



STAFFORD COUNTY WETLANDS BAY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 20, 2026, at 6:00 pm

ABC Conference Room of the George L. Gordon, Jr. Government Center

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by Robert Hayden

B. Roll Call of Members

Members Present: Robert Hayden, Mary Rust, Jeff Eastland, Victor Eilenfield, Rachel Rilee, Dr. Ranjit Singh

Members Absent: Sue Henderson, Benjamin Rudasill and Zachary Martinez

Staff Present: Joe Fiorello, Vicki Sowers, Paul Santay, Donna Krauss, Emily Torrey; Harriet Donkoh

C. Determination of a Quorum

A quorum was established with six members present. Mr. Hayden appointed Rachel Riley as voting alternate.

D. Approval of Meeting Minutes - February 23, 2026

Robert Hayden presents modifications to the minutes from the last wetlands board meeting, including changes to lines 93, 119, 133, 142, 143, 157, 159, 166, 168, and 205.

The board unanimously approved February 23, 2026, minutes with Mr. Hayden's adjustments with a motion from Jeff Eastland and seconded by Mary Rust.

E. Public Presentations

Kristen Maxson introduces herself and presents her concerns about the project shoreline and its impact on non-vegetated tidal wetlands.

Maxson highlights issues with the military document being posted publicly and the address discrepancies on the plat.

She discusses the potential impact of federal budget cuts on wetlands protections and the economic reset of 2023.

Maxson mentions the bond interest on localities and the BRAC process, and its potential impact on Stafford County wetlands.

She concludes with concerns about the financial obligations of homeowners for water line maintenance and thanked the board for their time.

F. Public Hearings

AP26156978; Stafford County Wetlands Board Application, Agenda Number WB26-01; Mr. Steve Blevins; Tax Map Parcel No. 21B-2314; Aquia Election District. The request is to permit the placement of an 80 linear foot riprap revetment to stabilize and protect a portion of Aquia Creek bank and shoreline within the parcel located at 3009 Voyage Drive. The installation of the riprap revetment will result in a permanent loss of 48 sq. ft. of non-vegetated tidal wetlands.

County Presentation on Blevins Rip Rap Revetment

- Joe Fiorello presented the board with information on the Blevins rip rap revetment project.
- The project involves installing an 80-foot linear foot rip rap revetment along a quiet creek, resulting in 48 square feet of non-vegetated tidal wetland impacts.
- The removal of two trees within the Chesapeake Bay Resource Protection Area buffer will be compensated for elsewhere on the property.
- The loss of the 48 square feet of intertidal, non-vegetated wetlands will be mitigated through the purchase of wetland credits from the Nature Conservancy.
- Joe Fiorello provided photographs and drawings to illustrate the project's impact and mitigation measures.

Engineer's Explanation and Board Discussion

- Jim Beck, the engineer for the project, explained the design and alternatives considered, such as a bulkhead.
- Mary Rust raises concerns about the health of a tree covered with ivy and its impact on the project.
- Victor Eilenfield discussed the environmental benefits of the project, including reducing erosion and sedimentation.
- Robert Hayden asks about the neighbors' responses and the removal of the trees.

- The board discussed the mitigation measures, including the replacement of the removed trees with understory trees and shrubs.
- Ms. Rust made a motion to approve the project as written with a second from Mr. Eastland. The motion passed with unanimous approval vote.

Mr. Eastland requested permission pass along a handout to the Board members. He mentioned a potential power line project affecting Aquia Creek and encouraged board members to email their planning commissioners with their thoughts.

- Mr. Hayden requested for staff to follow up on the conflict regarding the publication of emails and to report back.

G. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Jeff Eastland made a motion to adjourn. The motion seconded by Ms. Rust. The Wetlands Board meeting adjourned at 6:32pm