

**DRAFT Minutes**  
**Virgina Outdoors Foundation (VOF)**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**9/25/2025, Warrenton**

This meeting was conducted for general business of the VOF Board of Trustees and in accordance with VOF Electronic Meeting Policy 600.1.

**Attendees:**

**Board of Trustees attending onsite:**

Vernon Richardson, Chair (Tack)  
Elizabeth Copeland  
Elizabeth Crowther (Sissy)  
Achille Guest  
James Rich (Jim)

**Trustees attending virtually\*\*:**

Sophie Chafin-Vance  
Anne Pittman

**Staff attending onsite:**

Brett Glymph, Executive Director  
Brad Baskette, Regional Conservation Director  
Bobbie Cabibbo, Executive Assistant  
Kathy Combs, Finance Manager  
Dean Dodson, Conservation Specialist  
Leslie Grayson, Deputy Director  
Martha Little, Deputy Director  
David Morton, IT/GIS Director  
Emily White, Grants Program Director

**Other onsite attendees:**

Rich Mahevich, Office of the Attorney General  
Ellen Shephard, Virginia United Land Trusts  
Eleni Poulos, Capital Results

**Welcome**

Chair opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and noted that Sophie Chafin-Vance and Anne Pittman were taking part remotely and that Achille Guest was delayed.

**Order of business**

Motion made by Elizabeth Copeland to approve the Order of Business; motion seconded by Sissy Crowther and passed unanimously.

**Resolution in Honor of Dr. Crowther**

Tack Richardson, Chair read the resolution aloud. Motion made by Elizabeth Copeland to adopt the resolution; motion seconded by Jim Rich and passed unanimously. (ATTACHMENT A)

**Approval of The Order of Business**

Motion made by Elizabeth Copeland to approve the order of business; motion seconded by Jim Rich and passed unanimously.

**CY26 Board of Trustees Meeting Dates Resolution**

Motion made by Sissy Crowther to adopt the resolution; motion seconded by Elizabeth Crowther and passed unanimously. (ATTACHMENT B) Chair suggested that a Board of Trustees meeting be held at House Mountain.

**Executive Directors Report**

Brett's report noted that: the 2026 calendar is in the works: an invitation was extended to trustees for the October 9<sup>th</sup> event hosted by Avenel Farm and Sacharuna Foundation celebrating the donation of 178 acres of land to Bull Run Mts. Natural Area Preserve; VOF closed the first projects in the Cities of Salem and Portsmouth; staff expects to add approximately 45 projects to the many projects that have already closed this year.

Jim thanked everyone for coming to Fauquier County and appreciated having the meeting in his home county.

## **Public Comments**

No public comments were offered.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by Sissy Crowther to approve the minutes for the 6/12/2025 Board of Trustees Meeting and the 9/4/2025 Finance Audit and Compliance Committee Meeting; motion seconded by Elizabeth Copeland and passed unanimously.

## **Owned Lands Report**

Leslie Grayson gave a short history of the accomplishments of VOF in relation to Virginia's Common Wealth.

## **Land Conservation Presentation and Projects**

Emily White narrated a presentation which on file with the permanent record of this meeting.

Jim Rich asked that an impervious cap percentage figure be added to the Project Summary Sheet. Discussion concerning the easement template, renewable energy and building envelopes resulted in asking staff to review the template. Jim Rich commended staff for limiting divisions.

Motion made by Elizabeth Copeland to approve projects and funding as listed below; motion seconded by Jim Rich and passed unanimously.

## **Western Region Approved Projects and Approved Funding**

1. Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation - Shenandoah County 110.39 acres – approved funding: \$300,000
2. VA Department of Wildlife Resources - Buchanan, Dickenson, Russel and Wise Counties - 62,270 acres- approved-funding: \$300,000
3. Campbell Family Farms, LLC – Smyth County - 1004.92 acres – approved additional easement assistance: \$20,000

## **Central Region Approved Projects and Funding**

1. Albemarle County - Albemarle County - 16.3 acres – approved funding: \$160,000
2. Monacan Indian Nation - Amherst County - 339.4 acres - approved funding: \$300,000
3. Tadpole Land and Trail Conservancy - Fluvanna County - 199.25 acres, approved funding: \$239,500
4. Michael Adkins Campbell, Sr. - Nelson County - 330.575 acres
5. James M. and Sarah G. Wildasin - Rappahannock County - 155.2842 acres
6. John David Emert and LeAnne R. Emert - Prince Edward County - 127.93 acres
7. Monacan Indian Nation – Amherst County - 100.256 acres
8. John David Emert and LeAnne R. Emert - Prince Edward County -237.21 acres
9. Willow Spring Farm, LLC – Orange County - 98.417 acres
10. Scott and Judy Strang – Amherst County - 60 acres

## **Eastern Region Approved Projects and Funding**

1. American Battlefield Trust - New Kent County - 51.98 acres -approved funding: \$176,912.50
2. Friends of Dragon Run, Inc. – Middlesex County -18.01 acres – approved funding: \$47,350
3. Joseph McGuire Edwards – Southampton County – 545 acres – approved funding: \$250,000
4. Roy G. Pollard - Essex County - 68 .2 acres
5. Cherry Bottom, LLC - Charles City County - 398.29 acres
6. Wildlife Acres, LLC – Hanover County - 114.594 acres
7. William G. Drake, Jr. - King William County - 382.80 acres
8. Carlton, Bruce G. and Michael W. - King and Queen County - 462.43 Survey pending - approved funding: \$38,500
9. Beaver Dam Farm, Inc. - King William County - 162.22 acres
10. Lewis, Wilbert and Phyllis -Northumberland County - 121.391 acres
11. Engel Farms, Inc. - King William County - 221.34 acres

## **Closed Session**

Motion read by Bobbie Cabibbo and moved by Jim Rich; motion seconded by Elizabeth Copeland and passed unanimously.

"Chair, I move that the Board go into a closed meeting pursuant to Section A.7 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 litigating posture of the public body, and consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel: Concerning Project #'s 3738, 3807, 3809 Brunswick & Lunenburg counties.

This closed meeting will be attended only by members of the Board. However, pursuant to Section 2.2- 3712 (F), the Board requests the VOF's, Sr. Assistant, Office of the 053109 Attorney General, the Executive Director, the Deputy Directors, Executive Assistant, and the Regional Conservation Director as it believes their presence will reasonably aid the committee in its consideration of topics that are the subject of the meeting."

Upon returning to open meeting Bobbie Cabibbo read the following certification statement:

"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."

The following trustees certified that the above statement was true: Elizabeth Copeland, Sissy Crowther, Tack Richardson,

Anne Pittman, Jim Rich, Achille Guest, and Sophie Chafin-Vance.

### **Adjournment**

The Chair called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Elizabeth Copeland to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Sissy Crowther and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

\*\*In accordance with FOIA xxxxx nd the VOF Electronic Meeting policy adopted 6/12/2025 the members attending virtually were:

Anne Pittman from Nags Head, North Carolina, which in keeping with the policy is allowed because it is over 60 miles from the meeting site.

Sophie- Chafin Vance from Abingdon, Virginia which in keeping with the policy is allowed because it is over 60 miles from the meeting site.

**RESOLUTION****VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION (VOF) BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE SERVICE OF ELIZABETH “SISSY” CROWTHER**

*Whereas, Dr. Elizabeth “Sissy” Crowther served Virginia Outdoors Foundation as Chair of the Board of Trustees from 2021 - 2025; and*

*Whereas, Sissy was appointed to the VOF Board of Trustees by Governor Northam and Governor Youngkin and;*

*Whereas, Sissy guided VOF with a deft hand through VOF’s challenges and achievements; and*

*Whereas, Sissy exemplified the best of what constitutes a servant leader: always willing to listen, debate fairly and work toward building consensus; and*

*Whereas, Sissy in her support of the mission of VOF could be counted on always to be a vote for conservation; therefore*

*Be Resolved, by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation Board of Trustees on this 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2025, That the trustees and staff of Virginia Outdoors Foundation wish to express their sincere appreciation for the time, loyalty and dedicated service that Sissy has given and continues to give to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.*

*ADOPTED by a vote of 5 for and 0 against*

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*ATTEST: Brett Christina Glymph, Executive Director*



## RESOLUTION

### VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION (VOF) BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION TO SET VOF MEETING DATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, The Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF) Board of Trustees typically meets several times a year to consider easement proposals and matters of land conservation policy;

WHEREAS, there may be compelling reasons to adjust the schedule which may be done at the discretion of the Chair in consultation with the trustees; now therefore be it

RESOLVED by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation Board of Trustees, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025, That the following dates are hereby adopted for VOF Board of Trustee meetings, in the calendar year 2026.

Meeting	Date
Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee	February 19, 2026 Fredericksburg
Board of Trustees	March 12, 2026 Charlottesville
Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee	May 07, 2026 Fredericksburg
Board of Trustees	June 11, 2026 Blacksburg
Board of Trustees	September 24, 2026 Richmond

Adopted by a vote of 6 for and 0 against

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ATTEST: Brett C. Glymph, Executive Director