



**Meeting Minutes
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 16, 2023 - Doswell VA**

ATTENDANCE

Trustees:

Viola Baskerville
 Eleanor Brown
 Elizabeth Copeland
 Tack Richardson
 Elsie Smith

Absent:

Sissy Crowther, Chair
 Ali Afonja

Other Attendees:

Rich Mahevich, Office of the Attorney General
 Wes Morgan, Office of the Attorney General
 Ellen Shepherd, Virginia United Land Trusts
 Lisa Beaver
 Kim Biasioli, Piedmont Environment Council
 Jackie Anderson

Staff:

Brett Glymph, Executive Director
 Nathan Burrell, Director of Community Conservation
 and Government Relations
 Bobbie Cabibbo, Executive Assistant
 Anna Chisholm, Deputy Director
 Leslie Grayson, Deputy Director
 Martha Little, Deputy Director
 Dave Morton, IT Director
 Brittany Morse, Paralegal
 Estie Thomas, Sr. Easement Manager

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. Eleanor Brown acted as chair because Sissy Crowther, current chair, is out due to illness. Roll was called.

Executive Director of the Meadow Event Park, Marlene Jaliff welcomed us to the facility and related some of the history, purpose, and vision for the center.

APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion made by Viola Baskerville to approve the Order of Business with the following changes: Projects 4905 and 4908 are deferred to June as is the Interactive Map Demonstration; motion seconded by Elizabeth Copeland and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kim Biasioli of PEC noted that many of the objectives and goals from the draft VOF Strategic Plan in the package are in alignment with PEC’s plan.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Jackie Anderson led the trustees in a discussion examining the draft Strategic Plan included in the package. Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges were examined. The 2023-2029 Strategic Plan will be presented at the June meeting for adoption.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Viola Baskerville to approve the draft minutes of the October 11, 2022, Board of Trustees meeting; motion seconded by Elizabeth Copeland and passed unanimously.

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Elsie Smith left the meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Brett reported:

- that in 2022 VOF did 55 new and amended easement projects for 12,000 acres.
 - that we approved 1.8 million dollars in Preservation Trust Funds and \$419,000 in our Get Outdoors grant program.
 - The Virginia United Land Trusts conference is on April 25 – 27 and many VOF staff are presenting.
 - The Land Trust Alliance RALLY is Sept 6 – 9 in Portland Oregon.
 - that work continues in the General Assembly and currently there are no amendments to the budget.
- Brett then introduced Brittany Morse VOF's new real estate paralegal.

OWNED LANDS

Leslie Grayson reviewed highlights of the report included in the meeting materials. Trustees asked for the listing of the Oak Spring listing when available.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Anna reviewed the FY23 YTD figures. Eleanor asked staff to provide the Finance and Audit and Compliance Committee with more in-depth figures and suggested we might want to re-look in to investment services.

FOIA REVIEW

Rich Mahevich presented a video produced by the State Higher Education Council prepared for trustees on the Freedom of Information Act. This video is on file with the permanent record of this meeting.

LAND CONSERVATION

Visual Presentation

Leslie narrated a presentation on the projects submitted for approval. The presentation is on file with the permanent record of this meeting.

PROPOSED OPEN SPACE EASEMENTS

Motion made by Viola Baskerville to approve the following easements as presented; motion seconded by Elizabeth Copeland and approved unanimously.

4585 - Daniel Edward Glenn, Jr. and Daniel Edward Glenn, III - **PTF** - Prince Edward County

4903 - James E. Edmunds, II - Halifax County

4912 - James J. Teter - Halifax County

4799 - Pierces Lowgrounds, LLC - **VLCF** - Greensville County

4909 - James R. Gillette, Lynn G. Gillette, John H. Drewry, IV, Evelyn D. Bailey - **NAWCA** Southampton County

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented.

MOTION TO GO IN TO CLOSED SESSION FOR DISCUSSION AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE CODE OF VIRGINIA §2.23711(A)(3) AND (7)**

Viola moved the following motion:

Madame Chair, I move that the Board go into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.3 & 7 and for:

1. consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiation or

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litigating posture of the public body, and consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel:

- Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to litigation in Ball v VOF
- Lambert Parcel

This closed meeting will be attended only by members of the Board. However, pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (F), the Board requests the present Attorney General Counsels, the Executive Director, the Deputy Directors, and Executive Assistant, as it believes their presence will reasonably aid the committee in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting. Motion seconded by Elizabeth Copeland and passed unanimously.

Upon completion of the Closed Session, the following certification was read:

“WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees conducted 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 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.”

Elizabeth Copeland so certified; Viola Baskerville so certified; Tack Richardson so certified; Eleanor Brown so certified.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned.