

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Phillip M. Lepinski

FOR: MARCH 2008 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Secretary Matthew J. Frank

SUMMARY:

Phillip M.Lepinski retired from the Department of Natural Resources on January 2, 2008 after completing 30 years of service to the State of Wisconsin.

RECOMMENDATION: That the attached resolution be accepted by the Board.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- No Fiscal Estimate Required
- No Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required
- No Background Memo

- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

APPROVED:

Bureau Director, Richard E. Steffes - LF/6

Date

Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf - AD/8

Date

Secretary, Matt Frank

Date

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/5
S. Miller - LF/6
R. Steffes - LF/6

Retirement Resolution

Phillip M. Lepinski retired on January 2, 2008, after 30 years of service to the Department and the people of the State of Wisconsin.

Phil began his career as a seasonal employee in Green Bay with the Bureau of Fish Management on March 14, 1977. He became a permanent employee on July 6, 1978, working as a Fisheries Technician. He worked with the outstanding water resources of the Great Lakes as well as the warm and cold-water inland systems in the northeastern part of the state.

In March of 1980, Phil became a Real Estate Agent in the Lake Michigan District. He continued until August of 1991 when he relocated to Wisconsin Rapids and became an Area Land Agent.

Phil was instrumental in the establishment of the Quincy Bluffs and Cranberry Creek Mounds Natural Areas. He appraised and negotiated for many miles of trout streams and many acres of land for wildlife areas, such as Dewey Marsh near Stevens Point. Always willing to help others, Phil volunteered for an appraisal assignment on loan to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He studied the economics of the mint business and appraised a 2,000-acre mint farm. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service then acquired it and restored it to the large area of natural habitat just east of Rush Lake in Winnebago County. Phil also was the Department's appraiser for the Willow Flowage, purchased in 1997. This transaction delivered 60 miles of pristine water frontage for the public to use and enjoy.

Mr. Lepinski developed a high level of professional training, expertise and experience in the appraisal field. In 1993, he achieved Wisconsin's Certified General Appraiser status. In August of 1998, he joined the Bureau of Real Estate as Review Appraiser where he served until retirement. Phil, in addition to the core work of valuation quality control or the Stewardship program, provided training and mentoring of new members of the program. He was especially effective in a series of sessions in which Phil trained private and staff appraisers about technical appraisal matters. This allowed Wisconsin to meet federal requirements required of its Land Conservation program.

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

NOW, THEREFORE, the Natural Resources Board at its March 2008 meeting at Madison, 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