Form 1100-001
(R 9/07)

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Item No. 7.A.4

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - James Varro

FOR: JUNE 2008 **BOARD MEETING**

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Matt Frank

SUMMARY:

James Varro will retire after more than 34 years of service to the citizens of the state of Wisconsin

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution for James Varro

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

No	☑	Fiscal Estimate Required	Yes	☐	Attached
No	☑	Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required	Yes	☐	Attached
No	☑	Background Memo	Yes	☐	Attached

APPROVED:

Regional Director, — Date: 5-12-08

Administrator, — Date:

Secretary, Matt Frank — Date: 6/5/08

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/5

cc: Susan Krantz NOR/Spooner

Retirement Resolution

Jim Varro retired from the Department of Natural Resources on July 7, 2008 with more than 34 years of dedicated service to the State of Wisconsin.

Jim graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.S. in Forest Management and began service with the State of Wisconsin on June 24, 1974.

After a temporary assignment as a Forester Ranger in Hayward, Jim was permanently appointed on November 23, 1975 to Spooner as an Assistant Area Forester for the Hayward Area, Northwest District, where his principal duties included work on the Washburn County Forest, private forestry assistance, and management of state owned lands. On April 9, 1978, he subsequently promoted to the liaison forester position for the Washburn County Forest stationed at the Spooner Ranger Station.

On October 7, 1979, Jim accepted an appointment as the Washburn County Forest administrator to oversee the management of both the forestry and recreational programs on this 148,000 acre public forest. In this position as a cost-shared county forest administrator, he remained a Department employee but worked under the direction of the Washburn County Board and Forestry Committee. He remained in this position for many years and lead the development of several innovations in timber sale accounting, conifer reforestation, integrated resource management, motorized access management, and use of the Wisconsin Conservation Corps. As the county forest administrator, Jim provided strong representation and leadership on many statewide forestry issues for Washburn County Forest as well as the Wisconsin County Forest Association for nearly 18 years.

On April 13, 1997, Jim accepted an appointment as the Department's Burnett Sub-Team Leader in the St. Croix Geographic Management Unit and was stationed in Siren to manage the Department's forest fire, forest management, wildlife management, endangered resources, lands, and recreational programs in Burnett County. Later on January 4, 1998, Jim accepted a promotion as the Hayward Sub-Team Leader for the Upper Chippewa Basin to manage personnel and resources for the Department's Land Program at the Hayward Service Center. And on February 13, 2000, he accepted a transfer to Cumberland as the Polk/Barron Sub-team Leader to manage the Department's Lands program within Barron and Polk Counties.

Jim was appointed on October 20, 2002, to a position as the St. Croix Area Forestry Specialist stationed in Spooner where he provided expertise in all aspects of the forestry program within the St. Croix Area.

During his career, Jim earned high regard as a technically skilled forester and dedicated land manager. He spent most of his career in northwestern Wisconsin.

WHEREAS, James Varro has served the people of the State of Wisconsin faithfully and well in the performance of duties and has thus earned the commendation due an exemplary public employee;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Natural Resources Board at its June 2008 meeting at Waupaca, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Christine Thomas, CHAIR