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## NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

### MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Natural Resources Board originally scheduled for Tuesday, December 8 was cancelled. The meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 was rescheduled due to inclement weather and was held via conference call on Monday, December 14, 2009 in Room G09, State Natural Resources Building (GEF 2), Madison, Wisconsin. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. for action on items 1-7. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organizational Matters

1.A. Calling the roll

|                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| David Clausen – present | Preston Cole – present     |
| Jonathan Ela – present  | Gary Rohde – present       |
| John Welter – absent    | Christine Thomas – present |
| Jane Wiley – present    |                            |

1.B. Approval of agenda for December 14, 2009

**Secretary Frank** requested the agenda be amended by deferring to 2010 agenda item 3B7 – Land Acquisition & Project Boundary Modification – Brunet Island State Park – Chippewa County.

**Ms. Wiley MOVED approval as amended, seconded by Mr. Rohde. The motion carried unanimously.**

1.C. Approval of minutes from October 21, 2009

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

1.D. Approval of minutes from November 13, 2009

**Mr. Ela MOVED approval, seconded by Ms. Wiley. 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 Request Authorization for Public Hearing on Board Order WT-15-09, Watershed Management's Housekeeping Rule Revisions to chs. 102, 103, 105, 106, 108, 110, 114, 200, 203, 205, 210, 241, 299, 328, and 341

**Tom Mugan**, Environmental Engineer Supervisor, stated this rule is a clean-up package meant to address a large number of rules used in Watershed Management that need typographical, cross reference, minor modifications, or changes to make the rules consistent with federal language. He requested the Board authorize public hearings on Board Order WT-15-09.

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

- 3.B. Land Management, Recreation, and Fisheries/Wildlife  
3.B.1 Request Adoption of Board Order FH-23-09, to revise Ch. NR 25 relating to the total allowable commercial harvest of whitefish in Lake Michigan  
William Horns, Great Lakes Fisheries Coordinator stated that this rule would increase the annual total allowable commercial harvest of lake whitefish from all three fishing zones in Lake Michigan from 2,470,000 pounds to 2,880,001 pounds. Each of the three zones would receive an increase of 136,667 pounds. He requested the Board adopt Board Order FH-23-09. **(PowerPoint)**

**Public Appearances:**

1. Chuck Weier, Two Rivers, representing WI Federation of Great Lakes Sport Fishing Clubs spoke in opposition to this rule and stated that sportsmen should receive an increase in the daily bag limit.
2. Mike LeClair, Two Rivers, representing the Susie-Q Fish Company was not in attendance. His written comment in support of the rule was read to the Board. **(Handout)**
3. Steve Kulpa, Two Rivers, representing Kulpa Fishery spoke in support of the rule. He stated sportsmen are concerned with an increase in commercial nets used. He said that an increase in quota would not increase the number of nets used by commercial fishers.
4. Dan Pawlitzke, Two Rivers, representing City of Two Rivers spoke in support of the rule and splitting the quota increase equally between all three zones.
5. Charlie Henriksen, Sister Bay, representing the Lake Michigan Commercial Fishing Board and the WI Commercial Fisheries Association spoke in support of the rule and allocating the quota increase equally among the three zones. In response to sport fishery bag limit concerns, if anyone had realized the extent this fishery would have developed, a bag limit of less than 10 each day should have been implemented.

Discussion followed on the peaks and valleys of the population estimates during the mid-2000's, the recent increase in the sport fishery, and its significant harvest in recent years.

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

- 3.B.2 ~~Request Adoption of Board Order LF-08-09, to revise NR 52 relating to the Public Use of Lands Acquired under the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program~~ **DELETED**

- 3.B.3 Land Acquisition – Statewide Natural Areas – Oneida & Vilas Counties

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

- 3.B.4 Land Acquisition and Donation – Baraboo Hills Recreation Area – Sauk County

Discussion followed on the percentage of acquisitions completed for this boundary area.

**Public Appearances:**

- 1-Mike Wollmer, Dane, representing Ice Age Trail Alliance was not in attendance.

Discussion followed on if this item should also include approval for project boundary modification.

**Mr. Ela MOVED approval to include project boundary modification, seconded by Ms. Wiley. The motion carried unanimously.**

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3.B.5 Land Acquisition – White River Fishery Area – Waushara County

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

3.B.6 Land Acquisition & Project Boundary Modification – Hartman Creek State Park – Portage County

Discussion followed on the concern of tenure and that the Department needs to be careful working with developers or realtors who turn over a parcel in the short term to make a profit.

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

3.B.7 Land Acquisition & Project Boundary Modification – Brunet Island State Park – Chippewa County DEFERRED TO 2010

3.B.8 Land Acquisition – Wildcat Mountain State Park – Vernon County

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

3.B.9 Land Donation – Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area – Pierce County

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

3.B.10 Land Donation – Paul Olson Wildlife Area – Wood County

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

3.B.11 Land Donation – Statewide Natural Area – Door County

Discussion followed on if this item should also include approval for project boundary modification.

**Mr. Ela MOVED approval to include project boundary modification, seconded by Mr. Rohde. The motion carried unanimously.**

3.B.12 Land Donation – C.D. Besadny Fish & Wildlife Area – Kewaunee County

Discussion followed on if this item should also include approval for project boundary modification.

**Ms. Wiley MOVED approval to include project boundary modification, seconded by Dr. Clausen. The motion carried unanimously.**

3.B.13 Land Donation & Project Boundary Modification – Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Area – Oconto County

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

3.B.14 Easement Donation – Statewide Natural Areas – Marquette County

Discussion followed on clarification of data on the map on page 6.

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

4. Citizen Participation – 1:00 p.m.

4.A. Citizen Recognition

1. Rebecca Wallace Award **DELETED**

4.B. Citizen Participation  
None

5. Board Members' Matters

5.A. ~~Approval of 2010 Meeting Locations~~ **DELETED**

**Dr. Clausen** reported that the CWD Plan Review Panel has finished its work. The report will be posted on the Department's website within the next few days. He will set up a meeting with the Board's CWD Subcommittee and the Department to review the report. He asked that as you read the report to not take the information out of context. There is a lot to consider here. The CWD Subcommittee will offer its recommendations to the Board in 2010.

**Mr. Ela** requested, that in conjunction with a Madison Board meeting in 2010, there be a Tuesday afternoon presentation on the Green Tier Program and a Tuesday afternoon tour of the science services facility.

He then stated that something needs to be done on the Asian Carp/Chicago Shipping Canal concern. It would be against protocol to have a Board resolution today, but asked that each Board member express themselves as to the seriousness of this issue.

Lastly, he questioned the use of state money by the WI Conservation Congress (WCC) to conduct public advocacy. WCC's statutory role is to advise the Department and Board, not to issue press releases or advocate before the legislature when the Board has not defined policy. He requested legal staff to sit down with the Department, consult with Congress leadership, and come up with guidelines as to what is appropriate and not appropriate conduct. Legal counsel will report back to the Board with their recommendation.

**Mr. Cole** requested information on the Thursday, December 17, 2009 legislative deer hearing in Madison and what the Department's approach will be.

**Secretary Matt Frank** stated he will speak at the legislative deer hearing and will provide information from the 2009 hunt. Recommendations for 2010 will be made at the April Board meeting.

**The Board** requested the Report and results from the 2009 firearm deer season cancelled due to inclement weather on December 9 be presented to the Board at their January 2010 meeting.

**Dr. Thomas** asked Board members if they wanted to receive a copy of each grant application received by the Board. She also asked Secretary Frank for information on this process.

**The Board** does not want to receive copies of the invasive species control grant applications.

6. Special Committees' Reports  
No

7. Department Secretary's Matters

**Secretary Frank** stated he is very agreeable to having a presentation on green tier and would like to broaden it slightly to address sustainability, which has a lot of momentum.

The Department has been very involved in keeping Asian Carp out of Lake Michigan. The Department is involved in a multi-state effort and had recently sent a team to Illinois to take part in this process.

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- 7.A. Retirement Resolutions
- 7.A.1 Steven J. Thomas
- 7.A.2 Gregory J. Pittz
- 7.A.3 Ronald W. Becker
- 7.A.4 Linda L. Netzer

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

- 7.B. Donations
- 7.B.1 The Friends of Kohler-Andrae State Park, Inc. will donate a Kubota Utility Vehicle at a value of \$13,000 to Kohler-Andrae State Park

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

- 7.B.2 Whitetails Unlimited Inc. will donate \$5,615.17 to Upper Chippewa Area Wildlife Management for habitat work

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

- 8. Information Items
- 8.A. Air, Waste, and Water/Enforcement
- 8.A.1 ~~Update on Ballast Water Permitting~~ - DELETED
- 8.B. Land Management, Recreation, and Fisheries/Wildlife  
None

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

\*\*\*The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.\*\*\*

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