

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

**Conference Call
Minutes**

A special meeting of the Natural Resources Board via telephone conference call was held Monday, November 25, 2002, from Room 774B of the State Natural Resources Building (GEF 2), Madison.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Trygve Solberg at 9:10 a.m.

Participating Board Members:

Trygve A. Solberg, Chair (Minocqua)
James E. Tiefenthaler, Vice-Chair (Waukesha)
Herbert F. Behnke (Shawano)
Howard D. Poulson (Madison)
Catherine Stepp (Sturtevant)
Stephen D. Willett (Phillips)

Absent:

Gerald M. O'Brien (Stevens Point)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. 2003-2005 5% GPR and Conservation Fund reductions as required by the Department of Administration Budget Instructions.

Joe Polasek, Director, Bureau of Management and Budget, described proposal reductions totaling approximately \$2.1 million of GPR, with conservation reductions of \$794,000, and environmental reductions of \$127,800. To come up with those dollar, the Department needed to reduce 18 FTE throughout the Department. Mr. Polasek referred to the green sheet that Board Members were previously briefed on.

Mr. Willett MOVED approval of the 2003-2005 5% GPR and Conservation Fund reductions as required by the Department of Administration Budget Instructions. Mr. Tiefenthaler seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. Mr. O'Brien were absent.

Chairman Solberg stated that the Department will be facing critical revenue shortfalls in a variety of areas over the next two year period, including fish and wildlife, parks (camping fees), air management, water regulation and zoning, and funding for aquatic and terrestrial invasives. Chairman Solberg requested that a Board Member move to support and direct the Department to evaluate expenditure reduction impacts in each of these areas. Further, the Department should work with constituency groups in evaluating the impact of these reductions and the development of alternatives to minimize their impact.

Mr. Willett MOVED to direct the Department to evaluate expenditure reduction impacts in these areas and work with constituency groups in evaluating the impact of these reductions and the development of alternatives to minimize their impact, as presented. Ms. Stepp seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. Mr. O'Brien were absent.

Discussion pursued regarding the chronic wasting disease fund and how it ties in with on-going programs/wildlife, reallocations, state and federal funding. Reference was made with regard to the Department of Natural Resources Capital Development Budget 2003-2005 binder that was mailed to all Board Members in September.

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.