

THE MARYLAND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MINUTES – APRIL 18, 2018

Chairman Compton called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Introduction Remarks**

- The Chairman introduced newly appointed Steven Keithley to the Wildlife Advisory Commission.
- Commissioner Keithley has been hunting in Maryland since the 1960's, and he indicated that he has been an archery hunter since 1966. Commissioner Keithley informed the Commission that he, at one time, was the president of the Maryland Bowhunter's Society.
- The other members of the Commission introduced themselves to Commissioner Keithley.

**Approval for the April 18, 2018 Meeting Agenda**

- Motion:
  1. Commissioner Schroyer moved to approve the April 18, 2018, Wildlife Advisory Commission Meeting Agenda.
  2. Commissioner Boyles Griffin seconded.
  3. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Approval for Minutes from March 28, 2018 Meeting**

- Motion:
  1. Commissioner Gulbrandsen moved to approve the March 28<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes as presented.
  2. Commissioner Gregor seconded.
  3. All in favor. Motion passed.

**2018 Legislative Session Outcome** – Presentation given by Associate Director Glenn Therres.

- Associate Director Therres provided a summary of the bills that passed and failed.  
[ATTACHMENT A]
- Question and Answer Section:
  1. Commissioner Weinberg asked who are the individuals or groups that were pushing for the HB0091 Natural Resources – Hunting – Outwear Exception.
    - a. The Maryland Farm Bureau wanted the law to exempt landowners from wearing fluorescent orange while hunting on their land.
  2. Chairman Compton asked for summary and the intent of HB1338 Natural Resources Hunting – Sundays.
    - a. The intent of HB1338 Natural Resources - Sundays would have provided the Department the authority to set seasons for all game species in regulations except Sunday hunting in the current law for deer would remain and any new Sundays would be authorized by the Department with some caveat. It would have cleared up all of the confusion in the existing law.

**Natural Resources Police Update** – Presentation given by Lieutenant Jeffrey Sweitzer.

- Lieutenant Sweitzer provided 2018 staffing levels for Maryland Department of Natural Resources Police [ATTACHMENT B].
- Lieutenant Sweitzer received approval to provide the information in [ATTACHMENT B].
- There were four separate groups charged with hunting turkeys over bait in Western Region.

**Old Business:**

- The letter of support of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act along with the signature page was presented to the Commission for the Commission's signatures.

### **New Business**

- Discussion ensued in changing the start time of the Wildlife Advisory Commission meetings.
- Motion:
  1. Commissioner Weinberg moved start time to 10:30 am for the Wildlife Advisory Commission meetings on a probation period.
  2. Commissioner Schroyer seconded.
  3. Motion passed.
- Commissioner Weinberg asked if the Department has consider getting rid of the paper hunting license.
  1. The law change last year allowed us to adopt regulations to allow the acceptance of electronic license and harvest check-in.
- Mr. Bill Miles asked for additional information on the Kent County incident where a hunter poached a ‘trophy’ white-tailed deer and the hunter was able to gain permission to keep a reproduction of the antlers.
  1. Lt. Sweitzer admitted not having a lot of information about that charge. However, Lt. Sweitzer added that it was one of the first cases under the 2016 Poacher Restitution Law.
  2. The Department is doing an outreach program with the judges and prosecutors that are overseeing these cases to further explain the acts.
  3. Chairman Compton thanked Mr. Bill Miles for attending the Wildlife Advisory Commission meeting.

### **Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 A.M.  
The next meeting will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 in the Tawes State Office Building, C-1 Conference Room; Annapolis, Maryland.

### **Attendance**

Members:	L. Compton, M. Goetze, T. Gregor, E. Gulbrandsen, S. Boyles Griffin , S. Keithley, J. Schroyer, and R. Weinberg
Absent:	J. Michael
Guest:	B. Miles
Staff:	T. Larney, P. Peditto, T. Spencer, J. Sweitzer, and G. Therres

**Summary of 2018 Proposed Legislation  
Wildlife and Heritage Service  
(FINAL as of 4/10/2018)**

## Bills that passed:

<u>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter)</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Primary Sponsor</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Original House and Hearing Dates</u>	<u>Opposite House and Hearing Dates</u>
HB0007 (SB0182)	Income Tax Credit – Venison Donation – Feed the Hungry Organizations	Delegate Mautz	In the Senate – Third Reading passed	Ways and Means 1/17/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Returned passed
HB0104 (SB0149)	Natural Resources - Electronic Licensing - Voluntary Donations	Delegate Robinson	In the House - Returned Passed	Environment and Transportation 1/24/2018 - 1:30 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0119 / CH0110	Calvert County – Hunting – Deer Management Permits	Delegate Clark	Approved by the Governor - Chapter 110	Environment and Transportation 2/7/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/20/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
HB0172 / CH0123	Montgomery County - Archery Hunting Safety Zone - Position of Archery Hunter MC 24-18	Montgomery County Delegation	Approved by the Governor - Chapter 123	Environment and Transportation 2/14/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/27/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
HB1118 (SB0341)	Hunting - Required Outerwear - Daylight Fluorescent Pink	Delegate Adams	In the House - Returned Passed	Environment and Transportation 2/23/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB1163	Waterfowl Hunting Guide License - Guide Services for Hunting Snow Geese - Reciprocity	Delegate Adams	In the House - Returned Passed	Environment and Transportation 2/28/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/27/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
SB0089	Ches Bay and Coastal Zone Advisory Commission and Captive Wildlife Advisory Committee - Repeal	Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee	Approved by the Governor - Chapter 60	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 1/16/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/21/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
SB0094	Natural Resources – Unprotected Birds and Mammals	Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee	In the Senate - Passed Enrolled	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 1/16/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/22/2018 - 1:00 p.m.

SB0113 / CH0062	Natural Resources - Recreational License Incentive Discount Program	Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee	Approved by the Governor - Chapter 62	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 1/16/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/22/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
SB0149 (HB0104)	Natural Resources - Electronic Licensing - Voluntary Donations	Senator Astle	In the Senate - Returned Passed	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 1/25/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation
SB0182 (HB007)	Income Tax Credit - Venison Donation - Feed the Hungry Organizations	Senator Astle	In the House - Second Reading Passed	Budget and Taxation 1/30/2018 - 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation
SB0341 (HB1118)	Hunting - Required Outerwear - Daylight Fluorescent Pink	Senator Eckardt	In the Senate - Returned Passed	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/6/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation

**Bills that failed:**

<u>Number / Chapter</u> <u>(Cross File / Chapter)</u> ▲	Title	<u>Primary Sponsor</u>	Status	Original House and Hearing Dates	Opposite House and Hearing Dates
HB0091	Natural Resources - Hunting - Outerwear Exception	Delegate Grammer	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation 1/24/2018 - 1:30 p.m.	
HB0636	Bow Hunting - Possession of Handguns for Protection	Delegate Vogt	In the House - Hearing 3/06 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary 3/6/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB0712	Natural Resources - Wildlife Trafficking Prevention	Delegate Luedtke	In the House - Hearing 2/14 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 2/14/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB1122 (SB0959)	Natural Resources - Hunting - Black Bears	Delegate McKay	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation	
HB1338 (SB0817)	Natural Resources - Hunting - Sundays	Delegate Anderton	In the House - Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/7/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB1429	Natural Resources - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Delegate Glass	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation 3/7/2018 - 1:00 p.m.	

<b>HB1440</b>	Natural Resources - Hunter Safety Instructors - State Park Entrance Fee	<b>Delegate Glass</b>	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation	<b>Environment and Transportation</b> 3/7/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
<b>HB1503</b>	State Designations - State Waterfowl - Canvasback Duck	<b>Delegate Lisanti</b>	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Health and Government Operations	<b>Health and Government Operations</b> 3/14/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
<b>HB1561</b>	Natural Resources - Hunting - Outerwear Exception	<b>Delegate Glass</b>	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation	<b>Environment and Transportation</b> 3/7/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
<b>HB1699</b> <b>(SB1166)</b>	Baltimore County - Hunting - Nongame Birds and Mammals	<b>Delegate Impallaria</b>	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations	<b>Rules and Executive Nominations</b>
<b>SB0183</b>	Natural Resources - Electronic Licensing - Recreational License Donation Fund - Donations	<b>Senator Simonaire</b>	In the House - Second Reading Passed	<b>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</b> 1/25/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
<b>SB0747</b>	Wildlife Management - Shooting at Nighttime	<b>Senator Astle</b>	In the Senate - Third Reading Failed (14-33)	<b>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</b> 2/20/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
<b>SB0817</b> <b>(HB1338)</b>	Natural Resources - Hunting - Sundays	<b>Senator Salling</b>	In the Senate - Hearing 3/13 at 1:00 p.m.	<b>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</b> 3/13/2018 - 1:00 p.m.
<b>SB0959</b> <b>(HB1122)</b>	Natural Resources - Hunting - Black Bears	<b>Senator Edwards</b>	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; Withdrawn	<b>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</b>
<b>SB1166</b> <b>(HB1699)</b>	Baltimore County - Hunting - Nongame Birds and Mammals	<b>Senator Jennings</b>	In the Senate - Hearing 3/13 at 1:00 p.m.	<b>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</b> 3/13/2018 - 1:00 p.m.



*Larry Hogan, Governor*  
*Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor*  
*Mark Belton, Secretary*  
*Joanne Throwe, Deputy Secretary*

2018 staffing levels for Maryland Natural Resources Police.

Authorized sworn positions – 278

Current Cadets – 1, Interviews recently to fill unknown number of vacancies.

Current sworn officers – 217

Recruits currently in academy – 35

A merger of Maryland Park Service "Rangers" into NRP took place in 2005. Pre-merger staffing levels for NRP were 210 sworn officers. 143 Maryland Park Service Rangers were merged into NRP for a total of 353 sworn officers. At that point, NRP took over law enforcement responsibilities for all Maryland Parks and State Forests. Additionally 35 pins were taken from NRP and transferred to the Maryland Park Service. NRP currently has 136 fewer sworn officers than we had after the merger in 2005.

In 1990 the Maryland Park Service and the Natural Resources Police combined to have 451 sworn officers.

