Transcript of

Meeting of the Maryland Boat Act Advisory Comittee

Date: December 12, 2013 on Thursday

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1	MEETING OF THE MARYLAND BOAT ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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5	The above-entitled matter came on for
6	hearing on Thursday, December 12th, 2013,
7	commencing at 10:00 a.m., at the Kent Island Yacht
8	Club, Coles Marsh, committee chairman, presiding.
9	
10	COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
11	Amy Craig Al Simon Robert Lunsford Steve Kling
12	Russ Dwyer Edric McSween Jon Sheller Robert Nickel
13	Thornell T. Jones Christopher Parlin John Bush Debbie Henniger
14	Ramona Trovata Fred Levitan
15	Mike Grant, State Committee Liason Donna Morrow, Director Clean Waterways,
16	Facilities and Regulations Division
17	
18	Reported by: Kelly A. Taylor
19	
20	
21	

PROCEEDINGS 1 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning, morning, glad you all are here this morning, nice to be 3 4 inside instead of outside for a little bit. So as we do normally -- we're set up a little different 5 which is nice on our last meeting of 2013, we have 6 7 a little round table -- I just want everybody to go around like we do and we can do our name and 8 9 anything that's exciting, that's happened to you 10 since our last meeting or different, new and different. So we'll start with Ramona and we'll go 11 12 on around and we'll move over to there. 13 (Members introduce themselves.) 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Mike, you're up, 15 disposition of regulatory requests 2013. 16 MR. GRANT: From '13, everybody received the e-mail concerning the secretary's decision, did 17 18 you not, so I'm just reiterating that the secretary 19 decided to go with your recommendation for Ocean City, the Ocean Pines area and slightly expand the 20 current six knot zone and mark it a little more 21

- 1 deliberately and for Ventnor he decided to go with
- 2 the petitioner but for boating season only, so that
- 3 area will have a six knot zone boating season only,
- 4 the rest of the year will remain as it is. Both are
- 5 going through the process right now through AELR
- 6 and we expect them to be effective in March of
- 7 2014. Any questions?
- 8 Okay. 2014, moving right along. I have
- 9 one official request for 2014 and one maybe. The
- 10 first one is the document that you have on your
- 11 table that Steve referred to, this gentleman
- 12 essentially would like to change the PWC safety
- 13 zone from one hundred feet to two hundred feet for
- 14 the entire bay for any area that's greater than
- 15 four hundred feet wide.
- 16 As you can see from the letter, if you
- 17 had a chance to read it, he witnessed an almost
- 18 accident with a swimmer and feels that this is the
- 19 only way to control this. I kept insisting this is
- 20 more of a regulatory issue right now because we,
- 21 the person that you witnessed was within, far



- 1 within a hundred foot zone and within too close to
- 2 the person swimming and it was NRP's issue, but he
- 3 still wants to push forward and do it statewide. I
- 4 understand that you can, I believe, decide to go
- 5 with this or not or just suggest that it's
- 6 regulatory and he should keep calling NRP as
- 7 opposed to taking it up. This is the only official
- 8 one that I have at this point. I have not
- 9 responded yet.
- 10 I spoke with Julie Brown, our resident
- 11 PWC expert who was here at the last meeting and
- 12 evidently back during Dave Street's time, I think
- 13 most of you here remember David, they did some
- 14 testing and felt that it was, you know, it wasn't
- 15 an issue. That, that the hundred foot works just
- 16 fine. NRP is well aware of what a hundred feet is.
- 17 They can certainly, you know, tag people if they
- 18 witness something but unfortunately again their
- 19 issue is having enough staff to man this and
- 20 keeping an eye on things, and this particular
- 21 person lives in Lusby and this occurred on the



- 1 beach on the Chesapeake Bay so this was -- I don't
- 2 know how many patrols we have running up in that
- 3 area, but it's an issue obviously, so I said you
- 4 got to keep calling the 888 number and, you know,
- 5 they will relocate their assets if they see it as a
- 6 problem. So I asked for your counsel on this one,
- 7 whether we should proceed with this and, Rachel,
- 8 maybe you can chime in, do they have the ability to
- 9 say, you know, we feel this is a regulatory
- 10 request, we see no reason to go forward with this,
- 11 if you have issues stay with NRP or should it be
- 12 entertained?
- MS. EISENHOWER: Well, actually, I'm not
- 14 familiar, I haven't come here often enough to know
- 15 yet whether when you get one request you entertain
- 16 it immediately upon receiving it or whether you put
- 17 it on as new business at another meeting. I
- 18 don't -- and that part I'm not familiar with.
- 19 Certainly having them call NRP when they see that
- 20 problem is what we've advised in the past when
- 21 they're happening because actually there is a



- 1 regulation which controls it and it's already in
- 2 place, there is not a regulatory action for that
- 3 particular violation. It's really an enforcement
- 4 action.
- 5 MR. GRANT: Right.
- 6 MS. EISENHOWER: So it's --
- 7 MR. LUNSFORD: As I remember the
- 8 department has 60 days to either begin the process
- 9 of adopting the regulation which includes putting
- 10 it under the purview of this committee for review
- 11 for a year or to write back to the petitioner and
- 12 tell them why the department is going to take no
- 13 action, so I think there is a clock running where
- 14 you have to get back to them, you have to do one or
- 15 the other, if I recall Mike, from my years of doing
- 16 this stuff.
- 17 MR. GRANT: Could Steve chime in?
- 18 MR. KLING: Well, we used to have a 25
- 19 signature limit set for ourselves and we're advised
- 20 by the attorney general office if it's one request,
- 21 one person came in we had to consider it but it was



- 1 in this context, this is an enforcement issue not a
- 2 regulatory issue.
- 3 Is not the hundred foot limit a
- 4 statutory limit?
- 5 MR. LUNSFORD: I don't remember.
- 6 MR. KLING: Way back then we were
- 7 looking at the jet skis remember the legislature
- 8 trumped us, I wouldn't be surprised if the PWC is a
- 9 statute.
- 10 MR. LUNSFORD: That would make it really
- 11 easy for the committee, wouldn't it?
- 12 MS. MORROW: This person is requesting
- 13 it and I agree, I mean we can't just say here,
- 14 enforce this.
- 15 MR. LUNSFORD: If it's a statutory we
- 16 can't change it at our level, we can't even
- 17 recommend it be changed.
- 18 MS. MORROW: No, you couldn't --
- 19 MR. LUNSFORD: Mike is feverishly
- 20 looking for it and giving us time for lunch.
- 21 MR. GRANT: I'm not that feverishly



- 1 looking. For the life of me I can't find it.
- 2 (Pause for document examination.)
- 3 MR. GRANT: I can't locate it at this
- 4 point.
- Well, so what you're saying if it is
- 6 statutory we can't touch it and the letter goes
- 7 back to the individual stating this is a issue for
- 8 NRP.
- 9 MS. EISENHOWER: An enforcement issue.
- 10 MR. LUNSFORD: It's an enforcement issue
- 11 either way to me --
- 12 MS. MORROW: If he wants to get a change
- 13 in statute --
- 14 MR. LUNSFORD: He talks to his delegate.
- 15 MS. TROVATO: Is it statute?
- 16 MR. GRANT: I'm going to confirm that
- 17 and I'll get back to you by e-mail.
- 18 MS. MORROW: If it's a regs issue, it's
- 19 a regulation that will be something for us to --
- 20 MR. LUNSFORD: Well, I think the sense
- 21 of the of the committee -- and forgive me if I'm



- 1 speaking -- I think we all consider it an
- 2 enforcement issue and there is no need to change a
- 3 statewide regulation based upon a guy who witnessed
- 4 something and it wasn't even involving, he wasn't
- 5 even the swimmer. So he saw something he thought
- 6 was dangerous.
- 7 MR. GRANT: Just missed someone
- 8 swimming.
- 9 MR. LUNSFORD: And the swimmer didn't
- 10 call in and complain.
- MR. GRANT: No, no. Does that mean that
- 12 we need or should recommend something from the
- 13 chairman, choose if this then that and if not then
- 14 this?
- MS. MORROW: Yeah, I think there needs
- 16 to be something.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: I think since you do have
- 18 a request we're going have to address that request
- 19 at some level, we're going to have to get back to
- 20 them asking what you should tell that person.
- MR. GRANT: I can get that hopefully



- 1 help from the AG's office.
- 2 MS. EISENHOWER: Right.
- 3 MR. GRANT: Thank you --
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: If we -- as a committee
- 5 should we take any action or vote on where we
- 6 should go with that or wait until you at least have
- 7 some direction from counsel?
- 8 MR. DWYER: I think we ought to make a
- 9 motion and give him a way to go. If it's not
- 10 statutory, it's a regulatory. He'll have the
- 11 answer either way. I mean I'll make a motion
- 12 that -- what do you want it to say? It's a
- 13 regulatory problem --
- 14 MR. LUNSFORD: An enforcement issue.
- MR. DWYER: -- we don't want to
- 16 increase --
- 17 MR. KLING: I don't think you want to
- 18 say this, let's say we see this as an enforcement
- 19 issue and don't recommend changing.
- MR. DWYER: Second.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have a second to



- 1 that?
- 2 MR. JONES: Second.
- 3 MR. LUNSFORD: Second.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Any discussion on that
- 5 and do we know what the motion is? Russ, do you
- 6 want to make a motion?
- 7 MR. DWYER: Steve corrected me.
- 8 MS. TROVATO: Polished it.
- 9 MR. DWYER: Make no change.
- 10 MR. GRANT: Do what you said, right?
- 11 MR. DWYER: Right.
- 12 MR. KLING: I think the motion is that
- 13 we see this is an enforcement issue and recommend
- 14 that no regulatory, no rule making be considered,
- 15 undertaken at this time.
- MR. DWYER: Second.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: The motion was seconded
- 18 on that. All in favor raise your hand, please.
- 19 (Vote taken.)
- 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Mike, do you have
- 21 direction --



- 1 MS. TROVATO: Did you get a count, Mike?
- 2 MR. GRANT: I didn't.
- MS. TROVATO: Everybody.
- 4 (Vote taken.)
- 5 MR. SIMON: Unanimous.
- 6 MR. GRANT: Good. All right, this next
- 7 one is we're back up in Havre de Grace, the blue
- 8 area -- I'm sorry, the yellow area is existing.
- 9 This may look somewhat familiar because we
- 10 addressed this before. This gentlemen in 2011 or
- 11 '12 he wanted to do the blue area, shut the entire
- 12 river down. Now, we have folks named Scarlato,
- 13 they own a marina here and here and they basically
- 14 want what these people have. They would like to
- 15 extend this area all of the way up above the Amtrak
- 16 bridge with the same six knots during the boating
- 17 season, I think probably when it comes in official
- 18 they would like to have it at all times. In fact,
- 19 I think they would like to have it across the river
- 20 as well. Part of their concern is they're getting
- 21 rocked hard by boats and yada, yada but they have,



- 1 they have two businesses aside from their marina
- 2 business. One is a kayak and paddle board rental,
- 3 so people can do that in this neck of the woods up
- 4 here. The other is a yoga school that operates off
- 5 of a barge up here, up in here somewhere
- 6 (indicating). I don't know whether it's outside or
- 7 inside, I didn't get specific. But here's the
- 8 Amtrak bridge and here's the smaller one here and
- 9 the large marina here.
- 10 When I spoke with the woman I, you know,
- 11 I suggested that perhaps, you know, that maybe she
- 12 should rethink the idea of paddle board, kayak
- 13 rental area in a very popular river because it may
- 14 not be the best river for it, maybe a smaller
- 15 stream and creek might be the best place for it,
- 16 and she said we have the right to do that, we have
- 17 the right to operate the business and I couldn't go
- 18 anywhere with the yoga classes. But that's, that
- 19 has not come through officially. I did get a call
- 20 from Delegate James' office, who is Cecil and
- 21 Harford County, her representative, who I basically



- 1 had the same conversation with. I mean this
- 2 doesn't make any sense, this is like this women
- 3 wants to have a bike rental business on the side of
- 4 Route 50 and then complained there's too much
- 5 traffic. It just didn't ring and again I didn't go
- 6 to the yoga thing, and he seemed to understand and
- 7 went back to the delegate with it and Mrs. Scarlota
- 8 called me again in late summer and we went through
- 9 the whole story again and I explained to her what
- 10 she had to do, when she had to do it by and I have
- 11 heard nothing from her so I don't know what's going
- 12 to happen, but this is just, I wanted to bring this
- 13 up again because we had the discussion last year
- 14 that a request has been made in this area and it
- 15 hasn't been three years so another request can't be
- 16 made. Is this the same thing? It's not the same
- 17 thing.
- 18 MR. KLING: I don't think -- it's a
- 19 different person, different --
- MR. GRANT: So her request is to extend
- 21 this area so that -- she said I want what they have



- 1 down here, that's all I want what they have down
- 2 here so they want, she wants to extend this up
- 3 here, the blue is just for reference. I don't know
- 4 if it's going to come through or not, but that's
- 5 just a FYI.
- 6 MR. LUNSFORD: Has there been any
- 7 suggestion that the traffic is causing a safety
- 8 issue between vessels or is it simply a wake
- 9 reaching shore issue?
- 10 MR. GRANT: Wake reaching the barge and
- 11 affecting their rental or rental customers.
- 12 MR. LUNSFORD: What is the distance
- 13 offshore of that red line that's being --
- 14 MR. GRANT: Approximately two hundred.
- 15 The same distance here and this is just an
- 16 approximate -- I just extended what we had down
- 17 here.
- 18 MR. LUNSFORD: So they believe that
- 19 extending that distance will somehow mitigate the
- 20 wake, the effect of wakes.
- 21 MR. GRANT: So that the paddle boarders



- 1 and kayakers will stay within the red zone and be
- 2 unaffected.
- 3 MR. LUNSFORD: Okay.
- 4 MS. HENNIGER: I can let you know on
- 5 this side of bridge -- can you put the bridge back
- 6 in -- there is a county ramp and that's probably
- 7 where she is getting it, a lot of it, north is the
- 8 county bridge, ramp. I go up there all of the time
- 9 and the only place I see boats is way out, I don't
- 10 see them inside there unless they're taking off
- 11 from there.
- 12 MR. GRANT: From this area.
- 13 MR. LUNSFORD: Yeah, and then straight
- 14 out the bridge.
- MS. HENNIGER: Yeah, and then they're
- 16 going inside of that line and the only other thing
- 17 is that Tidewater used to have -- Tidewater is
- 18 right beside on the right.
- 19 MR. GRANT: Right in here?
- MS. HENNIGER: No.
- 21 MR. GRANT: Tidewater Marina.



- 1 MS. HENNIGER: Restaurant, up by the
- 2 bridge.
- 3 MR. GRANT: Up here?
- 4 MS. HENNIGER: Yeah, so it's up further
- 5 and next door. Tidewater used to have boats that
- 6 took off, like hydroplane boat things, the little
- 7 motors on them and I haven't seen them lately, but
- 8 I don't see too much traffic in that area except
- 9 for that reason.
- 10 MR. GRANT: It's a busy river, there is
- 11 no doubt.
- 12 MS. HENNIGER: Yeah, it is.
- 13 MR. GRANT: Between the barges alone.
- 14 MS. HENNIGER: And the wake that does
- 15 it -- look at the cross over up the Chesapeake from
- 16 the ships, that's the wake that comes up from the
- 17 south not the north part.
- 18 MR. GRANT: I advised her that it's a
- 19 commercial river that she would have trouble
- 20 shutting the river down and she said it wasn't the
- 21 barges that were the problem it was the go fast



- 1 boats.
- 2 MS. HENNIGER: With all of the grass in
- 3 there, you can have yoga in the grass.
- 4 MR. GRANT: I didn't go there.
- 5 MS. HENNIGER: Look at all of the grass
- 6 there, that's strange.
- 7 MR. KLING: Seems to me we should, we
- 8 shouldn't worry about the merits of it at this
- 9 point. I don't think it's the same request as the
- 10 guy who wanted to shut down the river. If it comes
- 11 in, I think, you know, we'll consider it
- 12 appropriately. I happen to think that expanding
- 13 the business and taking away public water to make
- 14 it better for your business that's not good public
- 15 policy, that's just my opinion.
- 16 MR. GRANT: Okay, this has not
- 17 officially come in but I wanted you to know that it
- 18 had come in from the delegate and the delegate's
- 19 representative, and I don't know if she's gathered
- 20 signatures or she's having second thoughts.
- 21 MR. LUNSFORD: She is on the radar.



- 1 MR. GRANT: That's all that I have.
- 2 MR. LUNSFORD: Not much.
- 3 MR. GRANT: You want more?
- 4 (Discussion held off the record.)
- 5 THE CHAIRMAN: I would like to make sure
- 6 that they understand what we're doing when they
- 7 petition that it's not --
- 8 MR. GRANT: Nine times out of 10 it's
- 9 the unintended consequences that they're unaware
- 10 of. If for you then it affects me so otherwise we
- 11 don't want to do it or it's a regulatory request,
- 12 you got to go this route first -- I mean it's a
- 13 regulatory issue, so --
- 14 MR. LUNSFORD: Enforcement.
- 15 MR. GRANT: -- enforcement, right --
- 16 enforcement issue. My bad.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: That's all that's in at
- 18 the time. Mark hasn't made it yet.
- 19 MR. GRANT: I'm sorry, I apologize.
- 20 Mark will not be here today, Mark had to go to New
- 21 England for a funeral. Donna Morrow.



- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: You want to give us an
- 2 update then?
- 3 MS. MORROW: I don't have much to update
- 4 you on. Yesterday I did go to our annual pregame
- 5 session for DNR for our legislative team to see
- 6 what might be coming down the pike. I know that
- 7 with the boating services group we are not putting
- 8 any legislation of any sort in this year, it's not
- 9 particularly a good year to do it anyhow as an
- 10 election cycle is about to take off and so forth.
- 11 As many of you probably recall last year
- 12 there was a bill, Senate Bill 90, that was passed
- 13 which did a number of things. One, it put into
- 14 place a tax cap on vessels over three hundred
- 15 thousand dollars. The second thing it did was
- 16 give, I think it's one half of one percent of the
- 17 state motor fuel tax back to the Waterway
- 18 Improvement Fund and the third thing it did which a
- 19 lot of people maybe didn't pay attention to at the
- 20 time but it created a task force to study the
- 21 enhancement of the boating industry in Maryland.



- 1 That is a big task and Mark has been working on
- 2 that to actually get together the task force and
- 3 nominations completed by the secretary and so forth
- 4 and the appointments. That task force, the first
- 5 meeting now is coming up on Monday. It will be --
- 6 I don't think there is a big agenda yet at this
- 7 point, it's just to meet and make some
- 8 introductions and sort of see where they want to
- 9 take this but I know that it's a pretty good group.
- 10 They have paddle groups involved, they have got the
- 11 Marine Trades of Maryland involved. I think we
- 12 have somebody from Recreational Boating and Fishing
- 13 Foundation as well as the -- who else do we have --
- 14 Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club Association so we try to
- 15 get a lot of different people to the table that
- 16 could bring something to bear. Certainly
- 17 representatives that work in the industry so it
- 18 will be an interesting group. Where they go, we
- 19 don't know, but they're supposed to look at all
- 20 ways to both enhance the Waterway Improvement Fund
- 21 which benefits everybody but also to enhance the



- 1 boating industry in general. So they meet Monday
- 2 for the first time.
- 3 And the only news really that I got out
- 4 of yesterday's meeting regarding legislation that
- 5 you may see coming out in the 2014 session is a
- 6 repeat of a bill that was put in last year to close
- 7 a loophole on drunken sailboating.
- 8 If you recall that, there is -- if you
- 9 want to run one, you can, but there is a loophole
- 10 in the law that basically didn't say that the
- 11 boating under the influence laws also include
- 12 sailboats. It was probably intended to be implied,
- 13 but they tried to get that closed last year. I
- 14 don't know, something got overlooked and it didn't
- 15 get passed so this year they're going to -- I guess
- 16 that's a Natural Resources Police bill and they
- 17 will be putting that in there. We'll see where
- 18 that goes.
- 19 So anyway, that's really about it in
- 20 terms of boating legislation that I know about at
- 21 this point. If there is any questions --



- 1 MR. PARLIN: I have a question on a
- 2 personal thing, I just got my vessel renewal in the
- 3 mail and it talked about signing up for this ID
- 4 number through DNR and you can't renew your boat
- 5 unless you get this special ID number and
- 6 everything but then I have had somebody tell me it
- 7 didn't really work out and everybody is fighting it
- 8 and DNR said send the registration in without the
- 9 number -- are you clear about that?
- MS. MORROW: No, that's news to me. I
- 11 don't work with the licensing and registration and
- 12 the person that does, she wasn't in the meeting.
- 13 MR. PARLIN: This seemed like this was
- 14 an all reaching, if you were going to do business
- 15 with them --
- 16 MR. LUNSFORD: Even my hunting license
- 17 they wanted --
- 18 MS. MORROW: I know they've migrated to
- 19 a different software system and it may have
- 20 something to do with that.
- 21 MR. DWYER: Every license that you get



- 1 through the state is on that printout when you use
- 2 your ID, your hunting or boat registration or
- 3 waterfowl license.
- 4 MS. MORROW: I think it's an attempt to
- 5 integrate data about you --
- 6 MR. LUNSFORD: If you do anything, they
- 7 can pull your licenses at once.
- 8 MS. MORROW: If there is a commercial
- 9 waterman's license, they can pull that. There is
- 10 other ways that people intersect with the
- 11 department.
- 12 Any other questions?
- 13 MS. HENNIGER: I just know with the
- 14 Marine Trades in Baltimore County that I'm on we're
- 15 trying to repeal the rain tax with regard to as
- 16 long as they're clean marinas. That I know
- 17 Councilwoman Bevins who has the big district right
- 18 there is trying to help us with that in order to
- 19 help the marinas out so I don't know if anybody
- 20 else knew of that because that's what we're trying
- 21 to do right now is work with clean marinas and



- 1 repeal some of that, so if you don't have it --
- 2 MS. MORROW: That's fantastic. I'll put
- 3 in a little plug. In case you know the folks in
- 4 the marina area, the clean marina and myself I'm
- 5 going to put on some workshops in January. One
- 6 will be -- the 14th and will be in Baltimore
- 7 County, the 16th will be in Annap -- I'm sorry, the
- 8 16th will be in Cambridge and the 22nd will be in
- 9 Annapolis and at the Annapolis and Baltimore County
- 10 workshops we will have county council people from
- 11 respective counties obviously to come and talk
- 12 about the stormwater fee credits that are for clean
- 13 marinas so it's another incentive for those that
- 14 are interested in getting that certification that
- 15 will help probably reduce that stormwater tax bill
- 16 probably by up to 50 percent, so we're very happy
- 17 about that.
- 18 Obviously I know in Anne Arundel County
- 19 the stormwater fees haven't been sorted out.
- 20 There's probably going to be a fight in the
- 21 legislature this year statewide about that entire



- 1 state bill that enabled the taxes that the
- 2 counties, to have those counties collect the fee in
- 3 the first place, that may get back to the, you
- 4 know, they may go back to the mat on that, I don't
- 5 know, but for now that's a nice incentive and I
- 6 appreciate you mentioning that.
- 7 THE CHAIRMAN: That's a good incentive.
- 8 MS. HENNIGER: I just think it's nice to
- 9 have a clean marina. When you go down, it's nice
- 10 to have one that's --
- 11 MS. MORROW: We know there is some dirty
- 12 dogs.
- 13 MS. HENNIGER: You want to get the
- 14 bootleg marinas out.
- MS. MORROW: It raises the bar across
- 16 the industry, exactly.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm going to serve on the
- 18 Duckworth (phonetic) task force committee, I'm
- 19 looking forward to that. I think we did something
- 20 similar to that eight or 10 years ago. I think
- 21 there was a study that Senator Haskell had chaired



- 1 that.
- 2 MS. MORROW: That was three or four
- 3 years ago.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Talking about ways to
- 5 improve the boating experience on the bay and how
- 6 that may affect boaters to bring them here, to
- 7 register boats here and how the enjoyment would be,
- 8 you know, so anyway that should be an interesting
- 9 one this time to find out where that may go, you
- 10 know, as far as boating experience for those on the
- 11 bay.
- We're moving along pretty fast. Mike,
- 13 lunch is not served until about 11:30 or 12 and
- 14 we're moving on unless somebody has something else
- 15 to bring we're going to go to Steve with the
- 16 nominating activity and outside of that we don't
- 17 have anything unless it's old business.
- 18 MR. GRANT: Correct.
- 19 MS. HENNIGER: When, what did we decide
- 20 on those things?
- 21 MR. GRANT: We haven't yet. We have



- 1 made a motion to address it formally depending on
- 2 how it's listed.
- 3 MS. HENNIGER: Sorry. Those things,
- 4 what are they called?
- 5 MR. NICKEL: Jet-Levs.
- 6 MR. GRANT: Jet-Levs. Director O'Malley
- 7 sent that back to NRP for their deliberations.
- 8 We're not dealing with it.
- 9 MS. HENNIGER: Good. My friends are
- 10 saying we're going to Fort Lauderdale to see the
- 11 boat parade, they're going to have all of those and
- 12 can you imagine you have a 12 mile long parade,
- 13 those things in the water --
- 14 MR. GRANT: Yep.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: They're going to be
- 16 around and you're going to have them up on Deep
- 17 Creek Lake.
- 18 MR. NICKEL: I can't see that happening.
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Any more thoughts for
- 20 Donna or Mike as we move along? Our legal team is
- 21 here. Before we move to Steve and the nominations,



- 1 any other business? We're moving along pretty
- 2 quickly, we're going to --
- 3 MR. KLING: My annual report of the
- 4 nominating committee is as follows: After much
- 5 deliberation the nominating committee recommends
- 6 Ramona Trovato for chair, Chris Parlin for vice
- 7 chair and Amy Craig for officer at large.
- 8 THE CHAIRMAN: You've heard that.
- 9 MR. KLING: End of report.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: And that's the end of his
- 11 report.
- 12 MR. DWYER: I make a motion that we
- 13 accept the nominating committee recommendations.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have a second?
- MR. BUSH: Second.
- 16 THE CHAIRMAN: All in favor, raise your
- 17 hand for the nominating report.
- 18 (Vote taken.)
- 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Pretty unanimous.
- 20 Obviously we're not going to break for lunch right
- 21 now because I don't think it's ready.



1	MR. LUNSFORD: I make a motion that we
2	recess.
3	MR. DWYER: Second.
4	THE CHAIRMAN: Let's do old and new
5	business; is that okay?
6	(Discussion held off the record.)
7	MS. TROVATO: I move the, make a motion
8	to amend the agenda to move the old and new
9	business up before lunch.
10	THE CHAIRMAN: Old business.
11	MS. TROVATO: Second.
12	MR. DWYER: Second.
13	THE CHAIRMAN: All in favor of that?
14	(Vote taken.)
15	THE CHAIRMAN: All right. Old business.
16	MR. PARLIN: I'll share something
17	interesting with you folks and it's kind of old
18	news, I got to do a neat exercise about two months
19	ago with Natural Resources Police. They're trying
20	out, testing out their new MLEIN system. It's a
21	really neat technology system they're putting in

- 1 place up and down the Chesapeake Bay that
- 2 incorporates radar, AIS, camera systems and it's
- 3 really neat.
- 4 We set up a simulated Chesapeake Bay
- 5 swim, a big activity where we will set up a large
- 6 do not enter zone, they can actually on a chart
- 7 that's tied into the computer put in the do not
- 8 enter zone and if the system recognizes a vessel
- 9 approaching that zone at a high speed they can put
- 10 parameters and say anything over 20 or 30 knots it
- 11 will set off an alarm and point the camera at the
- 12 boat, you can tell the system lock in on that boat,
- 13 track it, it will show you radar signatures, they
- 14 can lock in on boats and say track that boat for a
- 15 while and it will show you everywhere that boat has
- 16 gone. It is a really, really nice system. They
- 17 have some technology things that they're working
- 18 through but the neat part of it was on my side of
- 19 it we were involved from the fire department's side
- 20 for search and rescue because it's going have that
- 21 spin off with mostly law enforcement type of



- 1 things, anti-terrorism, things like that, but the
- 2 spin-off is for search and rescue we get a call 1
- 3 o'clock in the morning for a boat taking on water
- 4 in the Chesapeake Bay in the area of, you know,
- 5 three miles south of the Bay Bridge they can at
- 6 least look for radar signatures, have a camera
- 7 looking, you know, put all of those things together
- 8 to try to help locate people out in the water. So
- 9 it's really, really neat system. I got to kind of
- 10 see the nuts and bolts of it from the inside. It's
- 11 a neat system that will be coming out.
- 12 MS. TROVATO: When will it deploy?
- 13 MR. PARLIN: Pieces of it are in place,
- 14 but they're not a hundred percent.
- 15 MS. TROVATO: Is it the whole bay or --
- 16 MR. PARLIN: Up and down the bay, plus
- 17 they do have a mobile trailer that if they have a
- 18 problem area they need to watch, because of things
- 19 like the illegal gill netting, they can put it on
- 20 the shoreline and watch an area. They can sit it
- 21 here in Kent Narrows and watch everything that's



- 1 going on in this area.
- 2 MS. TROVATO: If there were places that
- 3 there is an enforcement issue instead of keep
- 4 sending the police.
- 5 MR. JONES: Yes, that's what I was
- 6 thinking.
- 7 (Discussion held off the record.)
- 8 MR. PARLIN: It's a really robust
- 9 system, it's going to have a lot of good and
- 10 positive sides to it.
- 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Part of homeland security
- 12 that I think, I think the colonel talked to us
- 13 about it two or three years ago, they were going to
- 14 be doing that as part of the homeland security.
- 15 They got federal money, that's good.
- 16 MS. EISENHOWER: They got a lot of
- 17 federal money for that. Isn't that how they got
- 18 the oyster poachers recently? They went into a
- 19 oyster sanctuary --
- 20 MR. GRANT: Down in Crisfield.
- MS. EISENHOWER: Yeah, yeah.



- 1 MS. MORROW: In a couple of different
- 2 rivers and creeks.
- 3 MS. EISENHOWER: Yeah, I believe.
- 4 MR. JONES: That's good.
- 5 MS. TROVATO: I have another topic. Bob
- 6 has mentioned a couple of times do we want to get
- 7 together with our similar body in the state of
- 8 Virginia.
- 9 MR. LUNSFORD: We used to have some
- 10 pretty productive meetings and I thought the
- 11 Jet-Lev issue would be one that be would
- 12 interesting to see how they were dealing with it.
- 13 MR. SIMON: I'm sorry?
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Her question was dealing
- 15 with this jet flying, these jet things.
- 16 MR. JONES: Levs.
- 17 MS. TROVATO: It was a lot bigger than
- 18 that, evidently there is a boat act advisory like
- 19 committee in the state of Virginia.
- 20 MR. LUNSFORD: We used to have a joint
- 21 meeting every other year.



- 1 MS. TROVATO: I was just wondering if
- 2 there was a value of having a joint meeting with
- 3 them in the coming year.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: I think there was, there
- 5 was a letter that Mark sent out that basically
- 6 indicated as you know we discussed the vessels at
- 7 the summer boat act meeting at the Kent Island
- 8 Yacht Club. We also were briefed by NRP safety
- 9 inspector Julie Brown who indicated that NRP was
- 10 aware and closely watching the issue. After
- 11 consideration I decided to return the issue to NRP
- 12 for consideration and let them pursue a solution
- 13 with our counterpart other states as well as with
- 14 the Coast Guard. So they pretty much relieved us
- 15 from that sort of relieved us of the --
- 16 MS. TROVATO: Of the Jet-Lev issue.
- 17 THE CHAIRMAN: That came from Mark.
- 18 MR. PARLIN: I think Ramona has a good
- 19 point in that we all face some of the same issues,
- 20 whether it be the personal watercraft thing, this
- 21 new thing, the wake board boats, the ballasted



- 1 boats, we keep facing these new things and they
- 2 might have dealt with something that is coming down
- 3 the pike for us so I think there is some value of
- 4 just getting together and finding out how we're
- 5 each handling things, are we on the same page and
- 6 what type of issues are out there.
- 7 MS. TROVATO: Where did you meet?
- 8 MR. LUNSFORD: Generally Daingerfield
- 9 Island over the Potomac, in the D.C. area because
- 10 it was in the odd see.
- 11 (Discussion held off the record.)
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Al.
- 13 MR. SIMON: Did not include the harbor,
- 14 it was D.C., which we also met together for at
- 15 different times.
- 16 MS. TROVATO: I don't know.
- 17 MR. SIMON: Because I think the harbor
- 18 in D.C. covers up to D.C. through the Woodrow
- 19 Wilson Bridge.
- 20 MR. LUNSFORD: They were an enforcement
- 21 group, Al, and we -- they came to a couple of



- 1 meetings where we had enforcement issues, this was
- 2 back in the 80s, but I, I don't remember that they
- 3 came to the policy meeting.
- 4 Can I -- I'll make a suggestion, this is
- 5 not a motion, a suggestion. Mike, if you'll try to
- 6 find me the, a contact point for the Virginia boat
- 7 act I'll draft a letter for the chairman to query
- 8 them to see if they have any interest in holding a
- 9 joint meeting.
- 10 MR. GRANT: Will do.
- 11 MR. LUNSFORD: If that's okay with the
- 12 chairman?
- 13 MS. TROVATO: Sounds good. Is that okay
- 14 with you?
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Fine with me.
- 16 (Discussion held off the record.)
- 17 MR. SIMON: I can help if you want the
- 18 D.C. harbor, we use their meeting room at different
- 19 times for the joint, together, Virginia, D.C. and
- 20 Maryland, but we're going back a long time.
- 21 MR. LUNSFORD: You're going back even



- 1 before me, Al.
- 2 MR. SIMON: I was afraid so.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Al, how long has -- I
- 4 bring this up in conversation because lunch is not
- 5 ready right yet, but I want be to sure, Al, how
- 6 long have you been serving on the Boat Act Advisory
- 7 Committee?
- 8 MR. SIMON: When Governor Tawes asked me
- 9 to get on.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Is that when it started?
- 11 MR. SIMON: It used to be under
- 12 Tidewater, Tidewater, under Tidewater and then we
- 13 went to Natural Resources.
- 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Now, Judge Wolf was what
- 15 year roughly?
- 16 TROVATO: What year was that?
- 17 MR. SIMON: Later on.
- 18 MS. TROVATO: When were you appointed,
- 19 what year was it?
- 20 MR. SIMON: Governor Tawes was the
- 21 governor.



- 1 MR. KLING: Agnew was elected in '66, I
- 2 think.
- 3 MR. LUNSFORD: '62 is I think is what we
- 4 looked at one time. You and Fred are the two
- 5 oldest members.
- 6 MS. TROVATO: Longest serving.
- 7 MR. PARLIN: On the committee longer
- 8 than I have been alive.
- 9 (Discussion held off the record.)
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: John, I think you had a
- 11 question. Did you have your hand up?
- 12 MR. BUSH: I was going to say that as
- 13 far as we have so little activity right now, it
- 14 might be repeating myself, because we have such a
- 15 small amount of activity projected for next year it
- 16 might be a very good thing to just with a lot of
- 17 effort jointly meet with them in order to further
- 18 justify this committee. Okay.
- 19 MR. SIMON: We used to meet on the state
- 20 boat, Lady Maryland, we had our meetings on the, on
- 21 the state boat and we had the Coast Guard join us.



- 1 MR. LUNSFORD: Always had the Coast
- 2 Guard there.
- 3 THE CHAIRMAN: So the suggestion is,
- 4 Bob, you're going to look into it --
- 5 MR. LUNSFORD: With Mike.
- 6 THE CHAIRMAN: -- the Virginia group
- 7 with Mike and include the Delaware and D.C. group
- 8 and see where they are. We have Coastal Bays from
- 9 Delaware, so you have some --
- 10 MR. LUNSFORD: Just include them. Like
- 11 Al said they used to come to the meetings.
- 12 THE CHAIRMAN: We won't have another
- 13 meeting until April so when you, when you start
- 14 sorting that out if you would like to e-mail -- I
- 15 don't know, Mike can do that. If you would like to
- 16 have a meeting between then because we won't be
- 17 meeting here as a committee until April.
- 18 MR. SIMON: If you want to use National
- 19 Harbor give me a call.
- MS. TROVATO: Thanks.
- 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Al.



- 1 MR. BUSH: I have one more important
- 2 thing, I had a birthday December 5th.
- 3 MS. TROVATO: Happy birthday.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: He won't tell you how old
- 5 he is.
- 6 MR. BUSH: I don't mind.
- 7 MR. BUSH: 1930.
- 8 MS. TROVATO: Congratulations.
- 9 MR. BUSH: I'm only 83.
- 10 THE CHAIRMAN: A young at heart 83.
- 11 Anything else under old business? Any old business
- 12 that you need to --
- 13 MR. KLING: I think there are only three
- 14 people qualified to speak for old business.
- 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Anybody else have
- 16 anything under old business that we need to talk
- 17 about?
- 18 We're moving on. New business,
- 19 Jeannine?
- MS. MOANEY: Next meeting won't be until
- 21 May.



- 1 THE CHAIRMAN: Not April?
- MS. MOANEY: No, no, because of
- 3 legislation.
- 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Next meeting will be in
- 5 May.
- 6 Anything else, Mike? We're going to
- 7 move on to new business. Any new business?
- 8 Only new business that I have is the
- 9 fact that I have appreciated serving as your
- 10 chairman for two years. It's been great to serve
- 11 this group. It's a good group and I hope that the
- 12 state realizes the fact that we have a good working
- 13 group. We all work hard, we go and try to satisfy
- 14 the request of the people that put in a request,
- 15 the petitioners. They have, they buy in a strong
- 16 interest in what they're passionate about and we as
- 17 a committee have the responsibility to react to
- 18 that and listen to every word and be responsive to
- 19 that. That's our charge is to do that and my
- 20 experience has been since I've been on the
- 21 committee and been the chairman that we do take



- 1 that seriously and we do take the petitioners
- 2 seriously and we don't shrug it off like it didn't
- 3 mean anything.
- 4 This is a very professional group of
- 5 people and our legal team will realize that the
- 6 more you come to our meetings, so thank you for the
- 7 opportunity to serve as your chairman, I appreciate
- 8 it and I'm going to turn the gavel over to our new
- 9 chairman to close the meeting.
- 10 (Applause.)
- MS. TROVATO: Are we adjourned or do we
- 12 adjourn after lunch?
- 13 MR. GRANT: Lunch is being moved up.
- 14 MR. DWYER: I make a motion we adjourn.
- MR. PARLIN: I second that.
- 16 MS. TROVATO: All those in favor?
- 17 (Vote taken.)
- 18 MS. TROVATO: Many thanks to Coles for a
- 19 heck of a fine job.
- 20 (Applause.)
- MS. TROVATO: We're adjourned.



MARYLAND BOAT ACT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Transcript of Meeting of the Maryland Boat Act Advisory Comittee taken December 12, 2013

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