

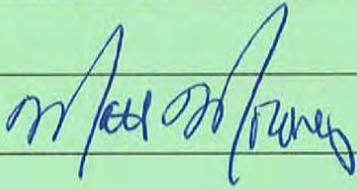
**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item**

**SUBJECT:** Retirement Resolutions**FOR:** September 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. June Everson    | 36                      |
| 2. Kenneth Johnson | 35                      |
| 3. Ruth Klassy     | 29                      |
| 4. Jim Morrissey   | 38                      |

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

| Approved by            | Signature  | Date   |
|------------------------|--|--------|
| , Bureau Director N/A  |  |        |
| , Administrator N/A    |  |        |
| Cathy Stepp, Secretary |  | 9/9/14 |

cc: Board Liaison - AD/8

## **Retirement Resolution**

June Everson, Program Assistant in the Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater, Madison, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on September 11, 2014 after 36 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

June began her career with the Department of Natural Resources on September 11, 1978 as a word processor. In 1981 she was promoted to a program assistant position within the Bureau of Water Supply.

Since joining the water supply program, June has seen her responsibilities and those of the program grow tremendously. At first she provided support to a program with two sections and less than 50 staff statewide - today the Drinking Water and Groundwater program has expanded to five central office sections and over 120 statewide staff covering areas from monitoring 11,000 public water systems to managing the Great Lakes Compact. Throughout June's time with the program, she has accepted additional and more complex work while maintaining an impressive understanding of the program's activities and responsibilities.

Strong customer service has been a hallmark of June's career. Consistently remaining professional and courteous, she always kept the customer perspective in mind. Through her dedicated career, June has helped ensure the safety of drinking water across the State of Wisconsin.

WHEREAS, June Everson 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 September 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes June 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**

Kenneth Johnson, Water Division Administrator in Madison,, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on May 7th, 2014 after 35 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Ken served as Water Division Administrator for three years where he led the division into a new era of efficiencies through increased use of technology and process revisions. He spent six years as the Water Leader for the South Central Region and nine years protecting and enhancing water resources as the Lower Rock River Basin Leader. Prior to that Ken provided leadership in protecting the Public Trust as a Water Regulation and Zoning Engineer and Assistant Section Chief.

Ken received many awards including being recognized as a Dane County Water Champion, and Yahara Lakes Association Public Employee of the Year. He was twice nominated for the Brogan Award, and was also a Department of Natural Resources Pride Award recipient for outstanding customer service. The natural resources of Wisconsin are far better because of Ken's caring service.

WHEREAS, Kenneth Johnson 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 September 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Kenneth 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**

Ruth Klassy, Payroll & Benefit Specialist in Fitchburg, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on September 5, 2014 after 29 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Ruth began her state service on August 26, 1985 with the Department of Industry, Labor and Human Resources, as a half-time Data Entry Operator 1. On September 15, 1985 Ruth transferred to the Department of Natural Resources working as a half-time Data Entry Operator 1 responsible for keying employee time reports for South Central District and the Bureau of Research.

As Ruth's responsibilities related to payroll and benefits (auditing time reports, getting LTEs on payroll, taking care of employee's leave and insurance questions and concerns) expanded, her position was reclassified to reflect her added responsibilities. Her position changed to Payroll & Benefits Assistant 1 on March 13, 1988, was reclassified to Payroll & Benefits Assistant 2 on December 2, 1990 and to Payroll & Benefits Specialist on May 6, 2001.

Ruth always demonstrated great care and concern for employees and their well being and strived to assist them to address their concerns. Ruth will be greatly missed by South Central Region staff.

WHEREAS, Ruth Klassy 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 September 2014 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Ruth 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

Jim Morrissey, Southern District Real Estate Supervisor and Deputy District Land Program Manager in Milwaukee, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on September 5, 2014 after 38+ years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Jim began his career with the Environmental Analysis & Review Program in Milwaukee where he served as the program supervisor, the liaison to the Department of Transportation, the Environmental Impact Coordinator on numerous high profile projects and contributed to the success of a number of inter-agency efforts, most notably SEWRPC's "Natural Areas and Critical Species Habitat Protection and Management Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin Region" and the Department's "Land Legacy Initiative".

Jim became the Land Services Team Supervisor for the Southeast Region in 1997, leading a Land & Facilities program to acquire land, build needed facilities and maintain 26 public access sites throughout the 8 county Southeast Region. He was then appointed District Real Estate Supervisor for the combined Southern District. Recent additional responsibilities included acting as the Deputy Land Manager for the eastern area of the Southern District. Throughout his career, Jim advocated for the preservation of open green space and providing adequate public access to waters in Southeast Wisconsin.

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

*Natural Resources Board*

Preston D. Cole, Chair