

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item**

**SUBJECT:** Retirement resolutions

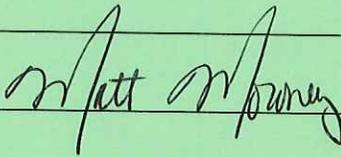
**FOR:** August 2013

**TO BE PRESENTED BY:** Secretary Stepp

**SUMMARY:** The Department requests the following employees be recognized and commended for faithful and exemplary public service:

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Years of Service</b>
1. David Beck	21
2. Martin (Marty) Kiepke	15
3. Richard Nikolai	39
4. Richard A. Weide	20
5. Shirley Zwolanek	24

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board adopt the retirement resolutions for August 2013.

Approved by	Signature	Date
, Bureau Director N/A		
, Administrator N/A		
Cathy Stepp, Secretary		7/17/13

cc: Board Liaison - AD/8

## **Retirement Resolution**

David Beck, Automotive Equipment Tech - Master in the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on May 31, 2013 after 21 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

A native of Racine Wisconsin Dave served in the United States Army for 6 years before joining the 128<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Group of the Air Force Reserve based at Mitchell Field in Milwaukee for 8 years.

In 1992 David joined the Department of Natural Resources at the Southern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest as an Automotive Mechanic serving at that location continuously until his retirement on May 31, 2013.

During his tenure Dave managed a wide variety of vehicles as well as heavy and small equipment. He was also a Dept. Equipment Trainer and Certifier, fabricated or rehabilitated a variety of pieces of equipment and served on the property prescribed burn team.

WHEREAS, David Beck 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 August 2013 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes David a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Preston D. Cole, Chair

## **Retirement Resolution**

Martin Kiepke, Fisheries Technician in Woodruff, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on May 25, 2013 after 15+ years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Marty began his early career in fisheries with the Wisconsin DNR at Woodruff in 1969, working until 1974 when he left for other jobs and service in the U.S. Marine Corps. He returned in 1991 as a limited-term employee working on angling creel surveys and trout stream habitat projects. In June of 1998, Marty was hired in a permanent position as a 10-month seasonal fisheries technician with the Treaty Fisheries Assessment Team at Woodruff, where he specialized in conducting angling creel surveys on different lakes each year, in addition to surveying fish populations by netting and electrofishing during spring and fall.

As a creel survey technician, Marty set the standard for the way creel clerks should conduct themselves, going above and beyond normal expectations. Marty took great pride in the quality of his work, and he had a special talent for dealing with people, developing friendly and cooperative working relationships with anglers and lake residents. The fisheries program and the Department have probably never had a finer front-line ambassador than Marty.

WHEREAS, Martin Kiepke 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 August 2013 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Martin a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Preston D. Cole, Chair

## **Retirement Resolution**

Richard Nikolai, Wildlife Biologist-Senior in Appleton, will retire from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on December 31, 2013 after 39 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Dick started his career in the Department as a fire control assistant in Gordon on May 13, 1974. He transferred to Sandhill Wildlife Area and promoted to a facilities repair worker at the nursery in Wisconsin Rapids in 1975. He transferred into the wildlife program at Appleton in 1981 and became a wildlife technician. In 1989 he was promoted to wildlife manager and in 1993 to wildlife biologist-senior.

During all of those years Dick remained dedicated and passionate about wildlife and the people that enjoy wildlife. He has been diligent in promoting an understanding of wildlife and the land ethic through his many public contacts and his role in developing the Brillion Nature Center.

Dick helped to acquire thousands of acres of land and established many acres of prairie and restored wetlands on Killsnake and Brillion Wildlife Areas. The scope of his work with neighboring farmers in the mutually beneficial management of wet meadows is unparalleled in the state. The great response by migratory waterbirds is appreciated by hunters and birdwatchers alike.

WHEREAS, Richard Nikolai 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 August 2013 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Richard a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Preston D. Cole, Chair

## **Retirement Resolution**

Richard A. Weide, Wildlife Biologist - Senior in Merrill, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on July 1, 2013 after 20 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Rick began his career in November 1992 as a Wildlife Technician for the Wildlife Management program in Brule. He was promoted to the Wildlife Biologist position in Wausaukee in September 1997 and transferred to Wausau in July 2000. He was reclassified to Wildlife Biologist-Senior in October 2000, and transferred to Merrill in March 2007. Rick remained in Merrill for the rest of his career.

Throughout his career, Rick focused on protecting, managing and creating young forest habitat for Ruffed Grouse and American Woodcock on public and private land. He pioneered field techniques to regenerate alder for woodcock habitat. He was an advocate for sustained timber harvest on public forests and was very active in applying Best Management Practices for young forest wildlife species. He created public land habitat maps for hunters that depicted young aspen and alder stands—ideal habitat for grouse and woodcock. Rick has always been concerned about landscape-level impacts from deer overpopulation. He is proud to be associated with a nationally recognized deer management program.

WHEREAS, Richard A. Weide 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 August 2013 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Richard A. a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Preston D. Cole, Chair

## **Retirement Resolution**

Shirley Zwolanek, Customer Service Representative in Madison, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on June 28, 2013 after 24 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Shirley joined the Department's License Section as a Program Assistant, and later reclassified to a Customer Service Representative. She was responsible for managing professional licenses and the distribution of hunting and trapping permits.

Shirley became the expert for the department on professional and occupational licenses issues. She managed the issuance of captive wild animal farm, wild fur farm, deer farm fence, bird hunting preserve, bait dealer, fur dealer, taxidermists, guides, wholesale fish dealers, institutional fishing, and disabled event fishing licenses and certificates.

Throughout her career Shirley worked extremely well with both internal staff and external partners. She was well respected and appreciated for her good sense of humor as well as her outstanding service to our customers. Her contributions, hard work and knowledge will be greatly missed.

WHEREAS, Shirley Zwolanek 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 August 2013 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Shirley a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Preston D. Cole, Chair