

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item

SUBJECT: Retirement resolutions

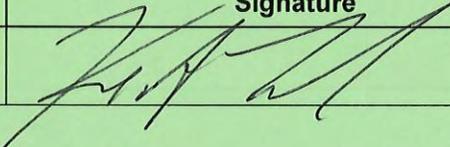
FOR: September 2016 Board meeting

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. Michael T. Anderson	24
2. Shirley Bargander	34
3. Jean Berens	15
4. Raymond Brockman	30
5. Randy C. Douglas	24
6. James E. Halvorson	39
7. Bonnie Kotila	33
8. Paul La Liberte	36
9. Eugene Van Dyck	48

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board adopt the retirement resolution(s) for September 2016.

Approved by	Signature	Date
Cathy Stepp, Secretary		9/1/16

Retirement Resolution

Michael T. Anderson, Natural Resources Engineer - Advanced in Tomah, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on August 15, 2016 after 24 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Michael served with distinction, providing engineering support for state parks, state forests, fisheries, wildlife areas, fisheries and numerous other DNR properties. His contributions ensured that our visitors enjoyed well designed and functional DNR facilities. His extensive knowledge contributed to the quality of the projects he worked on and his legacy will be seen by our visitors for decades to come.

WHEREAS, Michael T. Anderson 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 2016 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Michael T. a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Terry N. Hilgenberg, Chair

Retirement Resolution

Shirley Bargander, Natural Resources Region Team Supervisor - Forestry Team Leader in Wausau, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on October 9th, 2015 after 34 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Shirley began her career with the Department in 1979 as an LTE and Project Forester responsible for timber sale establishment in Langlade and Lincoln Counties. From there she worked as a Forester on the American Legion State Forest. In 1983 Shirley became the Crandon Forester Ranger administering the fire management program in Forest County.

In 1986, Shirley was appointed Forester in Eau Claire County as Department Liaison to the Eau Claire County Forestry Program where she continued to promote sustainable forest management engaging with many partners such as FSA, LCC, Tree Farm Program, WWOA, loggers, consulting foresters and the Ruffed Grouse Society.

In 1990, Shirley furthered her leadership by accepting the role of the Antigo Area Forestry Supervisor. In 1997, Shirley was appointed to the position of Wausau Team Leader where she completed her career in 2015 retiring as a Natural Resources Region Team Supervisor - Forestry Team Leader.

WHEREAS, Shirley Bargander 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 2016 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Shirley a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Terry N. Hilgenberg, Chair

Retirement Resolution

Jean Berens, Customer Service Representative Senior in Wausau, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on August 15, 2016 after 15 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Jean's career began as an LTE Clerical Assistant at the Wausau Service Center on May 26th, 2000. She was quickly brought on fulltime as a Customer Service Representative Entry on August 15, 2001. She was reclassified to Customer Service Representative Senior a year later. Jean spent her entire career working from Wausau Service Center, except during the traveling "Hub Years" when she also served the communities of Wisconsin Rapids and Antigo. Throughout her time in this position, she provided valuable service to thousands of customers whether from the area or on vacation.

Jean was dedicated to serving the public and helping everyone to enjoy Wisconsin's great outdoors! She took great pride in her involvement with a Chinese ginseng TV production, the Wisconsin Valley Fair and other outreach opportunities. Jean consistently provided a high level of customer service throughout her entire career. She was also known for her artistic flair that allowed her artwork to grace the cover of the 2013 trout regulations.

WHEREAS, Jean Berens 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 2016 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Jean a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Terry N. Hilgenberg, Chair

Retirement Resolution

Raymond Brockman, Forestry Technician in Tomahawk at LeMay Forestry center, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on February 4, 2016 after nearly 30 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

After serving his country in the Navy, Raymond started his DNR career on March 10, 1986 at the LeMay Forestry Center. During this period he was a machinist and equipment fabricator where he finished machined cast plow parts and rebuilt coulters, maintained the milling machines and lathes. Raymond also assembled and tested new forest fire fighting equipment for the state. He was instrumental in bringing on new technology such as the purchase of a new CNC mill and a lathe with digital readouts to further increase productivity in the machine shop. Raymond approached challenges with a positive, enthusiastic, "can do" attitude. In 2014 with great pride he took over the responsibilities of building and grounds maintenance on top of his machinist duties.

In 2002 Raymond together with his team members were recognized by field staff for outstanding achievement in building and maintaining fire control equipment. Raymond is respected by his co-workers and outside partners alike. Anyone who has ever worked with Raymond would agree that it truly is a pleasure to work with him.

WHEREAS, Raymond Brockman 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 2016 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Raymond a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Terry N. Hilgenberg, Chair

Retirement Resolution

Randy C. Douglas, Natural Resources Engineer - Advanced in Wautoma, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on June 14, 2016 after 24 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Randy served with distinction, providing engineering support for state parks, state forests, fisheries, wildlife areas, fisheries and numerous other DNR properties. His contributions ensured that our visitors enjoyed well designed and functional DNR facilities. His extensive knowledge contributed to the quality of the projects he worked on and his legacy will be seen by our visitors for decades to come.

WHEREAS, Randy C. Douglas 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 2016 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Randy C. a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Terry N. Hilgenberg, Chair

Retirement Resolution

James E. Halvorson, State Forest Superintendent in the Flambeau River State Forest, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on August 6th, 2016 after 39 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

James E. Halvorson was hired in July, 1977 as a Forester/Ranger assigned to the Spooner Ranger Station. In 1978, Jim became the Washburn County Forest Liaison Forester in Spooner. During his tenure in this position, he worked tirelessly in promoting forestry education, silvicultural trials, and was known as an advocate for the Wisconsin County Forests.

In 2004, Jim accepted a promotion to become the superintendent of the Flambeau River State Forest, from which he is retiring. He led the development of the current Master Plan, implemented dozens of needed improvement projects (including the complete rehabilitation of the 40 mile ATV trail), and was a key contributor to the construction of a new Forest Headquarters building.

One word that sums up the career of James E. Halvorson is "passion". It resonates in the work he has accomplished on the ground, and with the people he has worked with.

WHEREAS, James E. Halvorson 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 2016 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes James a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Terry N. Hilgenberg, Chair

Retirement Resolution

Bonnie Kotila, Wastewater Office Operations Associate in Rhinelander, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on August 12, 2016 after 33 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Throughout her career, Bonnie worked with the public water, wastewater, and septage certified operators, providing a local exam site at Rhinelander, and working directly with operators on their questions, applications and renewals. Her work ensured that Northern Wisconsin communities and industries had qualified and certified staff operating their public water and wastewater facilities.

Bonnie also had a very important role in protecting the waters of Wisconsin by reviewing all reports and data submitted from wastewater treatment facility staff in Northern Wisconsin. Her dedicated effort assured that all wastewater discharge permit requirements were closely reviewed, and all instances of non-compliance addressed.

Bonnie successfully built and maintained long-term, supportive work relationships with DNR staff and Certified Operators, earning the Secretary's Award for Interpersonal Relationships in July, 2015. She enjoyed her job and excelled at it, and is admired and appreciated by everyone with whom she worked.

WHEREAS, Bonnie Kotila 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 2016 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Bonnie a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Terry N. Hilgenberg, Chair

Retirement Resolution

Paul La Liberte, Water Resources Field Supervisor in Eau Claire, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on September 6, 2016 after 36 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Whereas, Paul La Liberte has made significant contributions to the protection and restoration of Wisconsin's lakes and rivers including licensing of hydropower facilities, the development and implementation of water quality management plans and the classification of streams;

WHEREAS, Paul La Liberte has been awarded the 1988 Water Resources Management distinguished Service Award, the 1995 University of Wisconsin Idea Award and the 2016 Secretary's Award for Decision Making;

WHEREAS, Paul La Liberte's colleagues have recognized his ability to lead by example, set high expectations for himself and staff, improve program accountability and efficiency, and make sound decisions base upon science and common sense;

WHEREAS, Paul La Liberte 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 2106 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Paul a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Terry N. Hilgenberg, Chair

Retirement Resolution

Eugene Van Dyck, Fisheries Manager in Dodgeville, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on June 3, 2016 after 48 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Gene Van Dyck started as an employee of the Wisconsin Conservation Department in 1968 as a Conservation Biologist-Entry 1 stationed in Boscobel. In 1971 Gene moved to the Dodgeville office where he would spend the rest of his career as the local Fisheries Manager with responsibilities for Grant, Lafayette, Iowa, Richland, and Sauk Counties.

Gene's major accomplishments include an immense legacy of acquiring property and fishing easements in Southwestern Wisconsin. Gene contributed to the purchase of 111 properties totaling 6,284 acres and 58 public fishing easements totaling 814 acres, all providing access to quality fishing opportunities. Gene also left a lasting legacy with the creation and management of the recreational fisheries of the four high-profile lakes in Iowa and Lafayette Counties, an area of the state where no natural lakes exist. Gene was a driving force for trout stream management, public access and habitat improvement and earned the respect of his peers and cooperators through his passion and determination.

WHEREAS, Eugene Van Dyck 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 2016 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, wishes Eugene a healthy, happy and rewarding retirement, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Terry N. Hilgenberg, Chair