

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolutions

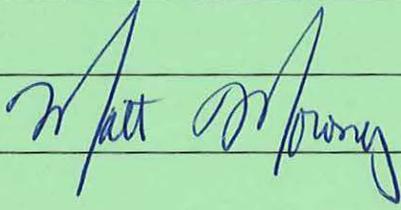
FOR: April 2014

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Secretary Stepp

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

Employee	Years of Service
1. Gary Lindenberger	34
2. Rick Rhodes	30
3. Cynthia Rudolph	38
4. Al Shea	37
5. Tom Van Effen	37
6. William Wrasse	25

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board adopt the retirement resolutions for April 2014.

Approved by	Signature	Date
, Bureau Director N/A		
, Administrator N/A		
Cathy Stepp, Secretary		3/14/14

cc: Board Liaison - AD/8

Retirement Resolution

Gary Lindenberger, Northwest Hatchery Group Leader in Spooner, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on February 14, 2014 after over 34 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Gary began his career as an LTE at the Spooner Hatchery and was hired as a Natural Resources Assistant 1 in June, 1984. After a series of promotions, he became the hatchery supervisor in September 2000. Gary's passion for muskies made him a valuable asset during every step of his career - from spawning to incubation to the rearing of muskellunge in the earthen rearing ponds to renovating hatchery in the 1990s and finally leading the NW Hatchery Group.

At each step, Gary continued to lead improvements in production - from the number and size of muskellunge stocked to implementing the genetics policy during spawning and rearing operations to enable the hatchery to provide the product with the best chance of survival.

Gary's last promotion as the NW Hatchery Group Leader came in February of 2012. Gary successfully administered the six hatcheries in his group and set the standard for this new position.

WHEREAS, Gary Lindenberger 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 April 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Gary 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

Rick Rhodes, Forestry Technician in Park Falls, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on February 7, 2014 after 30 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Rick began his employment with the Department as an LTE laborer/helper in the spring of 1982 at the Bong Recreation Area. He then became a full time employee as a Forestry Technician at Park Falls on June 13, 1983. Rick remained stationed at Park Falls for his entire career.

Rick dedicated much of his career to the wildland fire control program, working on many forest fires in Wisconsin during these 30 years. He thoroughly enjoyed all aspects of wildland fire, especially working with the many Fire Wardens in the area, and serving on several large incidents out of state. Rick also served as the Fire Equipment Certifier in the Park Falls Area, using his experience and abilities to teach others on safe and proper equipment operation.

Rick also used his equipment skills on several of the local wildlife areas. He worked on numerous dozer projects on these properties, which improved and protected these popular areas. Rick spent many days managing timber on public and private lands, and did excellent work on several of the boat landing and fishery properties near Park Falls.

WHEREAS, Rick Rhodes 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 April 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Rick 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

Cynthia Rudolph, Customer Service Representative-Senior in Oshkosh, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on March 3, 2014 after 38 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Cynthia began her state service in 1976 at the Department of Transportation as a Driver's License Examiner where she spent 14 years. In November 1990 she transferred to Department of Natural Resources as a Program Assistant 3 Confidential.

In 2000, Cynthia was reallocated to Natural Resources Customer Service Representative-Senior within the Bureau of Customer and Outreach Services. While in this position, Cynthia has seen many changes in assisting customers face to face, and also as a member of the statewide call center.

Throughout the course of Cynthia's career she has received accolades from many customers for her outstanding service. Cynthia has been a dedicated and valuable staff member, not only within her own program but also instrumental in office operations. She has always been willing to share her knowledge by training multiple new staff members over the years and serving as a resource for others.

Cynthia was named as a Northeast Region Employee of the Year in 2009 and was part of the 2011 Customer Service Team receiving Honorable Mention for in the Pride Awards.

WHEREAS, Cynthia Rudolph 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 April 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Cynthia 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

Al Shea, Director of the Office of Business Support, Science and Sustainability in Madison, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on April 4, 2014 after over 37 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Al began his state service career in April 1977 selling park stickers and educating visitors at Devils Lake State Park. He began his permanent career in the coastal program at DOA in 1980. In 1984, Al came to the DNR, working first on water quality policy issues, and then on budget issues, before promoting to the Business Services Chief in the Bureau for Remediation & Redevelopment. In 1997, Al became Director of the Watershed Management Bureau where under his leadership, the program tackled major water quality issues including the first nonpoint source pollution abatement standards in the nation. In 2003, Al became Administrator of the Air & Waste Division, leading the DNR to a nationally recognized clean-up & redevelopment program and implementing the first multi-pollutant air emissions rule. In August 2010, Al was appointed DNR Deputy Secretary. In early 2011, Al became Director of the Office of Business Support and Sustainability, leading the agency's newly created program to use sound science in protecting Wisconsin's environment and public health while supporting its economy.

WHEREAS, Al Shea 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 April 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Al 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

Thomas Van Effen, Fish Propagation Technician-Advanced in Fisheries Management at the Wild Rose State Fish Hatchery, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on December 2nd 2013 after 37 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Tom started his career at the Wild Rose State Fish Hatchery, in March of 1976 as a Natural Resources Assistant. Tom was promoted to a Natural Resources Technician 2 in 1984. In 1992 Tom became a Fish Technician 4, the highest level for a technician.

Tom's duties centered on raising trout and salmon for the Lake Michigan program. Over the 37 years at the Wild Rose State Fish Hatchery, Tom was responsible for raising nearly 100 million trout and salmon. He also helped with rearing muskie and walleye whenever he had the time.

Over the course of Tom's career there are many accomplishments he could be proud of; beginning the Wild Trout Program in the 1980's, numerous studies to raise healthier fish, mentoring staff or devoting a lot of time to the renovation of the Wild Rose State Fish Hatchery. His work helped produce fish that met the needs of the angling public. The anglers who fish the waters of this state are beneficiaries of Tom's contributions to the fisheries program.

WHEREAS, Thomas Van Effen 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 April 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Thomas 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

William M. (Bill) Wrasse retired from the Department of Natural Resources on January 11, 2014 with over 25 years of service. Bill began his permanent career with the Department as a Conservation Warden on January 3, 1989. Bill started working for the Dept. in 1981 at Willow River State Park as an LTE Ranger and worked there part time until 1987. In 1988, just before being hired full time in 1989, Bill worked summer boat patrol as a Special Conservation warden on the St Croix River. Bill was first temporarily assigned to Thorp for his first Warden assignment then to Neillsville until Sept 1991, when he transferred to the Durand Station. Bill lived and worked in the Durand Station for the rest of his career.

Bill grew up in Oshkosh, WI on Lake Winnebago and learned to love to hunt and fish. Bill attended college at UW-River Falls and studied soils and plant science. While working for Parks Bill became interested in conservation warden work and followed his brother Tom in becoming a Wisconsin Conservation Warden.

Bill exemplified public service by always being willing to help the public, Department staff, or other agencies. Bill was very involved in his community and worked very closely with the schools and youth programs. Bill received a Life Saving Award for his efforts to save a drowning victim on Lake Pepin on June 20, 1995. Bill also received the West Central Region Best Overall Program Award in 2001

WHEREAS, William M. Wrasse 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 April meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Bill a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Preston D. Cole, CHAIR