

# **Wetlands Board**

**August 8, 2007**

**A. Roll Call**

**B. Minutes - July 11, 2007**

**C. Public Hearings**

1. W-16-07/VMRC 07-1025. Jamestown 4-H Educational  
Center - 3751 4-H Club Road

**D. Board Considerations**

**E. Matters of Special Privilege**

**F. Adjournment**

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 8, 2007  
**TO:** The Wetlands Board  
**FROM:** Patrick T. Menichino, Wetlands Board Secretary  
**SUBJECT:** Case NO. W-16-07/VMRC 07-1025; Jamestown 4-H Center  
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Mr. Jeff Watkins of Riverworks, Inc. has applied for a Wetlands permit on behalf of the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center to install approximately 225 linear feet of class 3 riprap breakwaters, and 5500 square feet of sand fill beach nourishment. This application also proposes approximately 12,000 square feet of slope grading impacts to the upland RPA buffer. A 66' long pier extension, and a 3280 square foot octagonal platform with a 2400 square foot hip roof are also proposed to be installed on open piles located channelward of the Wetlands Boards jurisdiction.

The property is further identified by James City County Real Estate as PIN # 463010003. The project site in question is located on the James River. Mr. Watkins and the Jamestown 4-H Center, have been advised that their attendance at the Wetlands Board meeting on August 8, 2007, is highly recommended.

This project will involve the construction of 225 linear feet of class 3 armor stone breakwaters along with the installation of 6000 square feet of sand beach nourishment land ward of the breakwaters. The project will involve impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and it will also include impacts to upland areas not within the Wetlands Board's jurisdiction. The project as proposed will require grading of the upland area to create an acceptable 3:1 - 4:1 slope.

Environmental Division staff visited the site on July 17, 2007, along with representatives from VMRC and VIMS to discuss the project scope and potential impacts. Proposed impacts for this project are determined to be 5500 square feet to the Type XVI Sand Flat Community. Total fill impacts for this project are determined to be 0 square feet.

The proposed upland slope grading of the RPA buffer is of significant concern to staff and to the VIMS representative. Staff believes that the disturbance to the RPA buffer is excessive and can be significantly reduced by implementing the following changes to this application and plans.

1. Increase the top elevation of the proposed backshore sand fill dune area to + 5 above MHW and increase the beach elevation and gradient accordingly.
2. Increase the importation of sand fill from approved offsite locations requiring less onsite borrow.
3. Increase the proposed upland slope gradient to 3:1. The proposed new slope can be graded channelward at a 3:1 slope from approximate elevation + 20.0 to the top of the proposed dune at elevation +5.0. All information on the plan shall be revised to reflect the changes to the proposed grading.

It is the staff's recommendation that the Board approve this application, with the following conditions imposed:

1. A revised plan shall be submitted to VMRC, VIMS and James City County for review and approval prior to the required preconstruction meeting which must be held on-site. The revised plan will show a reduction in the proposed disturbance to the RPA buffer that shall be limited to 30 linear feet landward from existing face of bluff.

2. An RPA buffer restoration plan shall be submitted to the Division for review and approval prior to preconstruction meeting. This restoration plan shall show the locations and species of native trees and shrubs and grasses that shall be installed within the regraded RPA buffer area. The implementation of the RPA restoration plan and the installation of *Spartina Patens*, *Alteniflora* and other beach grasses shall be guaranteed by surety in a form acceptable to the Division and County Attorney prior to the preconstruction meeting.
3. The revised limits of clearing and construction shall be flagged in the field prior to the preconstruction meeting.
4. The Environmental Director reserves the right to require a turbidity curtain for this project if field conditions warrant its use.
5. The permit shall expire August 8, 2008. If an extension of this permit is needed, a written request shall be submitted to the Environmental Division no later than two weeks prior to the expiration date.