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WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

DRAFT BRIEF OF ACTION (rev. 06/10/16)

The regular meeting of the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board was held on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 in Room G09, State Natural Resources Building (GEF 2), Madison, Wisconsin. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. for action on items 1-3 and 6-7. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organizational Matters

1.A. Calling the roll

William Bruins – present	Gary Zimmer – present
Julie Anderson – present	Preston Cole – present
Dr. Prehn – present	Terry Hilgenberg – present
Greg Kazmierski – present	

1.B. Approval of agenda for May 24-25, 2016

Mr. Zimmer MOVED, seconded by Ms. Anderson, approval of the May 24-25, 2016 agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

1.C. Approval of Brief of Action from April 13, 2016

Ms. Anderson MOVED, seconded by Mr. Bruins, approval of the April 13, 2016 Brief of Action. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Hilgenberg thanked their friends and colleagues with the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) Executive Council for meeting with the Natural Resources Board yesterday. He asked those members in attendance to stand and be recognized. He then gave a background of the WCC and their advisory capacity to this Board and department and noted that WCC is made up of volunteers. They are givers of great guidance and the Board appreciates everything they do.

2. Ratification of Acts of the Department Secretary

2.A. Real Estate Transactions

Mr. Bruins MOVED, seconded by Mr. Zimmer, approval of the Real Estate Transactions. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Action Items

3.A. Air, Waste, Water, and Enforcement

3.A.1. Presentation of the 2015 Shikar Safari Club International Wildlife Officer of the Year Award

Todd Schaller, Chief Warden, welcomed and introduced Janis Bohner.

Janis Bohner, Shikar Safari Club, presented a background of the Shikar Safari Club and their program.

Chief Warden Schaller stated Warden Strelow is supervisor over the Mississippi River team out of La Crosse. He has a strong connection to the department's Mission, Vision, and Values. He is well respected by his team and department staff. As the saying goes, "Speed of the lead is speed of the team". Tyler's positive attitude, can-do attitude, and coming to the table with problem and solution rather than just a problem is really reflective of all the folks he supervises. Warden Strelow is very active beyond his role of supervisor representing the department on many councils and department programs. He is very deserving of this recognition.

Ms. Bohner formally presented the Award to Warden Supervisor Tyler Strelow.

Warden Strelow stated that he was humbled to be honored. Although he may have been the one to do the work, he stated this recognition really belongs to those that support him in his professional and personal life. Without the support of his family, and especially his wife Kristi, there is no way he could be successful in his career. He has four boys and he tries to make up the lost time with a lot of fun adventures. The warden team he works on gets a large portion of the credit. They continue to support his work, keeps him excited about the job, challenges him daily, and keeps him engaged in the amazing work they do. He is proud to work for the department and the citizens of Wisconsin.

Chair Hilgenberg thanked Warden Strelow for his work and congratulated him on this award.

Information Item – No Action was Taken

- 3.B. Land Management, Recreation, Fisheries, and Wildlife
- 3.B.1. Request approval of antlerless deer harvest quotas and a deer hunting season framework for 2016

Chair Hilgenberg congratulated Larry Bonde in his new position as Chair.

Public Appearances:

1. **Larry Bonde**, Kiel, representing Wisconsin Conservation Congress as Chair

Chair Hilgenberg thanked the Congress for providing the Board with their leadership; each CDAC is chaired by a member of the Congress. The Board is extremely appreciative of the Congress in this manner.

Mr. Cole MOVED, seconded by Mr. Kazmierski, approval of the department's recommendations.

Discussion followed on the need tools in place to maintain herds, the need to get voluntary buy-in for property managers e.g. educate public on how to check for browse on their property, concern for the volunteer base and the need to reach out to local media to get buy-in with CDACs, DNR needing to be a better resource at the county level, the need to continue to look at ways to improve; the need for accurate information and to obtain information from farmers in their area; and the need to get accurate information to decisions makers.

Dr. Prehn requested that historical data be included in the future for comparison purposes.

Bob Nack, Big Game Section Chief, framed the Waupaca County CDAC meeting and what the department learned from that process at Mr. Cole's request.

Discussion continued on "maintain" status and the potential for taking aggressive steps to stay at that level,

The motion carried unanimously.

- 3.B.2. Request approval of Tier 3 Management Plans for 9 stand-alone State Natural Areas Totaling 1,342 acres located in Crawford, Grant, Lafayette, Pepin, Pierce, and Vernon Counties **PowerPoint**

Mr. Cole MOVED, seconded by Dr. Prehn, approval of the department's recommendations.

Mr. Cole called the question.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 3.B.3. Request approval of the Northern Kettle Moraine Region (NKMR) Wildlife, Fish and Natural Areas Master Plan **PowerPoint**

Discussion to note that this item was tabled at the August 2015 meeting.

Mr. Bruins MOVED, seconded by Mr. Zimmer, to take from the table.
The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cole MOVED, seconded by Dr. Prehn, approval of the department's recommendations.

Discussion followed on the great job done on figuring out the boat access and boat storage issues.

Diane Brusue, Property Planning Section Chief, summarized the boat access and boat storage resolution at Mr. Zimmer's request.

The motion carried unanimously.

3.B.4. Request approval of renaming Little Tail Unit of the Green Bay West Shore Wildlife Area to Bayside Road Unit

Mr. Bruins MOVED, seconded by Dr. Prehn, approval of the department's recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

3.B.5. Easement Acquisition – Forest Legacy Program – Douglas County

Discussion followed on whether the easement is permanent [Yes.], whether motorized vehicles are allowed [Foot travel only except where identified as motorized trails.], whether the department can reopen trails that were previously closed [Yes.], and the department's role in habitat management on the property.

Ms. Anderson MOVED, seconded by Mr. Zimmer, approval of the department's recommendations.

Public Appearances:

1. **Tom Duffus**, Freeport, ME, representing The Conservation Fund for the Midwest Region and Northeast Representative
2. **Sean Ross**, Hanover, NH, representing Lyme Timber Company (landowner) as Director of Forestry Operations

Discussion followed on appreciation to the conservation based Lyme Timber Company.

Mr. Kazmierski commended Doug Haag, Facilities and Lands Deputy Bureau Director, and the leadership team for getting more bang for the buck in a time with less funding.

3. **Thomas Hittle**, Tomahawk, representing Steigerwaldt Land Services, Inc. as Senior Vice President **(Handout)**

Paul DeLong, Forestry Division Administrator and State Forester, summarized what the diminishing large/private timberland ownerships means to forest practices in Wisconsin and the doubling down on conservation, per Mr. Cole's request.

Discussion followed on how the department is paying for this easement [Bonding authority from Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program).

Chair Hilgenberg asked Mr. Duffus and Mr. Ross to thank their leadership for having the vision and working with the state of Wisconsin. It is fantastic to see the private sector get together and move forward to protect our natural resources and provide an economic engine that helps our state.

The motion carried unanimously.

3.B.6. Land Donation – Big Muskego Lake Wildlife Area – Milwaukee County

Public Appearances:

1. **Steve Jacquart**, Milwaukee, representing Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) as Intergovernmental Coordinator

Mr. Cole summarized what MMSD along with The Conservation Fund are doing with runoff from abundant rainfalls.

Discussion followed on why the state should receive this property from the county.

Dr. Prehn MOVED, seconded by Mr. Zimmer, approval of the department's recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jacquart and David Gruzinski were presented a donation acknowledgement on behalf of MMSD.

3.C. Scope Statements

- 3.C.1. Request approval of the Statement of Scope for Board Order FH-06-16 and conditionally approve the public hearing notice and notice of submittal of proposed rules to the Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse, for proposed rules affecting chapters NR 19-26 related to minor changes to fisheries administrative code

Ms. Anderson MOVED, seconded by Mr. Kazmierski, approval of the department's recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3.C.2. Request approval of the Statement of Scope for Board Order FH-10-16 and conditionally approve the public hearing notice and notice of submittal of proposed rules to the Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse for proposed rules affecting chapters NR 19-26 related to fishing regulations on inland, outlying, and boundary waters

Ms. Anderson MOVED, seconded by Mr. Zimmer, approval of the department's recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3.D. Department Wide
None

Chair Hilgenberg moved the meeting to agenda item 5.A.1.

5. Information Items

5.A. Air, Waste, Water, and Enforcement

- 5.A.1. The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Wisconsin's Brownfields Investments – A report commissioned by the Wisconsin Brownfields Study Group (Patrick Stevens, Environmental Management Division Administrator, and David

Misky, Wisconsin Brownfields Study Group Co-Chair and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee Executive Director-Secretary) **PowerPoint and Handout**

Discussion followed on the process of applying for Brownfields funding and the importance of remediating these sites.

Mr. Cole requested that the DNR use some of David Misky's testimony on the DNR's website. It would be DNR's way to fling the doors open saying that WI continues to be open for business. Brownfield's are sometimes not recognized for stimulating the economy. If money is not put into redevelopment that occurs in our cities across the state, those properties would continue to sit fallow waiting for someone to do something. This is an important way of showing our commitment to Wisconsinite's.

Discussion followed on how well the state has done and whether many brownfields remain.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM – NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

- 5.B. Land Management, Recreation, Fisheries, and Wildlife
- 5.B.1. Results of the Bureau of Fisheries Management 2016 spring meeting advisory Questions

INFORMATIONAL ITEM – NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

- 5.B.2. Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) Spring Hearing Advisory Question Summary and Convention Report **ADDED**

Chair Hilgenberg thanked Larry Bonde and the Congress for all the work that they do. He congratulated Larry and Al shook for becoming the new Chair and Vice-Chair.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM – NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

- 6. Department Secretary's Matters
- 6.A. Retirement Resolutions
- 6.A.1. Randal J. Cooper
- 6.A.2. Ted Huber
- 6.A.3. Christopher J. Rucinski

Mr. Zimmer MOVED, seconded by Dr. Prehn, approval of the retirement resolutions. The motion carried unanimously.

- 6.B. Donations
- 6.B.1 The estate of Evelyn Rieck will donate \$16,775.62 to the Kettle Moraine State Forest-Southern Unit to provide service and purchase materials and needed equipment in the restoration and maintenance of the forest prairies, campgrounds, and day use facilities visited by over one (1) million visitors each season

Dr. Prehn MOVED, seconded by Mr. Bruins, approval of the department's recommendations and to acknowledge the donation. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion followed on how this donation will be utilized.

Secretary Stepp then recognized and thanked Eric Ebersberger and Jill Jonas. Eric is stepping back as Deputy Administrator in the Division of Environmental Management. Eric has been captain of the ship when steering the department through the Waukesha diversion application process. Jill has been the Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau Director and has done extraordinary work which is under acute attention right now. She is happy for them as they enter the next chapter of their lives.

6.C. Department Secretary's Matters

Secretary Stepp updated the Board on 1) Midwest Outdoor Heritage Education Expo (MOHEE), 2) Pope and Young Club Bowhunters Rendezvous event scheduled for June 10-12, 2016 at MacKenzie Center, 3) Good Neighbor Authority, and 4) Cathy's turkey hunt.

7. Board Members' Matters

Ms. Anderson commented on the severe bluff erosion occurring along Lake MI shoreland up to Door County and the immediate response she received from the DNR.

Dr. Prehn, as the Board's Water Liaison, stated that he plans give a report to the Board at possibly the June meeting.

Mr. Kazmierski shared that he took Dr. Kroll and his wife Suzie to the May 2016 WCC Convention and then to the western part of WI to convince the public to get involved in CDAC and DMAP. He then gave a shout-out to Dr. Kroll for continuing his involvement (at no cost to WI).

Mr. Zimmer shared his experience of viewing sharp-tails early on May 3 at Namekagon Barrens Wildlife Area in northeast Burnett County and then toured the Wildlife Area afterwards.

Mr. Cole stated that the Wisconsin State Fair was right around the corner and asked Board Members to work a 4 or 8 hour shift with DNR volunteers and staff. They might be asked a ton of questions but would see staff do what he calls "catching arrows in their teeth". The questions that they answer and the appreciation that the public show to DNR staff while they are working it. He restated his invitation to his fellow Board Members to work a shift. The Wisconsin State Fair runs August 4 – 14, 2016.

<http://wistatefair.com/fair/>

Chair Hilgenberg mentioned that DNR staff did a great job at the Milwaukee Sports Show. He always makes an effort to see the presentations put together by DNR and to introduce himself as a Board Member. It is always interesting because of the wide

variety of DNR staff members and programs there. The show was well attended by over 100,000 people and is a great public relations effort for the department. Staff are doing great presentations to people interested in our resources.

Chair Hilgenberg returned the meeting to agenda item 4.A.

4. Citizen Participation

Dr. Prehn questioned whether Citizen Participation could be placed at 10:30 a.m. on future agendas.

Chair Hilgenberg referred Dr. Prehn to Chief Legal Counsel Quinn Williams and NRB Liaison Laurie Ross.

Public Appearances:

1. **Jodi Parins**, Algoma, representing self
Topic: ~~Manure irrigation follow-up.~~ She withdrew her request to testify.
2. **Don Erickson**, Birchwood, representing self
Topic: ~~Management practices determining motorized and non-motorized use on state Trails~~ He withdrew his request to testify.
3. **Scott Pitta**, Wisconsin Dells, representing self
Topic: Conservation of Lake Superior
4. **Joel Espe**, Monticello, representing Wisconsin Commercial Deer and Elk Farmers
Topic: ~~Captive deer farm fencing~~ He withdrew his request to testify.
5. **Michael John Jaeger**, Madison, representing Wisconsin Society for Ornithology as President
Topic: Introduction to their Society
6. **Paul Reith**, Madison, representing self
Topic: Propose research on program costs for voluntary registration of non-motorized Watercraft **Handout**

Discussion followed on the possible process Mr. Reith's proposal might take.

Chair Hilgenberg requested a motion to go into Closed Session under the authority of s.19.85(1)(g) Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of discussing litigation matters and under the authority of s.19.36(10) Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Mr. Bruins MOVED, seconded by Mr. Zimmer that the Board convene into closed session under the authority of s.19.85(1)(g) Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of discussing litigation matters and under the authority of s.19.36(10) Wisconsin Statutes for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. The motion carried on a roll call vote.

William Bruins – yes
Julie Anderson –yes
Dr. Prehn – yes
Greg Kazmierski – yes

Gary Zimmer – yes
Preston Cole – yes
Terry Hilgenberg – yes

Chair Hilgenberg stated to those in the audience and viewing on-line that the meeting will reconvene at approximately 12:40 p.m.

Chair Hilgenberg reconvened the meeting at 12:58 p.m. He reported that during the Closed Session, no action was taken.

Mr. Cole MOVED, seconded by Mr. Zimmer, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

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