed to the Bear license but felt the Board had to deal with the turkey hunter, why not deal with them all at the same time. Motion Carried. The Chairman stated it does not hurt to propose the amendment again.

Committee Reports (continued): ([Listen: Education, Planning and Outreach Committee Report](#))

The Chairman called on Mr. Ward Burton, Chairman of the **Education, Planning and Outreach (EPO) Committee** to report on the activities of the January 10, 2011 Committee Meeting. During this meeting, the Committee received the Agency Draft Strategic Plan and learned about the efforts of the Outreach division to educate and recruit the next generation of sportsmen and women. Mr. Burton thanked all of the Board Members who attended the meeting.

Mr. Burton thanked Mr. Lee Walker and his outreach staff for sharing overviews of their many programs and the many lives they are impacting. In fact, the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) just held its statewide tournament this past Saturday at the Meadow Events Park in Doswell with over 500 elementary to high school students participating. Ms. Karen Holson coordinated the effort and about 50 staff and volunteers assisted in making that event a success. Through coordinated effort with Mr. Burton and Ms. Holson, Halifax County now has the NASP Program in their schools.

During the meeting, the EPO Committee approved the following Charter changes for recommendation to the full Board for adoption:

1. The composition of the EPO Committee shall be no less than 3 members versus the current 4 members. This should help us establish a quorum.
2. The EPO Chair no longer must be the Board Vice-Chair, but rather will be appointed from all Board members by the Board Chair just like other committee appointments.
3. The EPO Committee will meet at least 2 times each fiscal year versus the current 4 times. Additional meetings will be held as necessary.
4. The EPO Committee Chair will, in collaboration with the Board Vice-Chair, “facilitate” versus “provide” the orientation program to new Board members. This simply clarifies that the Committee Chair will ensure the orientation is completed in accordance with the Charter and does not necessarily have to be at the orientation.
5. The EPO Committee Chair will collaborate with the Board Vice-Chair to report any Board policy changes to the full Board following the first Board meeting of the calendar year. The Board Vice-Chair currently performs this function because the Vice-Chair is also the Committee Chair.

The Board Chairman called for a discussion on the proposed EPO Charter Changes. Hearing none, the Board Chairman called for a motion. Mr. Burton made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the Board approve these changes to the EPO Committee Charter for adoption on July 1, 2011. Motion Seconded: Ms. Pollard. Ayes: Hazel, Burton, Colgate, Pollard, Montgomery, Yates, Clarke, Caruso, Turner and Reed.

Mr. Burton presented the existing Board Policies for final adoption by the Board. As required by the EPO Charter, the Committee has completed their review and seeing that no changes were required, the EPO Committee approved that the existing policies be reaffirmed by the full Board.

The Chairman called for a discussion on the Board Policies. Hearing none, Mr. Burton made the following motion: Mr. Chairman, I hereby move that the existing Board policies be re-affirmed by the full Board for continuation on July 1, 2011. Motion seconded by Ms. Pollard. Ayes: Hazel, Burton, Colgate, Pollard, Montgomery, Yates, Clarke, Caruso, Turner and Reed.

The Chairman thanked the EPO Committee for their work regarding the review of the Committee's Charter and Board Policies.

Mr. Burton called on Mr. Matt Koch to present the Agency's Draft Strategic Plan. Mr. Koch presented an overview of the primary components of the plan and the next steps for the Board. ([View Presentation: Starting Our Second Century](#))

The Chairman thanked Mr. Koch for his presentation and concluded the EPO Committee Report Out.

([Listen: Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee Report](#))

The Chairman called on Mr. Brent Clarke, Chairman of the **Finance, Audit and Compliance (FAC) Committee** to report on the activities of the Committee meeting held on November 3, 2010. Mr. Clarke stated the Committee approved the minutes from the August 10, 2010 and the Internal Audit Plan for FY 2011. The Committee also received the First Quarter Final Report for FY 2011 and the Small Charge Card Purchase report.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Clarke for his report.

2011 General Assembly Update: ([Listen](#)) The Chairman called on the Director to report on activities of the 2011 General Assembly. The Director thanked all of the Board for their support during the Session. The Board received weekly reports with updates on all legislation.

The Chairman thanked the Director and staff for their efforts during the Session.

Board Open Discussion: ([Listen](#)) The Chairman opened the floor for discussion on topics of interest raised by Board Members. The Chairman noted many of the Board members had expressed an interest in conducting a workshop in order to allow more time for discussion. The Chairman announced the workshop would be held on March 21, 2011. Mr. Colgate suggested all items for discussion be carried over until this day. The Board was in full agreement.

Director's Report: ([Listen](#)) The Chairman called on the Director for his report. The Director introduced the members of the LDP Peer Group 1 present at the meeting. They are: Mr. Ernie Aschenbach, Ms. Mereme Martin, and Mr. Brian Moyer. Ms. Alicia Ivey is also a member of this group but due to scheduling conflicts, she could not join us today. Their mentors are Mr. Jeff Trollinger and Mr. Glen Askins.

The Director gave an update on Coursey Springs Hatchery and Lake Nelson.

Chairman's Remarks: ([Listen: Chairman's Remarks and Additional Comments](#))

The Chairman announced the members of the Nominations Committee. The members of the Committee are: Mr. John Montgomery, Mr. Charles Yates and Ms. Mary Louisa Pollard. Mr. John Montgomery will serve as Chair for the Committee.

The Chairman announced the Board would meet on January 31, 2012 to receive updates on the 2012 General Assembly Session. The remainder of the 2012 Board Meeting dates will be announced at a later date.

Additional Comments: The Chairman called for additional comments and/or business of the Board.

Mr. Yates commented on the news article found in the November Issue of the *Virginia Wildlife* entitled: *Fresh Beginning*.

[\(Listen: Next Meeting Date and Adjournment\)](#)

Next Meeting Date: The Chairman announced the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011.

Adjournment: The Chairman called for any additional business hearing none and called for a motion to adjourn. Hearing no objections, meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth B. Drewery, Board Secretary
DGIF Board Secretary