

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

**SUBJECT:** Retirement Resolutions

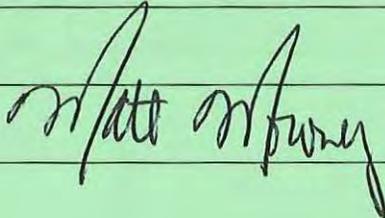
**FOR:** May 2014

**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. Carl Mesman	27
2. William Miller	31
3. John Nielsen	30
4. Debby Roszak	31
5. Terry Trapp	33
6. Garry Vincent	29
7. Annette Weissbach	28

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board adopt the retirement resolutions for May 2014.

<b>Approved by</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
, Bureau Director N/A		
, Administrator N/A		
Cathy Stepp, Secretary		5/1/14

cc: Board Liaison - AD/8

## **Retirement Resolution**

Carl Mesman, Conservation Warden Supervisor in Wautoma, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on April 5, 2014 after 27 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Carl began his career with the Department as a Conservation Warden on January 5, 1987. First stationed in Janesville and later transferring to Chilton, he diligently carried out his field warden responsibilities.

On January 24, 1997, Carl was appointed as the Warden Supervisor for the Wautoma Team where he remained until his retirement. As a supervisor, Carl ensured that all wardens, including deputy wardens, had the necessary tools and support to be successful and did an exemplary job leading the Lake Winnebago System Sturgeon Guard Program each spring. A testament to Carl's leadership was the fact that 3 wardens on the team received the coveted Haskell Noyes Efficiency Award during his tenure. Carl was also nominated by his team to receive Shikar Safari International's "Wildlife Officer of the Year" Award which he was presented in 2009.

Carl's leadership transcends the Wautoma Team where he has served as; DNR Facility Manager, Office Security Awareness trainer, ICS trainer, Disabled Advisory Committee Liaison, Background Investigator, and Community Volunteer.

WHEREAS, Carl Mesman 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 May 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Carl 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 (Bill) P. Miller retired from the Department of Natural Resources on January 9, 2015 with 31 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin. Bill began his permanent career with the Department as a Conservation Warden on January 3, 1984. After field training at Winneconne, Summit Lake, Milwaukee, and Superior, Bill was assigned to Adams County in August 1984 and served there his entire career.

Bill was inspired by his Conservation Warden father, Larry Miller, and Conservation Warden sister, Susan Miller, to pursue a career in conservation. The Millers have a total of over 91 years of service as Conservation Wardens. Bill prepared for his career by attending the University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point, majoring in Wildlife Management and minoring in Environmental Law Enforcement. During his college years, Bill worked for the Department as an LTE Park Ranger at Devil's Lake State Park, as an LTE for Wildlife Management, trapping grouse that were traded with Missouri for turkeys during Wisconsin's reintroduction program, and as a Special Conservation Warden in the Wisconsin Rapids Area.

Bill received many awards and commendations for his accomplishments as a Department employee. In 2000 Bill received the West Central Region's Outstanding Investigation Award and the West Central Region's Outstanding Overall Program for 2008. Bill was selected as the 2004 Wisconsin Boating Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. In 2012 Bill was awarded the prestigious Haskell Noyes Warden of the Year Award for faithful and able service. Bill also received the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award in 2012 by the Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers, which includes 29 states and provinces.

Bill exemplified public service by always being willing to help the public, Department staff, or other agencies. Bill shared his knowledge and experience as a Field Training Officer, Firearms Instructor, and Emergency Vehicle Operations Course Instructor. Bill is known for his investigative skills, strong work ethic, and was proud to be a voice for Wisconsin's natural resources.

***WHEREAS***, William P. Miller 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 May 2014 meeting at Green Bay, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes William 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**

John Nielsen, District Forestry Leader in Fitchburg, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on July 25, 2014 after 30 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

WHEREAS, John's career spanned the state from the northwoods in Douglas County to the south in Richland County, where he oversaw the planting of 2 million+ trees, launched a direct seeding program, and entered over 7,000 acres into the Managed Forest Law Program.

John's career spanned the entire breadth of the Forestry Program and beyond, serving on the Forestry Leadership Team, Wildlife Policy Team, and as the Agency Incident Commander for DNR's COOP Initiative. He was awarded Resource Manager of the Year, was nominated to and attended the National Conservation Leadership Academy, and received the Division's Exceptional Service Award for Supervisors. He served as Incident Commander for Dodgeville Area Incident Management Team, directing many disaster relief efforts.

John has been recognized for his outstanding leadership by both the DNR and our partners including the National Wild Turkey Federation, Wisconsin Walnut Council, Southwest Badger RC&D, and the Driftless Forestry Network. John is a leader in promoting sound forestry in southern Wisconsin.

WHEREAS, John Nielsen 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 May 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes John 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**

Debby Roszak, Environmental Enforcement (EE) Specialist in Milwaukee, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on April 4, 2014 after 31 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Debby joined the DNR on August 5, 1984 as an EE Specialist in Milwaukee where she devoted her career to the development of the EE program. Debby resolved many complex issues affecting public health and environmental quality, but took particular interest in localized issues that directly affected residents and their neighborhoods.

Debby's career is best summed up by co-worker Charlie Verhoeven who wrote "I have always thought that heroes are ordinary people who do ordinary things their whole lives but for whatever reason at one time or another deeply touch another's life. To inspire, to rescue, to show the way, all those things that someone needs in their life from time to time. For this reason my heroes tend to be people I know well who by their existence show me the way. My father's pride in family and joy in his life and work, even tho it was quite ordinary was inspirational, and you in your absolutely uncanny ability, (at least to me), to handle work, family, relationships, friends, and the occasional crazy person with aplomb shows me the way".

WHEREAS, Debby Roszak 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 May 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Debby 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**

Terry Trapp, Forester in Antigo, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on May 2, 2014 after 33 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Terry started his DNR career on July 7, 1980 as a Project Forester at Eau Claire. He became a permanent Forester on September 28, 1981. After three months of training in Tomahawk, Terry was assigned to the NHAL State Forest at Trout Lake. The training in fire control at Tomahawk kindled a passion to work more with fire so, Terry transferred to the Summit Lake Forester-Ranger position in October 1982. He remained in that position for 16 years before promoting to the Fire Management Officer at Woodruff. After the FMO positions were eliminated in 2002, Terry returned to a Forester position in Crandon. On December 23, 2007 Terry transferred to his final Forester-Ranger position at Antigo.

Terry served for over 10 years on both the Equipment and Safety Specialists and the Prescribed Fire Specialists Teams. Terry has participated in many Inter-Agency out-of-state fire assignments and has conducted numerous training sessions. He did all this while still meeting high work goals in MFL and public lands forestry. Terry is respected by his co-workers and outside partners alike.

WHEREAS, Terry Trapp 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 May 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Terry 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**

Garry Vincent, Forestry Technician Advanced in Tomahawk, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on May 1, 2014 after 29 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

After serving his country in the Navy special forces, Garry started his DNR career on April 1, 1986 as a Forestry mechanic at the LeMay Forestry Center. During this period Garry maintained, assembled and tested new forest fire fighting equipment for the state. For over 20 years Garry was an instructor for the WIFE (Wisconsin Fire Equipment) course. In 1986 Garry started servicing and delivering site preparation equipment around the state which he continued to do for 26 years. He trained operators how to use the site prep equipment in a safe and efficient way. In 2009 Garry took over the responsibilities of building and grounds maintenance. Garry took on this role with great pride. Throughout his career Garry took on new assignments and challenges with a positive, enthusiastic, "can do" attitude.

Garry served numerous times both as a fire fighter and mechanic on Inter-Agency out-of-state fire assignments. Garry is respected by his co-workers and outside partners alike. Anyone who has ever worked with Garry would agree that it truly is a pleasure to work with him!

WHEREAS, Garry Vincent 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 May 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Garry 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**

Annette Weissbach, Advanced Hydrogeologist in the Remediation & Redevelopment Program in Green Bay, Northeast Region, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on July 21, 2014 after 28 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Annette started in Air Management where her programming skills earned her a Governor's Special Citation award in 1987 with the Employee Suggestion Program. In the late 1990s, she worked four years in the Cooperative Environmental Assistance Program and forged new ground in German/American environmental relations and beyond-compliance Green Tier concepts.

For most of her career she was a Hydrogeologist-Project Manager and successfully cleaned up and redeveloped contaminated properties. In 1994, she received the Virginia Hart Special Recognition Award for her Brownfields efforts. In 1997, 1999, and 2000, she received various employee awards. During 2003, she attended the Leadership Academy.

Her dedication and commitment to her job is summed up best in a 2010 performance evaluation, "Annette is a star performer in the NER RR program. She is a leader through her work habits and energy. Her networking skills are phenomenal. She provided exceptional leadership to staff, her advice is routinely sought out; the NER Brownfields Program is the best in the state because of her oversight."

WHEREAS, Annette Weissbach 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 May 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Annette a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

*Natural Resources Board*

Preston D. Cole, Chair