

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Natural Resources Board was held on Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at Flat Creek Inn & Suites, 10290 Highway 27 S., Hayward, Wisconsin. The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. for action on items 1-7. The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organizational Matters

1.A. Calling the roll

David Clausen – present

Jonathan Ela – present

John Welter – present

Jane Wiley – present

Preston Cole – present

Gary Rohde – present

Christine Thomas – present

Hal Helwig, Sawyer County Board Chair welcomed the Board and Department to Sawyer County. He stated this part of the state is known for its woods, water, and world class events such as the Birkebeiner cross-country ski race and Lumberjack World Championship log rolling event. On behalf of the county and northwest Wisconsin, he requested continued support of their efforts and for the Department to keep communications flowing, keep them informed, and to keep coming to northern Wisconsin.

Dr. Thomas thanked northwestern Wisconsin and regional staff for a really good day of touring. She learned a lot and saw things she had never seen before. The food and hospitality were perfect.

1.B. Approval of agenda for August 12, 2009

Mr. Ela **MOVED** approval, seconded by Mr. Welter. The motion carried unanimously.

1.C. Approval of minutes from May 26-27, 2009 (deferred from June 23-24 meeting)

Mr. Ela **MOVED** approval, seconded by Mr. Rohde. The motion carried unanimously.

1.D. Approval of minutes from June 23-24, 2009

Mr. Welter **MOVED** approval, seconded by Mr. Ela. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Ratification of Acts of the Department Secretary

2.A. Real Estate Transactions

Mr. Ela **MOVED** approval, seconded by Ms. Wiley. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Action Items

3.A. Air, Waste, and Water/Enforcement

3.A.1 Presentation of the 2008 Wisconsin Ethical Hunter Award

Dave Zebro, Northern Region Enforcement Leader stated this award recognizes the good efforts of hunters and fishers. It was headed up by Steve Dewald, West Central Region Warden Team Supervisor and co-sponsored by the La Crosse Tribune. Nick Owens of Rhinelander is the 2008 award recipient. He was nominated by Conservation Warden Dave Swanson and La Crosse Tribune writers Jerry Davis and Bob Lamb.

Mr. Owens received this award for assisting a distraught female hunter by helping her locate, tag, drag back to her vehicle, and load the 17 point buck she had shot. Mr. Owens was presented a plaque and certificate.

Nick Owens thanked the Department and La Crosse Tribune for the award. He then thanked Warden Dave Swanson, a good friend with whom he had shared this story.

INFORMATION ITEM - NO ACTION TAKEN

3.A.2 Request Adoption of Emergency Board Order WT-22-09(E), revisions to ch. NR 335 - Dam Maintenance, Repair, Modification, Abandonment and Removal Aid Program and ch. NR 336 - Small and Abandoned Dam Removal Grant Program

Meg Galloway, Section Chief, Dams and Floodplain Section stated that the 2009-2011 Biennial Budget included \$4 million in new bonding authority for the Dam Safety Grants. Funds are available to dam owners for maintenance, repairs, and removal. These proposed rule changes will expedite the Department's ability to provide grants for these purposes and incorporate some statutory language changes made in the budget bill into code. This will allow Wisconsin dam owners to address dam safety deficiencies at municipally owned dams and allow the owner of any dam to obtain funding to remove the dam as a means to mitigate safety deficiencies. The changes can be divided into two broad categories: 1) Incorporate statutory changes into the existing grant codes and 2) Facilitate investing the \$4 million allocation of bonding for the program. (PowerPoint)

Discussion followed on if there are other funding sources for municipal dam grants and the substantial need for these funds.

Mr. Rohde MOVED approval, seconded by Ms. Wiley.

Discussion followed on the availability of funding as part of the federal stimulus package, if other Wisconsin agencies have funding assistance available such as Transportation and Commerce, if there is a process for a municipality to decide if a dam is serving its useful purpose or should be removed, if dam owners are charged a fee by the Department for inspections and how many are inspected annually, if the Department currently has a backlog on dam inspections, and if the Dams and Floodplain Section is short-staffed.

The motion carried unanimously.

3.A.3 Request Authorization for Public Hearings for Board Order DG-19-09 Repealing and Recreating Chapters NR 809 and NR 811; and Creation of NR 810 all pertaining to public drinking water systems

Lee Boushon, Section Chief, Public Water Supply stated that the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) is a federal law, with rules promulgated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, to regulate the drinking water quality of public water systems. Public water systems are facilities providing water to 25 or more people at least 60 days of the year and include schools, restaurants, parks, subdivisions, manufactured housing communities, and cities. In order to maintain primacy for implementing the SDWA, Wisconsin must adopt rules that are at least as stringent as the federal rules.

The rule revisions were triggered by a series of revisions to the federal SDWA rules including the Groundwater Rule, the Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Rule, the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule and the Short Term Revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule. As part of the revisions to state rules, requirements were updated and clarified, disinfection of water provided by municipal systems using groundwater was required (stricter than federal law), the existing rules were restructured, and a new administrative rule was created.

Interested stakeholders were involved in a series of drafting discussions beginning in July of 2007 and concluding in February of 2009. The participating stakeholders included the Department of Commerce, water utilities, consulting engineers, Wisconsin Water Association, Wisconsin Rural Water Association, and the Municipal Environmental Group. The stakeholders were unanimously supportive of the process and opportunity to provide input and generally supportive of the proposed rules. Two potential areas of conflict were identified. The first involves an existing requirement for municipal water systems to implement a cross connection

control program. The second involves a new requirement for municipal water systems using groundwater to continuously disinfect the water prior to the distribution system. He requested the Board approve hearing authorization for Board Order DG-19-09.

Mr. Cole MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Ela.

Mr. Cole requested a list of municipalities that do not disinfect their water.

Discussion followed on how many hearings would be held.

The motion carried unanimously.

3.B. Land Management, Recreation, and Fisheries/Wildlife

3.B.1 Request Adoption of Board Order WM-03-09, the 2009 Wildlife Management Housekeeping Rules Package

Scott Loomans, Wildlife Management Staff Specialist stated that the Department updates administrative code language annually to correct inconsistencies, update outdated language and provide clarification where appropriate. This year, the department is proposing the following changes:

- Clarify that access permits are required of deer hunters at Lake Wissota state park.
- Allow harvest of deer of either sex by disabled archers to be consistent with firearm regulations.
- Clarify that deer bait may be placed on the day before the archery season as well as the day before the gun seasons.
- Clarify that hunting deer with full metal jacketed bullets is legal.
- Update a cross reference so that hunting is prohibited only on the day before the 9-day deer season.
- Incorporate by reference the definitions for a section of federal regulations that are already incorporated in NR code.
- Eliminate an unnecessary cross reference.
- Clarify that, where body-gripping type traps from 60 to 75 square inches are prohibited, larger traps are also prohibited.
- Eliminate an unnecessary gear requirement; relaxing mechanical locks are not needed on snares.
- Eliminate a limit on participation by disabled hunters during special turkey hunts.
- Correct an omission in the name of a deer management unit.
- Include trapping as an educational outdoor skills activity for which certain exemptions are available.
- Clarify that volunteer wildlife rehabilitators may only serve in a limited capacity on wildlife rehabilitation activities.
- Correct the number of a subdivision.
- Update wildlife rehabilitation code to be consistent with changes to the list of threatened and endangered species.

He then distributed an amendment to the Board regarding the special youth gun deer hunt. This amendment updates ch. NR 10 Admin. Code to be consistent with the age when hunting is allowed, exemptions and requirements of the hunting mentorship program proposed in s. 29.592 Stats. by 2009 Senate Bill 167. This amendment and the rule will not be published and in effect until enactment of Senate Bill 167. This bill will be before the Governor to sign on Thursday, August 13. He requested the Board adopt Board order WM-03-09 with the amendment. (PowerPoint)

Discussion followed on Board procedures and the legality of adding this amendment to the rule without public hearing.

Tim Andryk, DNR attorney, stated the scope of housekeeping is to bring a rule into compliance with statute. Basically, the Board is taking action contingent upon the Governor signing the bill tomorrow.

Dr. Thomas asked Wisconsin Conservation Congresses (WCC) to comment on this issue.

Rich Kirchmeyer, Secretary of the WCC Executive Committee stated the Congress supports lowering the age on the mentoring bill and has no issue with the Board taking action on this today. They hope the Governor will sign the bill tomorrow.

Discussion continued on proper procedure, the use of emergency rules, and if there was any opposition to the lower age limit.

Mr. Rohde MOVED approval, seconded by Ms. Wiley to include the following amendments:

Section 1. NR 10.001(1) is amended to read:

NR 10.001 (1) "Accompanied by", for the purposes of s. 29.304, Stats., and s. NR 10.01 means within sight and voice contact, without the aid of any mechanical or electronic amplifying device other than a hearing aid.

Section 2. NR 10.01(3)(ev) is amended to read:

NR 10.01(3)(ev) *Special youth gun deer hunt event.* ~~Persons 12 years of age or older but under the age of 16 years of age who possess a certificate of accomplishment under s. 29.591, Stats., or its equivalent from another state or province,~~ may hunt deer with a firearm for 2 consecutive days beginning on the Saturday nearest October 8 in all deer management units, except state park units and deer management unit 48. Allowable types of firearms are those authorized on the first day of the regular gun deer season under par. (e) or (et). The bag limit is one buck deer per valid gun deer carcass tag and additional antlerless deer per valid antlerless deer carcass tags issued under par. (ed) or s. NR 10.104 (8). Hunters shall be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older and be in compliance with s. 29.592, Stats. One adult may not accompany more than 2 hunters and pursuant to s. 29.592, Stats., not more than one of the 2 hunters may be age 10 or 11, or be a person who does not possess a certificate of accomplishment under s. 29.591, Stats., or its equivalent from another state, country or province. and all All other hunting regulations apply. Blaze orange requirements under s. 29.301 (2), Stats., apply to all hunters on these days except waterfowl hunters. Earn-a-buck requirements do not apply to youth hunters hunting in CWD zones identified in s. NR 10.28 (3) or non-CWD earn-a-buck units when using their regular gun buck deer carcass tag. Youth hunters may harvest and tag bucks or antlerless deer in CWD zones as authorized by CWD tags under s. NR 10.104 (11) or CWD landowner permit tags issued pursuant to s. NR 10.41 (3).

Section 3. NR 10.01(2)(f)4.a. is amended to read:

NR 10.01(2)(f)4.a. ~~Persons under the age of 16 years of age who possess a certificate of accomplishment under s. 29.591, Stats., or its equivalent from another state or province,~~ a valid carcass tag issued for the current license year, and all necessary ch. 29, Stats., approvals may hunt turkeys for 2 consecutive days starting on the Saturday immediately preceding the beginning of the spring turkey hunting season established in subd. 1. in the turkey management zone for which the carcass tag was issued. Only one male or bearded turkey may be killed and shall be tagged immediately with a valid carcass tag for that zone pursuant to s. NR 10.25 (2). Hunters shall be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older and be in compliance with s. 29.592, Stats. One adult may not accompany more than 2 hunters and pursuant to s. 29.592, Stats., not more than one of the 2 hunters may be age 10 or 11, or be a person who does not possess a certificate of accomplishment under s. 29.591, Stats., or its equivalent from another state, country or province. All other spring turkey hunting regulations apply.

Section 4. NR 10.102(4m)(c)2. is amended to read:

NR 10.102(4m)(c)2. The person turns ~~42~~ 10 years of age during the open season for hunting bear.

Section 5. Effective Dates. This amendment and the rule will not be published and in effect until enactment of Senate Bill 167.

The motion with amendments carried unanimously.

3.B.2 Request Adoption of Board Orders WM-13-09 and WM-14-09(E), 2009 migratory game bird seasons

Kent Van Horn, Migratory Game Bird Specialist stated that the proposed rules establish the regulations for the 2009 migratory game bird season. The significant regulations are:
Ducks - The state is divided into two zones each with 60-day seasons. The daily bag limit is expected to be 6 ducks including no more than: four mallards, of which only one may be a hen, one black duck, one pintail, one canvasback, three wood ducks, two scaup and two redheads.
Canada geese - The state is apportioned into three goose hunting zones: Horicon, Collins, and Exterior. Other special goose management subzones within the Exterior Zone include Brown County, Burnett County, Rock Prairie and the Mississippi River. Season lengths are expected to be as follows: Collins Zone - 66 days; Horicon Zone - 92 days; Exterior Zone - 85 days; and Mississippi River Subzone - 85 days.

He then distributed two amendments to the Board regarding the special youth gun deer hunt for both proposed rules. Both amendments update ch. NR 10 Admin. Code to be consistent with the age when hunting is allowed, exemptions and requirements of the hunting mentorship program proposed in s. 29.592 Stats. by 2009 Senate Bill 167. These amendments and the rule will not be published and in effect until enactment of Senate Bill 167. He requested the Board adopt Board Orders WM-13-09 and WM-14-09(E) with amendments. (PowerPoint)

Public Appearances:

1. **Peter Peshek**, Madison, representing self. He stated that December 7, 2008 was the last day of the season at camp and they moved their decoys three times due to ice floes. However, their harvest would be the envy of anyone in the room. At the end of the day, they had more ducks than you could imagine. He questioned why the season ends on this day.

Dr. Thomas asked him for his recommendations.

Mr. Peshek gave five recommendations: 1) 12 day split in southern zone. 2) Need survey of what is happening to ducks in Green Bay. Get data updated. 3) Assign staffer to watch big water stuff. Need advocate to talk about this and counter marsh people. 4) The Department needs to work with the federal government on framework and on Great Lakes exotics. If exotics are a big piece of the story, then get the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service caught up in the issue and off their comfort zone. 5) Do more focused surveys on 29% of hunters that talk about longer seasons – gear, terms of what is happening, etc. Serve this subset of hunters.

Discussion followed on the complicated ecosystems in the different parts of the state, the potential for adding a third zone, and safety issues of a later hunt.

2. **Ben Niemann**, Hayward, representing self. He and Peter Peshek hunt together. He stated it is an incredible opportunity to do one-on-one hunting with your dog in a small blind. It is lost with the narrowness of the season. He asked the Board to extend the season in the north for one week or so. He then thanked the Board for putting the Totogatic River in Wild River Status .

3. **John Edelblute**, Hartford, representing the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Migratory Bird Committee met with Mr. Van Horn and staff on August 1 in Wausau. They are in complete agreement with the proposed rule. It was not unanimous, but the vast majority of the committee favored the rule. This is the best compromise we could have. The committee discussed at length the open water concealment rule. There is some confusion on this yet. Wardens Todd Schaller and Roger Hanson did an excellent job of explaining the new rule at their meeting. His directive to his committee and to District 8 is to look at this and see how it shakes out, then get back to WCC with problems and comments. If there are any real problems, the Congress would come back with a remedial recommendation. He requested the wardens use this as a teaching opportunity as to what the open water concealment is. (Handout)
4. **Gerald Merryfield**, Drummond, representing himself. He has been an avid duck hunter for 50 years. He appreciates an early opener in the north. They enjoy and shoot a lot of the early migratory bird blue wing teal. He gave his support for an early season in north. Some northern hunters want a split or later season which could be a problem for those that hunt the flowages and should be thought out carefully. He appreciates the great work Kent Van Horn and staff do for the Department. He also thanked the WCC committee. He agrees with the Department's position on the opening of seasons and hopes the Board feels the same. (Handout)
5. **Jim Brakken**, Cable, representing himself. He is past president of the WI Association of Lakes and vice president of the Consortium of County Wide Lakes Associations that covers northwest WI. He stated he is familiar with quite a few people in this area who live on lakes and are interested in duck hunting. It is not easy to find someone who advocates for split or late season. Their lakes are generally frozen up by deer season and ducks are pretty much gone. They head south to open water. He said that 1) lake residents do not want a split season; 2) they do not want a late season; and 3) Is there a way or method that would end this annual arm wrestle over the early season date.

Ms. Wiley MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Welter to include the following amendments:

Board Order WM-13-09

Section 1. NR 10.01(1)(v) is amended to read:

NR 10.01(1)(v) *Special youth waterfowl hunt event.* ~~Persons 12 years of age or older but under 16 years of age who possess a certificate of accomplishment under s. 29.591, Stats., or its equivalent from another state or province,~~ may hunt all species of wild duck, mergansers, geese, coots, and moorhens for 2 consecutive days starting on September 20 19. Approvals under ch. 29, Stats., are not required pursuant to s. 29.197 (1), Stats., except for registration in the harvest information program under s. NR 10.12 (11) and a Canada goose hunting permit for the season or zone where goose hunting, as listed in par. (g) l., if hunting Canada geese. Daily bag limits are those described under pars. (b), (c) and (g), except that the daily bag limit for the zone or sub zone being hunted as listed in par. (g) l.a. to j., on that date shall apply to Canada geese, and all other waterfowl hunting regulations apply. Hunters shall be accompanied by an adult 18 years of age or older and be in compliance with s. 29.592, Stats. One adult may not accompany more than 2 hunters and pursuant to s. 29.592, Stats., not more than one of the 2 hunters may be age 10 or 11, or be a person who does not possess a certificate of accomplishment under s. 29.591, Stats., or its equivalent from another state, country or province.

Section 2. Effective Dates. This amendment and the rule will not be published and in effect until enactment of Senate Bill 167.

Board Order WM-14-09(E)

Section 1. NR 10.001(1) is amended to read:

NR 10.001 (1) "Accompanied by", for the purposes of s. 29.304, Stats., and s. NR 10.01 means within sight and voice contact, without the aid of any mechanical or electronic amplifying device other than a hearing aid.

Section 2. NR 10.01(1)(v) is amended to read:

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Section 3. NR 10.01(3)(ev) is amended to read:

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accomplishment under s. 29.591, Stats., or its equivalent from another state, country or province. All other spring turkey hunting regulations apply.

Section 5. NR 10.102(4m)(c)2. is amended to read:

NR 10.102(4m)(c)2. The person turns ~~42~~ 10 years of age during the open season for hunting bear.

Section 6. Effective Dates. This amendment and the rule will not be published and in effect until enactment of Senate Bill 167.

Discussion followed on the status of the 5 year cycle for season structure reevaluation, and adding more zones and splits to the season structure to add more opportunities for hunters.

Dr. Thomas requested the Department contact the US F&WS to argue that Wisconsin be treated as a special case to obtain additional options.

Discussion followed on where late hunters hunt and that Michigan and Minnesota have the same issues Wisconsin is having.

The motion with amendments carried unanimously.

3.B.3 Request Adoption of Board Order FH-21-08, amend Ch. NR 25 relating to commercial fishing on the Great Lakes

Bill Horns, Great Lakes Fisheries Coordinator spoke in place of Mike Staggs, Fisheries Management Bureau Director. He stated the proposed rule makes several changes to the Department's administrative rules for Great Lakes commercial fishing. 1) It amends the definition of the outlying waters commercial fishing "license year" from the current fiscal year to correspond with the calendar year, but only after an 18-month long transition year. 2) It reduces the computed alternative minimum catch requirements on Lake Michigan. 3) It establishes minimum catch requirements on Lake Superior that are parallel with the requirements for Lake Michigan. 4) It establishes a minimum number of commercial licenses (65) on Lake Michigan, replacing a provision under which the number of available licenses is reduced by one when a license is not renewed or transferred. 5) It provides for the single 18-month license year required for transition from the current fiscal-year-based license year to the new calendar-year-based license year, and it establishes special license year harvest limits for the transition year. He requested the Board approve Board Order FH-21-08. (PowerPoint)

Discussion followed on the issue of property rights on commercial licenses.

Peter Flaherty, DNR Attorney stated that in regards to property rights on commercial licenses, the closest we can tell is that we have case law in Wisconsin that refer to meaningful relicensing criteria. What is meaningful? Depending on circumstances, dropping the alternative number in a bad year does not affect the long term stringency of the relicensing standard. It is sort of a hardship situation and it should not come up every year. We do not know until the court tells us and then at that point it may be too late. We do not know when we will have a relicensing standard that is no longer a meaningful one and we have reached a point where relicensing just becomes a mere formality and the license is an entitlement rather than a privilege. There were other reasons why this rule is being proposed. It is not just a property rights issue but also legislative direction. We do not know what number would be too low. We think this is meaningful. Every year we do have a few individuals under the current rule who do not make the minimum catch. Most of them have hardship of some kind, an unavoidable circumstance. The Department has been sympathetic in looking at these types of circumstances that we have accepted. If someone does not make the minimum catch, it is important to have a standard that asks are you still out there actively commercial fishing.

Discussion followed on how many Lake Superior fishers have not met the minimum catch requirement and follow-up on Representative Sherman's letter.

Matt Frank, DNR Secretary stated the Department has had many discussions with Representative Sherman. The Department has listened to commercial fishers concerns and has sat down to work with them. We need to make sure we do not make a system where fishers feel they have to go out and catch more when fishing is down. To staff's credit, negotiations have been on-going for a long time. The Department has been adaptable. In terms of legislative interest, Representative Sherman is interested because up to now the minimum catch requirement has only been imposed on the Lake Michigan fishery. Now it is being applied to the Lake Superior fishery as well, and it raises some concerns. The Department has been in touch with Representative Sherman.

Discussion followed on whether any commercial fishers support this rule, what types of circumstances have constituted exempting someone from the minimum catch requirement on Lake Michigan, and how a commercial license can be gotten back once it was lost through the process.

Public Appearances:

1. **Jeff Bodin**, Washburn, representing Lake Superior Commercial Fishing Board (LSCFB) as Chair. He is a 4th generation fisherman, and has a 5th generation son and a 6th generation grandchild. He now holds the license. They have no problem with the calendar year change. They are troubled with the minimum catch requirement on Lake Superior. They have not needed one. They realize the issues surrounding property rights on commercial fishing licenses that the Department is trying to avoid. They are very leery of the Department blocking their right to fish in the fishery.

Discussion followed on what the LSCFB is advocating for today, whether Mr. Bodin has met his quota, whether he is qualified for relicensing, and the property rights issue.

2. **Charlie Henriksen**, Sister Bay, representing Lake Michigan Commercial Fishing Board (LMCFB) and the Commercial Fishing Association (CFA). He stated the Lake Superior and Lake Michigan fisheries have been managed much differently over the years. All species on Lake Michigan are under quota. Even with minor production standards, we firmly believe this relicensing requirement is pretty minor. The problem on Lake Michigan is invasive species and how quickly they change. He has spent tremendous money to buy additional quota. They went to the legislature at the Governor's suggestion. The legislature proposed a rule which got caught up at the end of year. Matt Frank then came and met with them. This proposed rule is better than what we have now. It does create a lot of unnecessary paperwork. They understand the need to qualify licenses. To extend to Lake Superior creates a tremendous burden. He would not be surprised if Lake Superior gets pulled out of the rule.

Discussion followed on what the LMCFB feels the Department should be doing with the Lake Michigan fishery and how the electronic reporting system is working.

3. **Jeremie Johnson**, Green Bay, representing Everett Fisheries Incorporated. Their commercial fishing operation and smoked fish business has been in operation for about 60 years on Lake Superior. His small business is opposed to the new "minimum catch requirement" under NRB Order FH-21-08 that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) wishes to impose on commercial fishermen on Lake Superior waters. The commercial fishing industry of Lake Superior and the WDNR are in complete disagreement on this topic. All ten of the current license holders oppose this proposal. The main reason why commercial fishermen feel threatened by the current proposal is that it poses an unwarranted risk of commercial fishermen of loss of their license. Such a risk for their industry warrants further discussion and cooperation to find a better solution. In addition, there is no biological or scientific reason for this rule change. It is purely for bureaucratic and mandated reasons. They feel strongly that this proposal should be re-evaluated and further investigated in hopes of developing a better compromised solution. The opportunity to establish a better working

relationship between the Department and the commercial fishing industry should not be disregarded in this instance. A more cooperative relationship for the future can be accomplished through these proceedings. (Handout)

Discussion followed on the minimum catch requirement for Lake Superior, and how "commercial fisher" would be defined.

4. **David Johnson**, Port Wing, representing self. He is a 3rd generation fisherman. His family has been in business for 150 years. He feels this proposed rule threatens their license. This is something more they need to worry about. The reporting system was supposed to be in. If they miss a pound, they will get a ticket and a hassle. His family has bought and sold two licenses over the years. Banks have taken mortgages using commercial fishing licenses as security. It is worth money. Lake Superior has had no quotas except for lake trout. Lake Trout is less than 5% of their income. It is other species that are valuable to them. He does not want one more regulation.

Ms. Wiley MOVED approval, seconded by **Dr. Clausen**.

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote:

David Clausen – yes	Preston Cole – yes
Jonathan Ela – yes	Gary Rohde – yes
John Welter – yes	Christine Thomas – yes
Jane Wiley – yes	

Discussion followed on the method of exemption for minimum catch, the movement of quotas to license to license, and the concern for ecological changes in Lake Michigan which also threaten the commercial fisher.

- 3.B.4 Request Authorization for Public Hearing on Board Order FH-23-09 to amend Ch. NR 25 relating to the total allowable commercial harvest of whitefish in Lake Michigan
Bill Horns, Great Lakes Fisheries Coordinator stated that the proposed rule increases the annual total allowable commercial harvest of lake whitefish from three fishing zones in Lake Michigan. All harvest limits, and therefore all individual quotas, will be increased by 17%. The overall total allowable commercial harvest is increased from 2,470,000 pounds to 2,880,000 pounds. For the three zones the increases are as follows: Zone 1 – 225,518 to 262,952 pounds; Zone 2 – 2,029,662 to 2,355,569 pounds; and Zone 3 – 214,820 to 250,479 pounds. He requested the Board authorize public hearings for Board Order FH-23-09. (PowerPoint)

Mr. Cole MOVED approval, seconded by **Ms. Wiley**.

Discussion followed on future harvest numbers and the rules process timeline.

The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Thomas recessed the meeting for lunch and then called the meeting to order with item 4.A.

4. Citizen Participation – 1:00 p.m.
- 4.A. Citizen Recognition
- 4.A.1 Presentation of North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association 2009 Torch Award to Warden Chris Spaight
Secretary Frank stated that he was honored to announce that Conservation Warden Chris Spaight was selected to receive the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association (NAWEOA). Chris has a well-rounded law enforcement record with a wide variety of arrests on fish and game, environmental, boating, ATV, and snowmobiling laws. He works in a unique part of the state that borders Minnesota, which requires him to have a working knowledge of Minnesota DNR regulations as well.

Richard Rosen, Northern Region Warden Team Supervisor and Dave Zebro, Northern Region Enforcement Leader and Chris Spaight's supervisor gave a joint presentation. They stated that this is a prestigious award for an officer. This award recognizes a warden's excellence as a field conservation officer and an outstanding work ethic on behalf of the Warden Service, the Department and the people of the state of Wisconsin. Chris Spaight is receiving this award for the NAWEOA's District 5 – the central part of the United States which encompasses a large area. Chris deserves this award not only for his many accomplishments these past years but also because of his overall attitude in the field with the citizens he serves and working with his fellow officers.

Chris Spaight stated he is proud to serve state of WI. He began as a part-time or special warden in 2002. It has been no short run to get here. He has worked hard, and loves his job and Wisconsin. Nothing makes him prouder than to wear this uniform and to protect our resources for our children and our children's children.

4.B. Citizen Participation
Public Appearances

1. Frank Pratt, Hayward, representing self *Topic: 30 year perspective on DNR accomplishments in Sawyer County.* He loves his job as a fisheries biologist and had aspired for this job since age seven. He loves this state and its resources. He manages the Namekagen River, a world class trout fishery, and the Chippewa Flowage - a world class musky fishery. He stated the Department has a less than perfect administrative structure but staff are dedicated, team oriented human beings. Happy employees are good employees
2. Allan Pribnow, Port Wing, representing self *Topic: Air guns in the school system.* He stated we need more young hunters and would like to see an air rifle program in the Wisconsin school system. This would offset the decrease of hunting license sales in Wisconsin and may reverse the trend of less hunters in the future. Wisconsin schools do allow air rifles in the school if it is part of a school program. Do not expect any shooting program to succeed if adults feel that our young people are not worth purchasing quality equipment that fits reasonably well, is durable, and accurate. He asked that some of the Department's Hunter Education funds be used to purchase equipment and training for a pilot program. Clubs and schools that are in the pilot program will fund 25% of the cost with the Hunter Education Program funding 75%. (Handout)
3. Fritz Luensman, Weirgor Township (Windfall Lake-Sawyer County), representing self *Topic: DNR claim that lake bottoms are owned by state of Wisconsin.* He stated that Wisconsin by way of the Department claims to own the soil(s) under lakes, given that authority when Wisconsin was still a Territory. However, he found no deeds or titles to support such claims and the Department has produced no records to back up such claims. Due to hydrology changes making lakes where none had been previously and making some lake areas larger, the Department wants to claim to high water marks but is not willing to accept the doctrine of accretion of the lands adjacent to waters of Wisconsin. He asked the Board to give consideration to both the false grabbing of private land and the fair and right return as waters recede.
He introduced his mother, Annie. She stated she had maintained their beach since 1965. She can no longer do this clean up due to regulations and now there is thistle, tall trees, etc. People do not want little children to play there. She is not allowed to use her mower.
(Handout)

Secretary Frank stated staff will follow-up with Mr. Luensman.

4. Ben Niemanu, Hayward, representing Couderay Waters Regional Land Trust *Topic: Planning grant results for Moon Lake Legacy Initiative.* He thanked the Board for this opportunity to share the Trust's initial findings and explain their methods. They do believe that this project demonstrates that citizen analysts with initial hands-on training by professionals and with access to digital mapping tools can become smarter about their lakes as well as contribute to

those lakes' long-term management. They also see this as a means to extend the Department's reach as it looks for ways to help protect Wisconsin's Public Trust Waters. (Handout)

5. Mike Peterson, Spooner, representing Washburn County and WI County Forests Association. *Topic:* Status of the Wild River Trail Corridor. He stated that the Wild River Trail is the backbone to the county's ATV trail system and all other motorized trails originate from this main corridor. In addition, this trail sees a multitude of other uses including horses, mountain bikes, hikers, and dog sleds. They see little controversy or user conflict on this trail. The Washburn County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution requesting that the Natural Resources Board remove the Wild River Trail from the Aldo Leopold Legacy Trail System. This request is not intended to create controversy between motorized and non-motorized uses, but rather to correct an inconsistency between the property master plan and the property designation. They do not want to completely remove statewide recognition of the Wild River Trail. It would seem appropriate to designate the Wild River Trail under some other classification that allows for motorized uses.

This request to change the status of the Wild River Trail is not an effort to change its intended use but rather to allow the adopted uses to be in compliance with statutes and administrative codes. (Handout)

Discussion followed on the motorized use of the multi-use trail.

Secretary Frank stated the Department is actively looking at this issue.

6. Art Malin, Stone Lake, representing self *Topic:* Treatment of Small and Large Mouth Bass as Separate Species. He stated that scientific studies conducted by numerous fisheries folks indicate that large mouth bass can have a very negative effect on walleye populations. He has found numerous studies that confirm that large mouth bass eat walleye and small mouth does not. Because we treat large mouth and small mouth bass as one species, it is virtually impossible for fish managers to treat this situation. If aggressive initiatives are introduced to increase bag limits or to decrease the size limits on one, both are affected. He requests that the Department will not only separate the management of these two sunfish family members but to also open the largemouth season at the same time as general game fish season opens. He also hopes that smallmouth bass season in northern counties will be opened at a later date. Smallmouth fishing should be closed on September 1 – like they do in Minnesota. We need to protect this great fishery. (Handout)

Discussion followed on the current season and the size limit for large mouth bass.

Mr. Ela requested that the Department report back to the Board on this item.

7. Laurie Groskopf, Tomahawk, representing self *Topic:* Wolf Program. She stated she is a hound hunter and has 25 years of marketing experience. She is concerned about public safety and the safety of farm animals, pets, and pleasure animals. She handed out an article from the Tomahawk leader on wolves attacking dogs. The Department's press releases came out originally noting four hunting dog kills. However, one of these was a dachshund. The press release still has not been changed. Other incorrect information is the location of wolf rendezvous sites. These are areas where wolves are protecting their pups and looking for quick meal. On the Department's website, these are immense territories. She feels it is important for the public and those entrusted to oversee Department activities to have correct and complete information in press releases and she does not feel that has been happening. It is the public's right to know about wolf depredations.

She requested web site warning areas include warnings for any depredation and any adverse wolf event which would include dog attacks that did not involve injuries or death, a list of current depredations, that the Department keep conjecture out of press releases, and provide complete facts of depredations or threats by wolves. (Handout)

Secretary Frank stated that he appreciates Ms. Groskopf's feedback . The Department strives to be as accurate as possible. Additional information on wolf depredation will be posted on our website in the near future.

8. Linda Zillmer, Village of Birchwood, representing self *Topic: Managing Natural Resources with focus on ground and surface water – a look at NRB policies, plans, and politics.* She stated that policy implemented by the Department should be of interest to the Board. Government agency operations, from the Secretary on down to the local fish biologist or forester, are primarily political positions. Conservation and management of natural resources has become a political football. Science and common sense have been lost, fiscal responsibility has been lost and the politics which control positions, influence the elected, and channel the flow of money seem to have taken top priority over from policy making down to implementation and enforcement.

Department policy needs to be evaluated in terms of day to day, on the ground operations. The Department needs to follow its own policies and those adopted by other governmental entities. Political solutions are not necessarily the solutions we need to protect the state's natural resources and our communities. (Handout)

9. George Meyer, Madison, representing the WI Wildlife Federation as Executive Director *Topic: Stewardship funding for signage on Stewardship funded lands.* He requested the Board initiate a rulemaking process to amend Chapter NR 51, WI Admin. Code, to make the costs of the initial informational signage for lands purchased by nonprofit conservation organizations (NCOs) and local units of governments (LUGs) eligible for cost-sharing under the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund. Since the provisions of this request are beyond the scope of NR 52, WI Admin. Code, dealing with public access on Stewardship lands, it is our understanding that a separate rulemaking process must be initiated by the Board and the Department.

While there may need to be a separate rule developed for this proposal, it is hoped that, if this request is approved by the Board and the Secretary, the NR 51 amendments could be done as contemporaneously as possible with the NR 52 rulemaking proposal. (Handout)

- 3.B.5 Request Authorization for Public Hearing on Board Order LF-08-09 creating CH. NR 52 regarding public use of lands acquired under the Knowles Nelson Stewardship Program

Mr. Cole requested the Board forego the presentation and vote on this item.

The Board requested a presentation on the proposed rule be given.

Pat Henderson, Deputy Secretary and Doug Haag, Real Estate Section Chief gave a joint presentation. They stated that 2007 Act 20 directs the Board to establish a process for the review of determinations under ss. 23.0916. Consistent with the Board's policy role, the proposed rule provides a process for the Board to monitor the Department's work on public access for Stewardship projects. Chapter NR 52 creates standards and criteria that will be used by the Department to implement s. 23.0916 Stats., in order to determine when it is necessary to protect the public safety, unique plant or animals and usership patterns.

The rule identifies the factors that will be considered when a prohibition is proposed and creates a process for reviewing land acquisition proposals for compliance with the law. Decisions to prohibit a Nature Based Outdoor Activity (NBOA) will be based on sound science, legitimate safety issues and factual data and information pertaining to incompatible uses. Chapter NR 52 requires that when one or more NBOAs are proposed to be prohibited the Department will notify the public by individual contact via the internet. The posting will include a checklist indicating which NBOAs will be provided at the site and a narrative indicating which NBOAs will be prohibited and the reason for the prohibition. The public will have a chance to comment on the proposal to prohibit the NBOAs. The Department will evaluate the public comments and apply the standards and criteria identified in the rule when determining whether the prohibition meets the intent of s. 23.0916, Stats. They requested the Board authorize public hearings on Board Order LF-08-09.

Mr. Cole MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Ela.

Discussion followed on the need to define "usership patterns", the review of determinations process, the use of easements for access, and timeline of program updates to Board.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 3.B.6 Request Approval of the Straight Lake State Park and Wildlife Area Master Plan
Dan Schuller, Parks and Recreation Bureau Director, and Jeff Prey, Parks and Recreation Program and Planning Analyst gave a joint presentation. Straight Lake State Park and Wildlife Area are contiguous properties that are owned and managed by the Department. The Straight Lake State Park and Wildlife Area will provide for low impact, non-motorized remote recreation opportunities along with providing high quality natural communities and habitats. Straight Lake State Park will provide for rustic and remote camping, hiking 3.5 miles of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail, access to Straight and Rainbow Lakes and day use recreation. The park will also offer an opportunity to experience the exceptional glacial feature known as a tunnel channel located along the Straight River. The State Wildlife Area will provide habitat management opportunities for a variety of species throughout the property and offer a full spectrum of hunting, trapping, and wildlife viewing options along with a limited number of rustic developments to provide public access.

The plan also recommends that two State Natural Areas be designated within the State Park boundary. These two sites represent examples of high quality natural communities that provide habitat for several rare plants and animals. The Environmental Assessment concludes that the implementation of the Master Plan will provide positive recreational, ecological, social, and economic benefits to the region with minimal adverse impacts. There has been an extensive public involvement process that has shown strong support for a low level of development that preserves the natural scenic character of the properties. (PowerPoint)

Discussion followed on the timeline for development and if motorized use will be allowed.

Public Appearances:

1. John Helling, Luck, representing himself enthusiastically stated his support for this plan. He was impressed by the public input process and staff. He stated the plan was lacking consideration of what will happen to this area from a developmental and population increase standpoint. In the plan, there is very little mention of what will happen to the area in 20-30 years. The Twin Cities (Minneapolis, MN and St. Paul, MN) are as far from this park as Madison is from Oshkosh. The Twin Cities are expected to grow by about 1 million people. This will create additional usage. He asked the Board to look at further expanding the project boundaries to acquire more property as opportunities arise from willing sellers, specifically further south and east along the Straight River channel to Big Round Lake. He requested this plan be conditionally approved by the Board with staff revisiting the idea that the Project Boundary be expanded southeast and report back to the Board not later than the Board's first meeting in 2010. (Handout)

Discussion followed on expanding the project boundary.

2. George Meyer, Madison, representing the WI Wildlife Federation as Executive Director supports approval of plan. Many organization have worked together with the DNR on this plan. Clearly, the Department listened to public input in this process. It will be a good model for future projects. He requested the Board include an option to expand the project boundary to the east.

Discussion followed on the formal planning process.

Dr. Clausen MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Welter.

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Discussion followed on the broad support of the plan.

The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Thomas moved the meeting to agenda item 3.B.7.

3.B.7 Request Approval of a management plan for the control of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in white tailed deer

Tom Hauge, Wildlife Management Bureau Director and Davin Lopez, Wildlife Biologist and acting CWD coordinator gave a joint presentation. They stated the plan establishes the following goal for the management of CWD over the next 5 years: Minimize the area of Wisconsin where CWD occurs and the number of infected deer in the state.

The key objectives of this management plan are to:

- Prevent New Introductions of CWD
- Respond to New Disease Foci
- Control Distribution and Intensity of CWD
- Increase Public Recognition and Understanding of CWD Risks
- Address the Needs of our Customers
- Enhance the Scientific Information about CWD

The plan includes a number of specific management and monitoring actions that will be taken in order to achieve the overall goal and the individual objectives established. These key actions include:

- Maintaining 2008 season structure to continue moving toward population goals
- Offering deer testing for hunters in high-prevalence areas
- Providing access to food pantries for hunters to donate deer
- Continuing to pursue a statewide ban on baiting and feeding
- Continuing to conduct rotating surveillance outside of the CWD Management Zone
- Continuing to work with DATCP to minimize risk of CWD transmission to wild cervids
- Monitoring trends in CWD prevalence and disease patterns in known affected areas

They requested the Board approve the Department's five year plan for managing CWD in Wisconsin's free ranging wild deer. (PowerPoint)

Discussion followed on why the CWD coordinator position is still vacant and Utah's 3rd International CWD symposium.

Dr. Clausen distributed information on post hunt population estimates. (Handout)

Discussion followed on the 40% reduction called for in the plan, the need to make significant population reductions, educating hunters and landowners for plan buy-in, increase in the prevalence of the disease, overview of Paul Shelton's (IL DNR) presentation on sharpshooting at the Utah symposium, environmental contamination at landfills that accepted CWD infected deer, IL DNR's effective public relations campaign, Wisconsin's social and political pressures, reduced funding for program by legislature, and if this plan is adequate to attain goal.

Mr. Ela distributed an amendment tabling adoption of the plan and creating a special committee to oversee a peer review process of the plan.

Mr. Ela MOVED, seconded by **Mr. Welter** to table adoption of "A Plan for Managing Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Wisconsin: The Next Five Years" until the following measures have been taken:

1. A special Natural Resources Board Committee is established to oversee a peer review process of the plan. The committee will consist of **Dr. David Clausen** as Chair, **John Welter**, and **Jane Wiley**. The purpose of the peer review will be to determine if the actions

contained within the plan are appropriate and sufficient to meet the goal of “minimizing the area of Wisconsin where CWD occurs and the number of affected deer in the state.”

2. The Committee will identify those portions of the plan that in its judgment are suitable for peer review.
3. The Committee will identify and enlist independent experts in animal diseases and other fields to undertake a peer review process, either working together as a panel or by submitting separate comments.
4. The Committee will work with Department staff to modify the plan to accommodate peer review comments as appropriate, and to resubmit the plan to the Natural Resources Board for approval.

Discussion followed on the content of the amendment and the Board’s role in protecting the resources of Wisconsin.

Secretary Frank stated this is a difficult issue. There is an idea that there will be some magical answer to peer review but for part of it you would only be collecting data. The whole idea here is we are not aggressive enough. Leaving sharpshooting in the plan is still an option but killing animals is a blunt instrument. The Department is open to looking at things from a different perspective. There are some valid parts of the plan to go forward with.

Discussion followed on the Sex-Age-Kill (SAK) audit and concerns of what the Department was doing, the need to reduce population numbers, the education component to population reduction, recommendation to approve plan with modifications, cost of a sharpshooting campaign, and the subcommittee’s timeline.

Mr. Welter recommended a 90 day timeline with the interim report to be given at the October meeting and the request for plan approval at the December meeting.

Secretary Frank stated 90 days is better than 60 days. He is sensitive to the amount of time staff needs to put into this. Make sure mission is clear and that there is time to complete the mission.

Discussion followed on the need to educate the public.

The motion to table with Board directives carried unanimously.

Dr. Thomas moved the meeting agenda to item 6.A.

6. Special Committees’ Reports

6.A. Earn-A-Buck (EAB) Alternatives Committee Report

Ralph Fritseh, Committee Chair stated the committee represented a diverse group of interests. He feels the committee as a whole with set guidelines by the Natural Resources Board did a great job. He believes the final report is what the Board asked for. The Board can debate and discuss and go from there. In this process, they come up with 80 issues and brought them down to 15. They wanted to expand hunting opportunities throughout the state and looked at how much they would disrupt in doing so.

Mark Noll, Committee Vice-Chair stated the preferred package in their recommendations is the 16 day early opener. Moving the opening of firearm season to closer to rut has issues. The tradeoff is pitting bow hunters against gun hunters. Gun hunters control deer herds. This weighed heavy on the committee in trying to think how this would work out. They have tried their hardest.

Mr. Fritsch stated that the Department and facilitator did a great job. He thanked committee members and Vice-Chair Mark Noll. Whatever solution the Department comes up with, put it on line so all understands it.

Dr. Thomas requested as a timeline that this come back to the Board with recommendation to EAB alternatives for hearing authorization at their September meeting in Sturgeon Bay, go out to the public, and come back to the Board for rule adoption in time for the next deer season.

3.B.8 Land Acquisition - Statewide Natural Areas - Sawyer County

Public Appearances:

1. Brian Hucker, Town of Spider Lake, representing Town of Spider Lake as Chair stated this property looks like it did 35 years ago. Most concerns he has on this purchase are focused on questions of access. The property is dissected by two town roads that are important for forest fire protection. He would like to see access for people with limited abilities to enjoy lake, an access point that is acceptable to the Department and Town, and a snowmobile route. He hoped the Department would work with the town to create a development plan for this property that will benefit the state and their community. (Handout and snowmobile trail map)

Mr. Rohde MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Welter. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cole requested the Board vote on all remaining real estate items as one package with separate discussion on each item.

Mr. Cole MOVED approval, seconded by Dr. Clausen on 3.B.9 Land Acquisition - North Branch Milwaukee River Wildlife & Farm Heritage Area - Ozaukee County; 3.B.10 Land Acquisition & Project Boundary Modifications - Statewide Natural Areas - Monroe County; 3.B.11 Land Acquisition - Baraboo Hills Recreation Area - Columbia County; 3.B.12 Land Acquisition - Wild Rose Hatchery - Waushara County; and 3.B.13 Land Donation & Project Boundary Modification - Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area - Chippewa County.

3.B.9 Land Acquisition - North Branch Milwaukee River Wildlife & Farm Heritage Area - Ozaukee County

Discussion followed on the residential site and the future use of the property.

3.B.10 Land Acquisition & Project Boundary Modifications - Statewide Natural Areas - Monroe County

No discussion on this item.

3.B.11 Land Acquisition - Baraboo Hills Recreation Area - Columbia County

Discussion followed on if federal Land & Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON) dollars are available.

3.B.12 Land Acquisition - Wild Rose Hatchery - Waushara County

Discussion followed on other Department purchases in this area.

3.B.13 Land Donation & Project Boundary Modification - Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area - Chippewa County

No discussion on this item.

The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Thomas moved the agenda to 5.

5. Board Members' Matters

Mr. Welter requested a Board discussion with Department attorney Peter Flaherty at the September meeting regarding options available to the Lake Michigan Commercial Fishing Board regarding the Government Accountability Board's opinion.

Mr. Cole requested a timeline and updates from staff regarding rule development to implement the provisions of the Great Lakes Compact dealing with the inter-basin water diversions.

Dr. Thomas requested an information item at a future Board meeting on user conflict and safety issues on the Wolf River near Freemont.

5.A. Approval of the 2010 Natural Resources Board Meeting Dates

Discussion followed on possible conflicts to the March 2010 meeting.

Dr. Clausen MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Cole. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Department Secretary's Matters

Secretary Frank recognized **Dave Zebro**, NOR Enforcement Leader for being the 2007 Rebecca Wallace Award Recipient. Mr. Zebro was not able to attend the January 2009 meeting when the 2007 and 2008 award winners were recognized.

Dave Zebro thanked the Department for the award and recognition

Secretary Frank gave his monthly update. He stated that the Governor is scheduled to sign the youth hunting mentorship bill and the bill on green skins. He acknowledged the leadership of Senator Holperin and Representative Hrachuck on both of those bills. On another note, the Army Corp of Engineers will fully activate the electric barrier to completely stop the passage of fish in a canal that links the Des Plaines River in Illinois to Lake Michigan. The river is infested with Asian carp. This is long overdue and the Department will continue to be an advocate.

In Recovery and Reinvestment activities, the state will receive \$2,271,107 in clean diesel funds; \$8.4 million in Brownfield's and LUST; 40 municipalities will receive \$37 million in drinking water funds; and 28 municipalities will receive \$106 million in clean water funds. DATCP is announcing today another Emerald Ash Borer discovery confirmed in Kenosha. There is a clear pattern developing here. Stopping the transport of firewood across state lines is a top priority for the state.

7.A. Retirement Resolutions

7.A.1 Dean Farr

7.A.2 Jeffrey J. Haack

7.A.3 Duane Lahti

7.A.4 Richard K. Van Osch

7.A.5 Marie Stewart

7.A.6 Calvin Doering

7.A.7 Richard E. Evans

7.A.8 Linda L. Evans

7.A.9 William J. Mitchell

7.A.10 Ronald R. Preder

7.A.11 Michael P. Russo

7.A.12 C. Randy Case

7.A.13 Suzan B. Acre

Mr. Welter MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Rohde of the retirement resolutions. The motion carried unanimously.

7.B. Donations

Secretary Frank stated that donations are critical to help the Department do the work. He cannot say enough about partnerships. He is very thankful for them. Donations help get the Department through tough times.

7.B.1 Polar Bears International will donate \$75,000 for Tree Planting for Climate Change Initiative

Mr. Ela MOVED approval, seconded by Dr. Clausen. The motion carried unanimously.

7.B.2 The Andrew F. Bell and Edith M. Bell Charitable Trust will donate \$48,494, with \$24,247 going to the Endangered Resources Fund and \$24,247 to the Wildlife Management Wetland Program

Mr. Rohde MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Cole. The motion carried unanimously.

7.B.3 The Kiap TU Wish Chapter of Trout Unlimited will donate \$14,900 to habitat restoration on Pine Creek, Pierce County.

Mr. Welter MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Ela. The motion carried unanimously.

7.B.4 Windway Foundation, Inc. will donate \$10,000 to the Endangered Resources Trumpeter Swan Program

Mr. Ela MOVED approval, seconded by Ms. Wiley. The motion carried unanimously.

7.B.5 The Friends of Big Foot Beach State Park will donate \$9,125 to purchase a Polaris Utility Mule for park maintenance and upkeep

Mr. Welter MOVED approval, seconded by Ms. Wiley. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Information Items

8.A. Air, Waste, and Water/Enforcement
None

8.B. Land Management, Recreation, and Fisheries/Wildlife

8.B.1 2009 – 2011 budget update and its impact on the Department **DEFERRED TO SEPTEMBER MEETING**

Mr. Welter MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Ela to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

NOTE: Each Natural Resources Board meeting is recorded. Tapes of each meeting are available for purchase by contacting the Natural Resources Board at 608-267-7420. The following resources are also available: Agenda Item Packets (green sheets), supporting documents, and public comment.