

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Gordon Stevenson

FOR: MARCH 2011 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Secretary Cathy Stepp

SUMMARY:

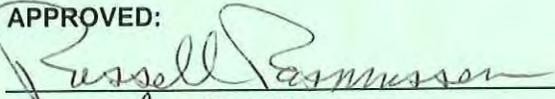
Gordon Stevenson has retired after 26 years of service to the citizens of the state of Wisconsin.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution for Gordon Stevenson.

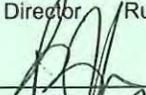
LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|---|-----|--------------------------|----------|
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Background Memo | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |

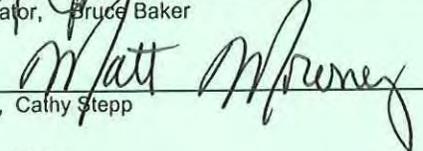
APPROVED:


Bureau Director, Russell Rasmussen

03/02/2011
Date


Administrator, Bruce Baker

2/3/11
Date


Secretary, Cathy Stepp

3/2/11
Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

Julia Riley - WT/3

Retirement Resolution

Gordon Stevenson retired from the Department of Natural Resources in December 2010 having provided over 26 years of honorable and valuable service in improving water quality in the state. Gordon completed a B.S. in Education and History in 1976 and a B.S. in Agricultural Engineering in 1984, both at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He began his career with the Department in November 1984 as an Environmental Specialist 1.

During Gordon's career, he advanced to an Environmental Engineering Supervisor 2 – Technical Unit Leader position in the Bureau of Water Resources Management. He provided significant leadership and support to staff in the nonpoint program during the 1997 tragic death of their supervisor, Becky Wallace. Secretary George Meyer wrote this observation of Gordon's leadership during this time, "You have managed to keep the staff going ahead with the many facets of the nonpoint program by giving them encouragement, support and most importantly, making yourself available to them whenever they wanted to talk."

In July 2002, Gordon became the Lower Wisconsin Basin Leader in South Central Region. In June 2004, he was hired as the Chief of the Runoff Management Section. His supervisor, Watershed Management Bureau Director, Russell Rasmussen, commented, "Gordon manages one of the most demanding sections in the Department with a scope that is second to none; and he does it with professionalism, a positive sense of perspective and a unique sense of humor. I have the highest regard and respect for Gordon as a colleague and a friend; and I am very grateful to have the opportunity to work with him in protecting and improving Wisconsin's water resources."

WHEREAS, Gordon Stevenson has served the people of the State of Wisconsin faithfully and well in the performance of his duties and has earned a commendation due an exemplary public employee;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Natural Resources Board at its March 2011 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Ronald G. Eckstein

FOR: MARCH 2011 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Cathy Stepp

SUMMARY:

Ronald G. Eckstein will retire after more than 36 years of service to the citizens of the state of Wisconsin

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution for Ronald G. Eckstein

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|---|-----|--------------------------|----------|
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Background Memo | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |

APPROVED:

John Dziedzinski (ST)
Regional Director,

02-04-2011
Date

Matt Sporney
Secretary, Cathy Stepp

2-17-11
Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator
NOR-Krantz/Spooner

Retirement Resolution

Ronald G. Eckstein, Wildlife Biologist-Senior at Rhinelander, retired from the Department of Natural Resources on December 30, 2010 with more than 36 years of dedicated service to the State of Wisconsin.

Ron began his career in Wildlife Management in November 1974 as a Natural Resource Specialist mapping winter deer yards. He spent his entire career stationed in Rhinelander as part of the Oneida-Vilas work unit. Ron's work ethic and spirit of cooperation were recognized and appreciated by others within the agency. He was named Wildlife Biologist of the Year in 1989. He received numerous awards and certificates of appreciation from other programs, especially Forestry and Endangered Resources, for his contributions.

His passion is raptors, especially eagles and ospreys. Ron worked on recovery of both species during his early years, and worked with utility companies to establish artificial nest sites across Wisconsin. Ron helped develop guidelines for logging and other development around eagle/osprey nests and conducted annual aerial surveys of nesting eagles and ospreys. He led the Eagle/Osprey Advisory Committee during the latter years of his career.

Ron believes that wild rice is an important cultural and natural resource in northern Wisconsin. He worked with tribes to survey existing rice beds, restore and expand wild rice within its range and to manage habitat to favor wild rice.

Throughout his career, Ron was a leading authority in forest ecology and an advocate for sound forest management. He served on several forestry committees, including the old growth committee. He participated in master planning for the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest and consulted with local foresters on timber sales and management plans. He helped conduct many training courses on forest ecology for both foresters and wildlife biologists.

WHEREAS, Ronald Eckstein 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 March 2011 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Michael J. Talbot

FOR: MARCH, 2011 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Secretary Cathy Stepp

SUMMARY:

Michael J Talbot retired on January 3, 2011 after a 32 year career with the Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Management program.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt retirement resolution for Michael J. Talbot

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

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

- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

APPROVED:

Michael Staggs
Bureau Director,

2/9/2011
Date

[Signature]
Administrator,

2/14/11
Date

Cathy Stepp
Secretary, Cathy Stepp

2/17/11
Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

Michael Staggs, FH/4

Retirement Resolution

Michael J. Talbot retired on January 3, 2011 after a 32 year career with the Fisheries Management program. Mike started his DNR career in 1978 as a fisheries biologist stationed in Alma. He built a Fisheries program presence by making his work and life a daily interaction with the community and thus gaining trust and support for expanding science-based fisheries management in the Upper Mississippi River. In 1985 Mike became the Great Lakes Commercial Fisheries Specialist in the Fish Management Bureau in Madison. Mike developed effective working relationships with sport and commercial fishers, small businesses, law enforcement and fisheries staff, and elected officials with the goal of improving management and viability of Wisconsin's important commercial fisheries. A highlight was the successful implementation of an individual transferable quota management system which remains a model for management of commercial fisheries to this day.

Mike became the Section Chief for the Management Section in 1991 overseeing Great Lakes and inland fisheries programs. As Section Chief, Mike advocated an open management style, encouraging polite dialog across all levels of staff, thorough problem solving analyses, and respectful consideration of all management options. In 1996 Mike returned to the field, taking the position of District Fisheries Staff Specialist for the Southern District in Fitchburg where he supervised fisheries biologists and technicians, hatchery and operations staff in the successful management of fisheries across the southern part of Wisconsin. Mike returned to the Bureau in 1997 in the newly created position of Monitoring and Assessment Section Chief. Mike led the development of a statewide fisheries and water resources monitoring program in the new Water Division, the creation of a new comprehensive statewide fisheries database and information system, and the Water Division Monitoring Team. These advances allowed the Fisheries Management program to begin comprehensively evaluating regulation and stocking activities on a statewide basis for the first time.

In 2006, Mike accepted the challenge of leading the newly created Fisheries Management Training Team which created the first comprehensive training program for all new fisheries staff, held several highly successful statewide training sessions and conducted training activities for current staff. Starting in 2008, Mike also supervised staff from the Management section. Mike's service to the fisheries program was diverse and productive. He served at all levels of the program from field biologist to Bureau section chief and was helped develop innovative and critical management and training programs which are still active today. Fishing in Wisconsin is better today because of Mike's efforts.

WHEREAS, Michael J. Talbot 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 March 2011 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Arnie Lindauer

FOR: MARCH BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Secretary Cathy Stepp

SUMMARY:

Arnie Lindauer retired after more than 32 years of service with the Department of Natural Resources.

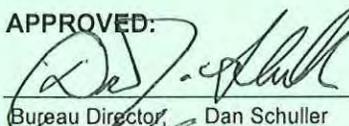
RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution for Arnie Lindauer.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

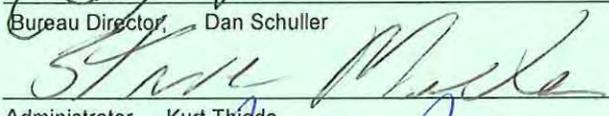
- No Fiscal Estimate Required
- No Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required
- No Background Memo

- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

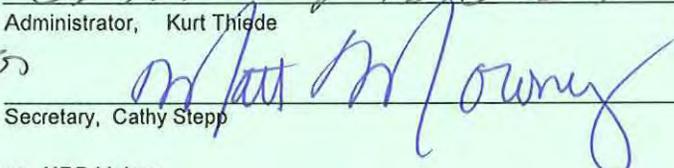
APPROVED:


 Bureau Director, Dan Schuller

2/7/11
 Date


 Administrator, Kurt Thiede

2/7/11
 Date


 Secretary, Cathy Stepp

2/7/11
 Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

Retirement Resolution

Arnie Lindauer started his career with the Department of Natural Resources on February 3, 1978 after serving our country in the Air Force from February 1979 to February 1974 and graduating for Purdue University in 1977.

Arnie's first station was Kettle Moraine State Forest-Northern Unit where he served until July 1979 as a Park Manager Trainee. He was then promoted to Park Superintendent at Kohler-Andre State Park.

On March 11, 1981 Arnie became the Superintendent of Potawatomie State Park where he received numerous performance, merit and exceptional performance commendations and recognition awards. In October of 1996 he became the Sub-team Leader of the Potawatomie, White Fish Dunes, and Newport Beach work unit.

In December of 1996 Arnie was promoted to the position of Natural Resource Basin Supervisor for the Lakeshore Basin. In this position he supervised Parks, Wildlife, Forestry and Endangered Resource team leaders.

As a result of departmental reorganization Arnie came back to a full-time Parks and Recreation role and became a Natural Resource Program Manager as the Northeast Regional Parks and Trails Manager June of 2002. In December 2010 Arnie's position was restructured and he became the Northeast District Park Supervisor for the Wisconsin State Park System, Department of Natural Resources.

Over the years of Arnie's involvement with the State Park Program he has brought steadfast dedication to excellence, attention to detail and exemplary work ethic. He has continually shown compassion for employees and an unwavering attention to our customers. Arnie has been a staunch natural resource manager and advocate for maintaining the quality of facilities in Wisconsin State Parks. Using a phrase Arnie coined, "it's so obvious that it need not be said "the Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin State Park System will sorely miss Mr. Arnie Lindauer.

WHEREAS, Arnie Lindauer 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 March 2011 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Thomas J. Watkins

FOR: MARCH 2011 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Secretary Cathy Stepp

SUMMARY:

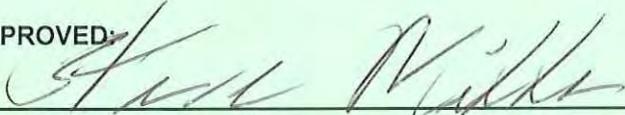
Thomas J. Watkins retired January 14, 2011 after 34 years of dedicated state service.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution for Thomas J. Watkins

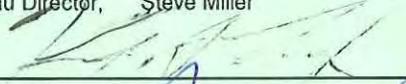
LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

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| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Background Memo | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |

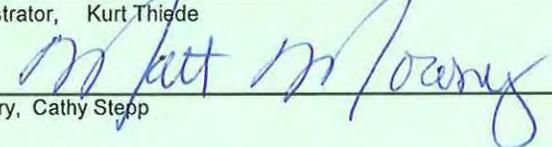
APPROVED:


 Bureau Director, Steve Miller

2-15-11
 Date


 Administrator, Kurt Thiede

2-15-11
 Date


 Secretary, Cathy Stepp

2-17-11
 Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

Retirement Resolution

Thomas J. Watkins retired from the Department of Natural Resources on January 14, 2011 after completing more than 34 years of dedicated service to the State of Wisconsin.

Tom began his career in the Bureau of Environmental Enforcement performing compliance monitoring and initiating enforcement actions. In 1978, he moved to the Bureau of Environmental Impact. As an Environmental Analysis and Review Specialist, Tom prepared environmental impact statements (EISs), developed and implemented EIS and master plan review procedures, and advised DNR Administrators on policy, legal, and technical issues. Tom led the development of the comprehensive EIS/planning process for the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway, a 92 mile long, landscape-scale project offering a multitude of water and land-based recreational opportunities. He also helped craft the Riverway Board laws that set performance standards designed to protect the Riverway's scenic and natural values. Tom's vision, coupled with his diverse project management and "people" skills were key to the success of this extremely ambitious and challenging seven year project.

In 1992, Tom joined the Bureau of Facilities & Lands as the Master Planning and Policy Expert for Department lands. He led the development of numerous land management policies and rules governing the development, use, operations and maintenance of Department properties. Tom was the "go-to" person on just about all property-related issues. Tom led the team that developed NR 44, Master Planning for Department Properties. NR 44 created a much more comprehensive, flexible process that assures integration between DNR programs and improves stakeholder involvement. Tom served as a team leader or major participant in many property planning projects. To improve upon and streamline the planning process, Tom masterminded the "3-tiered system", developed a comprehensive master planning handbook and extensive guidance materials.

As Tom canoes and winter camps on waters and lands that he has helped to protect, he should be proud of the many contributions he has made towards the long-term protection and management of our state's natural resources, and in helping provide high quality outdoor recreational experiences to Wisconsin residents and visitors.

WHEREAS, Thomas J. Watkins 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 March 2011 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution for Mark B. Endris

FOR: MARCH 2011 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Secretary Stepp

SUMMARY:

Mark Endris retired January 3, 2011 after more than 26 years of service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt retirement resolution for Mark Endris.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|---|-----|--------------------------|----------|
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Background Memo | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |

APPROVED:

Scott Humrickhouse
Regional Director, Scott Humrickhouse

2-9-11
Date

Administrator,

Date

Cathy Stepp
Secretary, Cathy Stepp

2-17-11
Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator
Colleen Higgins, Eau Claire

Retirement Resolution

Mark B. Endris retired from the Department of Natural Resources on January 3, 2011, after completing more than 26 years of dedicated service to the State of Wisconsin.

Mark began his career with the Department of Natural Resources on October 15, 1984 as a Natural Resources Specialist, in the Northeast Region, working out of the Oshkosh Service Center. His work there involved lake sturgeon. Mark maintained this position until July 2, 1989 when he made a location change to the Wautoma Area Office of the DNR and began work on trout, as well as ways to eradicate carp.

An opportunity to change program location and levels of responsibility was presented to Mark on January 16, 1990, and he successfully competed for a position with the Mississippi River Team. In La Crosse Mark expanded his knowledge in small mouth bass, catfish and fresh water mussels. His work led to a number of presentations on the National level to share his findings. Mark also became a member of the statewide SCUBA Dive team and worked across the state on the Great Lakes and Wisconsin's large rivers conducting mussel research. On November 5, 2000, Mark competed for, and successfully was offered a newly created position of Regional Fisheries Program Expert. This new position required Mark to move to the Regional HQ in Eau Claire, and expanded his geographical area of daily management to include the entire 19 counties of the West Central Region.

Mark's expertise in big rivers, trout and fresh water mussels, along with his desire to share that expertise on a larger scale, made him the most qualified candidate when the West Central Region was recruiting for their Regional Fisheries Program Supervisor. Mark was appointed to the WCR Fish Supervisor position on February 19, 2006, and held that position until his retirement. In that position, Mark was responsible for 32 full time and dozens of limited term employees, hundreds of thousands of dollars of heavy equipment, all of the Region's fish rearing facilities, plus almost a million dollars of federal, state and grant funding annually.

Mark's reputation with our resource community was one with the highest regards. One of Mark's commitments over his career was working with our partners in the Conservation Congress. Since the WCR covers 3 Districts of the Congress, Mark gave a lot of his own time ensuring that WCR fisheries was represented at CC District meetings. Mark was always willing to candidly share the "why" with our congress partners when it came to rule changes and management decisions.

Mark Endris was a very experienced and knowledgeable employee. He was dedicated and well respected by others and his contributions to Regional and statewide program operations are greatly appreciated. As an outstanding model for the Fisheries Management Program staff within the organization, he has enthusiastically taken on roles, such as participating on statewide program work groups, demonstrating leadership, serving as a statewide expert on fresh water mussels, and participation on Upper Mississippi River Regional workgroups, committees, teams and associations, to name just a few. Mark's many important contributions have been vital to the effective operation of the regional water management team.

WHEREAS, the dedication and commitment of Mark B. Endris has earned him the respect of the public, his co-workers, supervisors and associates throughout the Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Natural Resources Board at its March 2011 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Gene Tiser

FOR: MARCH BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Secretary Cathy Stepp

SUMMARY:

Gene Tiser retired after nearly 31 years of service with the Department of Natural Resources.

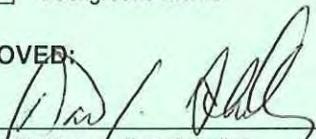
RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution For Gene Tiser.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

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

- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

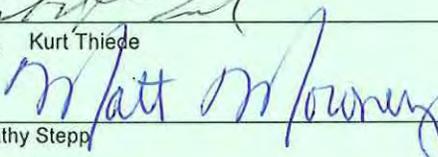
APPROVED:


 Bureau Director, Dan Schuller

2-9-11
 Date


 Administrator, Kurt Thiede

2-11-11
 Date


 Secretary, Cathy Stepp

2-17-11
 Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

Retirement Resolution

Gene M. Tiser retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on December 31, 2010, after nearly 31 years of service.

Gene began his career as a Patrol Officer 1 at the Northern Highlands American Legion State Forest in Woodruff in February 1980. In February, 1985 he promoted to Natural Resource Specialist – 5 and became the first State Park District Naturalist in the Wisconsin State Park System. He was responsible for coordinating the parks and forest naturalist and interpretive programs throughout the Lake Michigan District. Gene assumed greater responsibility as Superintendent of Copper Culture Mounds, coordinating vegetation management activities and Historic Landmark Reporting to the U.S. Department of the Interior. His position was reclassified to Natural Resource Specialist – 6 in August 1991. In August 2003, Gene accepted a reassignment to Superior at Pattison /Amnicon Falls State Park as a Natural Resource Educator – Senior. In August 2004, he transferred to the Northeast Region as the Ranger – Enforcement stationed at Point Beach State Forest. In November 2007, Gene was appointed Assistant Superintendent of Peninsula State Park. He served there until his retirement.

In addition, Gene was involved with the first public-private sector youth conservation TV program “Into The Outdoors” from it’s creation. While cooperating on this innovative venture the program, he was awarded several Emmys. He was instrumental in the first remediation of a state owned landfill. For many years, Gene served local communities as an instructor for Fishing Clinics.

WHEREAS, Gene Tiser 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 March 2011 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - David A. Wood

FOR: MARCH 2011 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Secretary Cathy Stepp

SUMMARY:

David A. Wood is retiring on March 12, 2011 after 25+ years of state service.

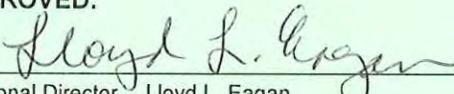
RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution for David A. Wood

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

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

- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

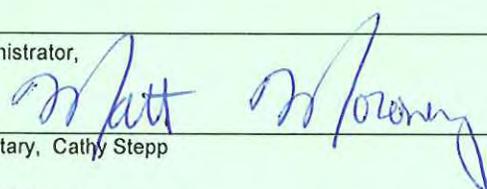
APPROVED:



 Regional Director, Lloyd L. Eagan

February 8, 2011

 Date

Administrator,


 Secretary, Cathy Stepp

 Date
2-17-11

 Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

- Lloyd L. Eagan - SCR
- Jeremy Plautz - SCR
- Debbie Kundert - SCR

Retirement Resolution

David A. Wood is retiring from the Department of Natural Resources on March 12, 2011, after completing more than 25 years of dedicated service to the State of Wisconsin.

David's career with Department of Natural Resources began in the summer of 1973 as a youth laborer in the Youth Conservation Camp. David worked as an LTE Natural Resources Assistant and later as a Law Enforcement Park Ranger at Peninsula State Park from May 1976 to December 1979 and for several months in 1985. David then worked as a Forestry Aide with the United States Forest Service in 1981. David worked in 1982 and 1983 as an LTE on the fisheries trout habitat crew in Wisconsin Rapids. In 1984, David returned as an LTE Law Enforcement Park Ranger for the Kettle Moraine State Forest (Southern Unit). David was appointed as a full time Conservation Warden in January 1986 and was stationed at Eagle in March 1987. David transferred to Madison in October 1989 and was stationed there until his retirement in March 2011.

David served Wisconsin in his capacity as a law enforcement officer, but was active in many outreach programs including the "Wall of Shame" and working at the Wisconsin State Fair and local county fairs almost every year of his career. In addition, David responded to aid Wisconsin citizens during several weather related disasters involving snowstorms, floods and the Stoughton tornado of 2005.

David served the Conservation Warden Service as a field training officer, background investigator, and participated on a number of regional and statewide committees. He has been recognized with several South Central Region outstanding program awards including best overall law enforcement program in 2008.

WHEREAS, David A. Wood 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 March 2011 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution- James L. McNelly

FOR: MARCH 2011 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Secretary Cathy Stepp

SUMMARY:

James L. McNelly retired from the Department of Natural Resources on February 25, 2011, after completing 35 years of service to the citizens and the resources of the State of Wisconsin.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution for James L. McNelly

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

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

- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

APPROVED:

John R. Hammen
 Regional Director, John R. Hammen (Acting)

2/10/2011
 Date

 Administrator,
Cathy Stepp
 Secretary, Cathy Stepp

 Date
2/17/11
 Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

Retirement Resolution

James L. McNelly retired from the Department of Natural Resources on February 25, 2011, after completing 35 years of distinguished service to the citizens and resources of the State of Wisconsin. Jim, a native of Richland Center, is a proud veteran of the United States Army, having served his country with honor and valor from 1968 to 1971 as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam and Cambodia and as an instructor pilot in Texas.

Jim earned a Bachelors Degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1973, with a major in Biological Aspects of Conservation. After graduation, he began his professional career as a limnologist, working on power plant siting studies from 1973 to 1976. On February 23, 1976, Jim brought his skills and expertise to DNR when he was hired by the Bureau of Research as a limnologist, working on lake studies in southeast Wisconsin. In 1978, Jim transferred to an Inland Fisheries Biologist position at Kettle Moraine State Forest – Southern Unit in Eagle. A year later he transferred to a Lake Michigan Fisheries Biologist position, performing perch surveys. Jim was promoted to Regional Fisheries Supervisor in 1979, a position he held through 1997. He oversaw the restoration of several major fisheries, including Delevan Lake in 1989, Eagle Lake in 1990, and Big Muskego Lake in 1991. These restoration projects have improved the quality of the fishery for thousands of anglers and have contributed immensely to the economy of Wisconsin. Jim led the effort to acquire and develop the Kettle Moraine Springs Fish Hatchery which provides thousands of steelhead and salmon to Lake Michigan each year.

In 1997, Jim entered a newly created position as Land Basin Team Leader for the Southeast Fox and Root-Pike River Basins, overseeing endangered resources, forestry, park and wildlife programs. Jim remained in that position until 2002, when he became Southeast Region Wildlife Supervisor. Responding to the discovery of Chronic Wasting Disease in 2002, he served as a back up incident commander for CWD in South Central Region, and oversaw Southeast Region CWD operations from 2002 to 2006. Jim was selected to be Southeast Region Water Leader in 2006, a position he performed with distinction until his retirement.

Jim is an avid sportsman, who enjoys and promotes hunting, fishing, trapping and other outdoor recreational activities. His work led to increased recreational opportunities for others through the acquisition and development of several major boat access sites, including a milestone project on Beaver Lake, Pine Lake, Eagle Spring Lake, Waubeesee Lake, Powers Lake, Silver Lake and Big Cedar Lake. Most recently, he has worked on planning and development of a public boat access site on North Lake in Waukesha County.

Jim is passionate about the Department's mission to protect and enhance the natural resources of Wisconsin. He was an outstanding ambassador for the Department, building partnerships throughout the region. Jim was a great friend to all, a true leader who led by his example of integrity, professionalism, commitment to continuous quality improvement, dedication, and the pursuit of excellence.

WHEREAS, James L. McNelly 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 March 2011 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR