

AT THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024, AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE COLONIAL COURTHOUSE AT 6504 MAIN STREET, GLOUCESTER, VIRGINIA ON A MOTION MADE BY _____, AND SECONDED BY _____, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Phillip N. Bazzani, ___;
Ashley C. Chriscoe, ___;
Kenneth W. Gibson, ___;
Christopher A. Hutson, ___;
Michael A. Nicosia, ___;
Robert J. Orth, ___;
Kevin M. Smith, ___;

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE AND SUBMIT A GRANT PROPOSAL FOR THE VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION ABANDONED OR DERELICT VESSEL GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the 2021-2025 Virginia Marine Debris Reduction Plan recognized abandoned or derelict vessels as a leading marine pollution problem in Virginia's waterways. The plan established a strategy to address this issue that includes prevention, research and monitoring, disposal infrastructure, and removal of existing abandoned or derelict vessels; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's Coastal Zone Management Program created the Abandoned and Derelict Vessels (ADV) Work Group that was tasked with the goal of creating a comprehensive, sustainable, and robust Virginia ADV Prevention and Removal Program; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the work group recommendations, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission established a program to provide grants to local governments and other political subdivisions of the Commonwealth to receive funding or to reimburse for the removal of abandoned or derelict vessels from the public tidal waters of the state; and

WHEREAS, Gloucester County's working waterfronts provide practical, logistical, and economic benefit to the public and to Gloucester's economy, culture, and character; and

WHEREAS, at the request of the Board of Supervisors in May 2012, the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority (PAA) took ownership to the Perrin Wharf in order to ensure the long-term protection of working waterfront infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, there are currently five vessels that have been abandoned at the wharf, several of them submerged, that are blocking access to the pier and that are causing hazardous conditions for other vessels to approach; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors believes that it is important for the vessels to be removed in order to ensure safe and secure access to this vital location.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gloucester County Board of Supervisors supports the submission of a grant application to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission's Abandoned or Derelict Vessel Grant Program and authorizes the County Administrator to execute documents for the submission and to provide for the subsequent management of the grant.

A Copy Teste:

Carol E. Steele, County Administrator