

August 8, 1973

At a meeting of the Wetlands Board of James City County held in the Courthouse, Williamsburg, Virginia, on the eighth day of August, nineteen hundred and seventy-three, there were present: MRS. CARY FUQUA, Chairman; MR. LEONARD HARRIS, Vice Chairman; and MR. MELVIN HAZELWOOD.

RE: PUBLIC HEARING

Application of the Virginia Department of Highways to perform construction into the wetlands of Paper Mill Creek.

Mr. Mel Thomas of the Highway Department explained the project and stated that approximately 28,000 square feet of marsh in Paper Mill Creek will be filled and a double 10' x 6' box culvert will be constructed to handle tidal and flood waters.

The Highway Department projects that approximately 0.6 acre of productive marsh will be permanently destroyed and some temporary damage to the areas adjacent to the causeway may occur as a result of increased siltation.

The Highway Department will take the following steps to minimize the effects of the project on the marsh:

1. Providing a double 10' x 6' box culvert, giving a twenty foot opening to handle storm water and tidal flows.
2. A silt barrier constructed of straw bales will be placed across the marsh at the toe of fill which will protect against erosion at the marshfill interface.
3. Rip-Rap will be provided at each end of the box culverts to protect against erosion and act as an energy dissipator of tidal and storm waters.
4. The Department in cooperation with VIMS will attempt to protect as many of the clumps of arrow-arum as possible, by removing such clumps prior to the filling operation, storing in protected areas and after construction placing these clumps adjacent to the fill where possible re-establishment and growth will occur.
5. The Environmental Quality Division will monitor the effects of construction throughout the project to determine the best course of action to minimize any unforeseen adverse effects to the Paper Mill Creek marsh which VIMS and the Department may not be aware of or cannot pre-determine with our present knowledge of Wetlands.

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Mr. Harris stated that he hoped that in the future when the Highway Department has a project of this kind they will provide an impact study for it.

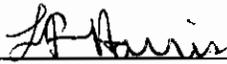
Mrs. Fuqua recommended that the Highway Department experiment with evergreens that might grow and prevent erosion. Mr. Gordon Yager of the Soil Conservation Service mentioned that the Department of Agriculture has experimented with this and knows just what will take hold.

Mrs. Fuqua added that shrubs should be tried more than marsh grasses.

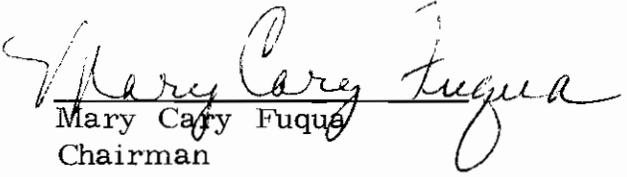
Upon motion by Mr. Harris, seconded by Mr. Hazelwood and passed unanimously the application by the Virginia Department of Highways for a wetlands permit is hereby approved as drafted.

RE: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.



 Leonard P. Harris
 Secretary



 Mary Cary Fuqua
 Chairman

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