

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

Minutes

The regular meeting of the Natural Resources Board was held on Wednesday, September 24, 2003, at Boulder Junction Community Center, Highway M, Boulder Junction, Wisconsin. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. All September Board Agenda business was conducted by the Full Board.

PRESENT: Trygve A. Solberg, Chair
James E. Tiefenthaler, Vice Chair
Gerald W. O'Brien, Secretary
Herbert F. Behnke
Jonathan P. Ela

ABSENT: Howard D. Poulson
Stephen D. Willett

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Minutes to be approved.

1.A. Full Board Minutes of August, 2003.

Mr. Tiefenthaler MOVED, seconded by Mr. Ela, approval of the Full Board Minutes of August, 2003, as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

1.B. Conference Call Minutes of August 29, 2003.

Mr. Tiefenthaler MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, approval of the Full Board Minutes of August 29, 2003, as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

1.C. Conference Call Minutes of September 8, 2003.

Mr. Behnke MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, approval of the Full Board Minutes of September 8, 2003, as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

1.D. Agenda for September 23-24, 2003.

Secretary Hassett requested to add Item 4.F., INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Update report on the Northern Initiatives, A Strategic Guide for DNR Management in Northern Wisconsin, to the Committee of the Whole. With that change, Mr. Tiefenthaler MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, approval of the Agenda for September 23-24, 2003, as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

2. Ratification of acts of the Department Secretary.

2.A. Real estate transactions.

Mr. O'Brien MOVED, seconded by Mr. Ela, approval of the real estate transactions, as printed. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3. Operating Committees.

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

3.A.1. Minutes. There were no Committee minutes for August, 2003 since all agenda items were taken up during the Full Board Meeting.

3.A.2. Adoption of Order AM-25-03 - revision of Chapter NR 428, Wis. Adm. Code, pertaining to NOx Emissions.

Lloyd Eagan, Air Management Director, presented the NOx emissions proposed rule. In December 2000 DNR submitted NR 428, Control of Nitrogen Oxide Emissions to USEPA. DNR submitted the rule as part of a plan to attain the one-hour ozone standard in Eastern Wisconsin. The rule included an emission limit for new combustion turbines burning gaseous fuels. However, discussions with affected sources have revealed that burning biologically derived gaseous fuel in a combustion turbine is unlikely to meet the limit of 25 ppm (15%O₂) based on burning natural gas. This modification proposes to create a separate categorical emission limit of 35 parts per million (@ 15%O₂) for units burning biologically derived gaseous fuel. The definition of biologically derived gaseous fuels is applicable to fuel derived from landfills, wastewater treatment plants, and other biological digester processes. A modification to the current rule language is being proposed to clarify that compliance through emissions averaging is allowable only for utility boilers. This is consistent with the current NR 428.06(4)(e)3 requirement of allowing only 15,912 tons of NOx to be emitted during the ozone season. A public hearing was held on August 6 and the close of receiving written comments was August 15. There were no adverse comments to the proposed emission limit or the NOx trading rule language clarification. Minor changes have been made to the proposed rule language for clarity.

Citizen Participation on this item included:

3.A.2.1. **F. H. Brewer**, Racine, representing S. C. Johnson and Son, Incorporated, spoke in support of the adoption. He reviewed the history of his company and their goals. He also acknowledged and commended Secretary Hassett and Lloyd Eagan for developing this rule change. **Chairman Solberg** recognized and expressed appreciation for the work that S. C. Johnson and other companies have done on their own for the environment.

Mr. Behnke MOVED, seconded by Mr. Tiefenthaler, adoption Order AM-25-03 - revision of Chapter NR 428, Wis. Adm. Code, pertaining to NOx emissions, as presented. The order was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3.A.3. Petition for administrative rules to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Caroline Garber, Environmental Studies Section Chief, presented the petition for administrative rules to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. On April 14, 2003, the Natural Resources Board and the Department received a petition to adopt administrative rules under s.285.21(1)(b), Wisconsin Statutes, to regulate carbon dioxide emissions. The petitioners include private citizens and members of environmental groups, the medical community, clergy, and the academic community. Specifically, the petition requests that the Department promulgate an ambient air quality standards for carbon dioxide and require reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide from the largest sources of such emissions. The Department staff have carefully evaluated the petition. Climate change is a significant environmental issue and carbon dioxide emissions are a significant causative factor. However, staff does not agree with the strategy proposed in the petition. In addition, the staff resources needed to pursue such an effort are not available at this time in the Air Program.

Discussion pursued regarding reviewing other states efforts with the federal government to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Mr. Ela stated that he reluctantly supports the Department on denying this petition. He stated that the State Administration should aggressively pursue this issue with the federal government. He further stated that he

thought it was impossible to accomplish the objectives that the petitioners are asking for through the means requested in the petition.

Mr. Tiefenthaler MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, to deny the petition for administrative rules to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. The order was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3.A.4. Authorization for hearing on revision of Chapter NR 116, Wis. Adm. Code, pertaining to floodplain management.

Todd Ambs, Administrator, Division of Water, presented the authorization for hearing on floodplain management. The Joint Committee for the Review of Administrative Rules (JCRAR) had passed a motion requesting that the Department define a deck and specifically allow decks to be constructed in floodplain areas. Chapter NR 116 is the administrative code that establishes uniform requirements for the preparation and implementation of floodplain zoning ordinances. Municipalities, including counties, are required to adopt local ordinances based on these standards. While the code allows structural modifications and additions to legal non-conforming floodplain structures, decks are not specifically listed as an allowable modification or addition to such a structure nor does the code contain a definition for decks.

Discussion pursued regarding decks added to a non-conforming structure in a floodway, normal setbacks, changes being made to NR 115 and NR 116 so they are consistent, and landowner support. **Al Shea**, former Director of Watershed Management, responded that the landowner support will be evident at the hearing sessions. Public hearings will take place in March, 2004. **Mr. Ela** asked for clarification of NR 115 and NR 116 on the purpose of each. Mr. Ambs responded with the differences and that the Department wishes to make them consistent where there is overlap or provision of the rules where they have similar intent.

Mr. O'Brien MOVED, seconded by Mr. Behnke authorization for hearing on revision of Chapter NR 116, Wis. Adm. Code, pertaining to floodplain management. The motion was carried unanimously by those members. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3.A.5. INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Update on status of litigation surrounding EPA's review of the New Source Review Program.

Lloyd Eagan, Air Management Director, presented the New Source Review Program update. In February, 2003, the Natural Resources Board was advised of United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published regulations that significantly changed the way new sources of air pollution are permitted. The revisions reduced the number of sources that would be subject to air permitting and resulted in fewer sources being subject to more restrictive emission limits. In response to EPA's action, the Department has proceeded with two separate actions: 1) the Department requested that Governor Doyle ask Attorney General Lautenschlager to seek judicial review of EPA's revised regulations; and 2) the Department initiated a two prong project called Wisconsin's Air Permit Improvement Initiative to streamline the permitting process and to retool Wisconsin's air permitting rules in light of the federal changes. One purpose of this item is to provide you an update on the status of these two actions. In addition, when EPA finalized changes to the air permitting rules in December, 2002, EPA also proposed significant changes to the routine maintenance, repair, and replacement concept in the air permitting rules. Under this concept, repair projects which are considered routine maintenance, repair and replacement are exempt from being considered modifications of a major air pollution source and are, therefore, not subject to air permitting and are not subject to additional emission control requirements. On August 27, 2003, EPA signed a final rule that creates a category of equipment replacement that automatically will be considered routine maintenance, repair, and replacement. The other purpose of this item is to provide the Board with an update on the Department's initial analysis of EPA's most recent rule revision. The equipment replacement project will qualify for the exclusion if: 1) The project involves replacement of existing components of a process unit with components that are identical or that serve the same purpose as the replaced components; 2) The fixed capital cost of the replacement components, plus

the costs of the replacement activity (e.g. labor, equipment rental, etc.) does not exceed 20% of the replacement value of the process unit; and 3) The replacement does not alter the basic design parameters of the process unit or cause the process unit to exceed any legally enforceable emission limitation or operational limitation that is applicable to any component of the process unit.

Discussion pursued regarding the six areas of reconsideration that EPA has come up with; regarding streamlining the non-attainment and attainment areas as separately or all as one; where would the Wisconsin process of changing its rule if the litigants prevail and the federal government backs off; and talking to industries that have problems.

No action was taken on this informational item.

3.B. Land, Management Recreation and Fisheries/Wildlife Committee.

3.B.1. Minutes. There were no Committee minutes for August, 2003 since all agenda items were taken up during the Full Board Meeting.

3.B.2. Approval of Stewardship Fund Allocations for 2003-2005 Biennium.

Steve Miller, Facilities and Land Director, introduced the Stewardship Fund Allocations for 2003-2005 Biennium. The Department proposes to allocate \$37 million to DNR land acquisition, \$8 million to Nonprofit Conservation Organization (NCO) acquisition grants, \$7 million to DNR Property Development, and \$8 million to Local Assistance Grants. The NCO amount is an increase from previous years and reflects the increased need and capacity of the NCO's for Stewardship funds. We have approached our key NCO partners about this proposal and they are in agreement with the Department's proposal. In the Property Development and Local Assistance Program, the \$8 million proposed for Local Assistance Grants the maximum allowed by statute. Mr. Miller presented a handout of the Program Allocations indicating the breakdown areas for Stewardship 2003-05 Biennium.

Discussion pursued regarding grants, sportsman's clubs, and fiscal year information from 2002.

Citizen Participation on this item included:

3.B.2.1. **Bob Horswill**, Presque Isle, representing Last Wilderness Conservation Association and the Nature Conservancy, spoke in support of the approval of the Stewardship Fund Allocations. Mr. Horswill referred to a letter dated September 12, 2003 that was sent to the Board Members from Mary Jean Huston, State Director of the Nature Conservancy. He stated that the Nature Conservancy strongly endorses the proposed allocation of \$8 million in Stewardship Funds for FY 2004 grants to non-profit conservation organizations, also known as NCOs or land trusts.

Mr. Behnke MOVED, seconded by Mr. Tiefenthaler approval of the Stewardship Fund Allocations for 2003-2005 Biennium. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3.B.3. INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Status of Master Plan Revision for the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest.

Chairman Solberg thanked the forestry staff for the tour September 23 of the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest.

Dennis Leith, Forest Superintendent, introduced the Master Plan Revision for the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest (NHAL). With a Powerpoint presentation Mr. Leith reviewed:

- The history of the forest, acres, boundaries, lakes, and counties

- Natural features
- Local residents and visitors
- Explanation of a working forest
- Recreation

Discussion pursued regarding how the Department determines the number of visitors using camping reservations, number of cars at boat landings and trail usage.

Kent Van Horn, State Land and Recreation Specialist, presented the Master Plan Revision for the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest. With a Powerpoint presentation, Mr. Van Horn reviewed the following:

- Map of Wisconsin state forests locations
- Wisconsin Statute 28.04
- Master planning process
- Master plan purpose and scope
- Program integration
- Public involvement from 1997 to 2003
- Public input
- The planning process
- Preferred alternative proposals

Mr. Tiefenthaler requested Mr. Van Horn to return to the previous slide for review. Referring to aspen reduction aspen reduction from 33% to 28% over the next 100 years. **Mr. Van Horn** responded that these were the numbers presented in the preferred alternative. Those numbers decline in the aspen represent the change in the percentage of stands that are dominated by a particular forest type. As we stood out there yesterday the Board saw an area that would be typed oak, for instance, but it had pine, birch, aspen, and other species in it. That is our forest, it is almost always mixed. It is never all one or the other but as you look at the volume out there on the ground it ends up as one type or another. So these changes in percent are the changes in percent that would be typed. The red and white pine, right now they have 11% of the forest would be typed red or white pine, even though they have aspen, birch, and other species in them. We propose to increase the number of stands that actually become dominated by red and white pine and slightly decrease the number of stands that are dominated by the number of aspen over the next 100 years. In the red and white pine dominated stands, there will still be aspen and birch. In any aspen and birch dominated stands there is still going to be red and white pine, oak, and other species. **Mr. Tiefenthaler** responded that what he doesn't see in this plan is jack pine. He stated that there are a lot of jack pine plantations. He asked what the Department was going to do with the jack pine plantations, as a large number of them are being harvested for disease.

Mr. Van Horn responded that the jack pine percentage in the forest is actually rather low, he thought about five percent. In order to maintain that type, basically you would need to clear cut the whole area. It is a species that respond to significant disturbance levels. We hope to maintain at this level. This was described here because what he summarized was what people were most concerned about, the red and white pine, and the aspen.

Mr. Behnke, asked how the aspen reductions in dealing with other species.

Mr. Van Horn responded that this has been a concern with the grouse hunters and other folks that are interested in that species. We don't expect that change to have a significant impact on those populations, the red and white pine is where your basic shift is. You are still going to have white birch and aspen and a lot of the elements that those species depend upon. There are some non-game species that would not like a stand that have an aspen, white birch mix with large pines. They would prefer a wide open area. Those species would not do well in this mixed forest setting that we are managing. For other species, like grouse, there will still be a lot of aspen and birch out there. Mr. Van Horn explained why species are being reduced.

Mr. Tiefenthaler responded, in looking at a 15-year master plan with a 100-year impact and he requested that the hunting groups are consulted in the final analysis and have input in the final master plan.

Mr. Van Horn continued his presentation covering the following:

- What has been heard on the NHAL
- Next steps to be taken

No action was taken on this Informational Item.

Doug Haag, Real Estate Operations Section Chief, presented the following land items:

3.B.4. Mill Bluff State Park Area land acquisition - Monroe County.

Mr. Behnke MOVED, seconded by Mr. Tiefenthaler, that the Board approve the purchase of 78.41 acres from Scott Trainor for \$183,400 for Mill Bluff State Park and the acreage goal and project boundary be modified to include the parcel in Monroe County, as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3.B.5. Lower Wisconsin State Riverway land acquisition - Richland County.

Discussion pursued regarding the price of the property, whether or not this held a mussel bed; the Board requested more information on the property; the great difference in the two appraisals; and what would happen to the land if not purchased by the State. Mr. Ela volunteered to visit the property and report back to the Board at the October meeting.

Mr. Behnke MOVED, seconded by Mr. Tiefenthaler, that the Board table this item to the October meeting, requesting more information on possible mussel beds in this area and the price involved. The motion was carried by a vote of four to one by those members present to table this item. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

AFFIRMATIVE

**Mr. O'Brien
Mr. Behnke
Mr. Tiefenthaler
Chairman Solberg**

NEGATIVE

Mr. Ela

3.B.6. Statewide Natural Areas (Big and Little Marsh) land acquisition - Door County.

Mr. Ela MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, that the Board approve the purchase of 40 acres from Robert Bjarnarson for \$209,500 for the Statewide Natural Areas (Big and Little Marsh) in Door County, as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3.B.7. Rocky Run Creek Fishery Area and Statewide Natural Area land acquisition - Columbia County.

Mr. O'Brien MOVED, seconded by Mr. Tiefenthaler, that the Board approve the purchase of 81 acres from Arthur and Rosanne Woodward for \$253,000 for the Rocky Run Creek Fishery Area in Columbia County, as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3.B.8. DEFERRED ITEM FROM AUGUST MEETING - Beaver Brook Wildlife Area land acquisition and project boundary - Washburn County.

Discussion pursued regarding the Department of Transportation as a partner with this land acquisition and project boundary.

Mr. Behnke MOVED, seconded by Mr. Tiefenthaler, that the Board approve the purchase of 546.2 acres from Badger Cranberry Company for \$1,350,000 for the Beaver Brook Wildlife Area, expansion of the project boundary to include the purchase, and increase the project acreage goal to include an additional 546.2 acres in Washburn County, as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3.B.9. Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area land donation - Dunn County.

Discussion pursued regarding this area being a hunting resource.

Mr. Tiefenthaler MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien that the Board approve the land donation of 20 acres in Dunn County from Sam and Scott Shane for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

3.B.10. Statewide Natural Areas easement donation - Ozaukee, Dane, and Iowa Counties.

Discussion pursued regarding the gravel pit adjacent to the land.

Mr. Ela MOVED, seconded by Mr. Behnke that the Board approve the land donation of 175 acres in the Thomson Prairie Woods in Dane and Iowa Counties and 31 acres of land in Kurtz Woods in Ozaukee County from The Nature Conservancy. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

4. Committee of the Whole.

4.A. Citizen Participation.

4.A.1. **James Custer**, Port Edwards, representing Heart of Business and Economic Alliance, spoke on the possibility of having an ombudsman position at the WI Rapids DNR Office filled by an Alliance person. He believes that a volunteer Ombudsman would facilitate the permitting process. The Alliance believes that a volunteer Ombudsman to facilitate the permitting process would help attract business to their area and to the State of Wisconsin.

Discussion pursued regarding an Ombudsman, if Board action was needed in such a case, the difference between an Ombudsman and a liaison, finding out what is occurring in other states with regarding to such volunteers, whether the Alliance could do this on their own without workspace, Board felt this was a good idea, structural problems that the Department may need to address if this occurred, and making the process easier for those applying for a permit.

Secretary Hassett responded that this didn't need official action. He thought that a liaison or an ombudsman would have a lot of potential. The Department could work this out with the Alliance.

4.A.2. **John Anderson**, Boulder Junction, representing himself, spoke on permits and the process of permitting. Mr. Anderson reviewed his background with permitting experience. He explained his experience with the Department processing a permit for him. This permit was for replacing a wall on a boat house, presenting a picture of the boat house. He further stated that the process needs to be streamlined to service the public in a reasonable length of time for issuing a permit. He suggested there be a liaison board between the state and the general public streamlining the issuance of permits.

- 4.A.3. **Dick Schreuder**, Boulder Junction, representing Ad Hoc Committee of the Natural Lakes Owner's Association Board. Mr. Schreuder spoke on the water levels of Beaver Lake, McCullough Lake, and Morton Lake in Vilas County. Mr. Schreuder stated that a committee was looking at a possibility of a temporary structure dam at Bob Cat Landing at Morton Lake with moveable boards to control the water level and also the possibility of a three to one land trade with the DNR at this site. Mr. Schreuder stated they need the Department and the Board's help with solving this problem. He stated that in the past four years his association has donated \$4,000 per year to stock walleyes, \$16,000 total, just to see them wash away. Now the water levels are so shallow that the weed growth is unchecked thereby creating low oxygen levels and resulting in fish kills. The other problem that Mr. Schreuder presented was with regard to the Lone Pine Creek area. This property has a control gate for a dam and is being operated as an illegal fish hatchery.

Chairman Solberg asked that Secretary Hassett look into this matter. **Secretary Hassett** referred Mr. Schreuder to Mr. Todd Ambs, Administrator of the Division of Water.

- 4.A.4. **Richard Decker**, Eagle River, representing WI ATV Association, spoke on opening ATV trails in Vilas County. Mr. Decker stated that Vilas County is the only county in the northern part of the state that does not have an ATV trail system. There are five ATV Clubs in Vilas County and they have been working on the ATV trail system for eight years. He spoke of the misconceptions of ATVs. Most ATV riders are looking for a corridor system from the northern part to the southern part of the county and from the east to the west. A trail corridor that could get the ATV users from Vilas County and up into Michigan. He further spoke of the corridor trail from Eagle River to Conover and from Conover to Land of Lakes, which is 25 miles long. Also St. Germaine to Phillips, about 11 miles long. He spoke of the hearing meeting and the opinions filed at the Vilas County Clerk's office, over 4,000 written documents, in which public opinion in Vilas County supported this trail system. He further spoke of noise, emission, and trail damage misunderstandings. He stated that a referendum of the County Commission voted on and the vote was eight to twelve by the Board Commissioners, with the Lac du Flambeau Reservation voted against this issue.

- 4.A.5. **John Schaefer**, Forest Lake, representing himself and the Forest Lake Association, spoke on sucker netting and Eurasian milfoil in Forest Lake. He spoke of his location of living on Forest Lake. He described the area with the forest habitat. He stated that the Forest Lake Owner's Association concerns are that each spring, generally prior to and often during the general sport fishing season opener, the DNR fisheries department places 30 plus large fyke nets on every spawning area in Forest Lake. (Mr. Schaefer referred to his handout which shows the usual location of the nets describing these areas). He further spoke of the danger involved doing this at night. Mr. Schaefer stated that the purposed purpose of this process, which has been going on for decades, is to net thousands of suckers, strip their spawn, and delivering them to the Arbor Vitae area for raising muskie fry. Mr. Schaefer stated that he believes that the invasive Eurasian Milfoil infestation problem, on a statewide basis, poses an even more serious problem than CWD. Mr. Schaefer and his Association requested a total ban on future DNR fisheries department sucker netting programs in Forest Lake. He suggested sharing the program with surrounding sucker filled lakes, work with partners, or build a pond someplace and raise suckers there.

Chairman Solberg requested that the Department look into whether or not the boats are being washed before going from lake to lake. **Mr. Tiefenthaler** asked if the nets were changed when transferred from one lake to another as they are hard to clean. He requested a report on this for the October Meeting.

- 4.A.6. **Mary Grafenstein**, Boulder Junction, representing herself, spoke on her opposition to ATV trails in forests. Ms. Grafenstein stated that she has been visiting the north area for over 50 years. Regarding the issue of ATV and the use of state lands, she stated that she is opposed to any use of ATVs on state land because she has seen the devastation in her neighboring counties. She stated that she would hope that the Department and the Board would learn from other counties.
- 4.A.7. **Bob Wangerin**, Boulder Junction, representing himself, spoke on his opposition to ATV trails in forests. He stated that he is totally against ATV trails in Vilas County. He presented the Board with an article written by Larry Jonas who is an elected supervisor in the Town of Lynne. In this article Mr. Jonas spoke of allowing

ATVs in their area for the past five years and this started an ever increasing problem. Problems of hard to control, impossible to enforce the usage, the complaints and problems to property of taxpayers, county, and village properties is unacceptable. Mr. Jonas stated that he hopes that the decision makers in Vilas County do not make the same mistake that the Town of Lynne did and Mr. Wangerin asked the Board not to make the same mistake. He further stated that Vilas County voted on September 23, 2003, a vote of 12 to 8, to put this issue on a referendum that would be voted on February 17, 2004.

4.A.8. **Jon Iltis**, Boulder Junction, representing Camp Manito-Wish YMCA, spoke in opposition to trails in forests. Mr. Iltis explained what his camp is and what they do. He stated what the impact of not preserving the pristine wilderness lands of Vilas County and state forests would have on his camp. The camp is concerned about the threat of noise pollution and damage to the wilderness treasure that they share with future stewards of natural resources everywhere.

4.B. **Amendment to Approved Willow Flowage Master Plan to allow vehicle access to an additional 1.7 miles of Iron Gate Road in the SE portion of the property during the nine-day gun deer season in November.**

Steve Miller, Facilities and Land Director, introduced the amendment to the Willow Flowage Master Plan. In January 2003, the Natural Resources Board was asked by concerned citizens to review the policy for vehicle access to a portion of the Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area property. Specifically, they requested the second iron gate on the Iron Gate Road, located in the southeastern part of the property, be opened for vehicle access by hunters during the November nine-day gun deer season. This action would require an amendment of the property master plan, which was approved in October 2000.

Dave Daniels, Regional Parks and Recreation Expert, presented the public hearing information and demonstrated where the gate is located. The Department obtained public comments via a meeting in the local area and a two-week comment period. This review was announced in the local news media as well as through a mailing to the 900 name Willow Flowage mailing list. Clearly, the public is strongly split on this issue. Of those who provided comments throughout the public review period (June 21 to July 7, 2003), those who disagreed with the proposal to amend the Master Plan, slightly out-weighed those in favor. The Department recommends not to approve the proposal to open the second Iron Gate during the November gun deer hunting season. This recommendation is based on the fact that this issue was thoroughly debated three years ago in a very open public planning process. The comments received at this time on this proposal provide no new basis for amending the recently approved plan.

Chairman Solberg stated that he had a conversation with a representative of the Lac du Flambeau Tribe and he stated that the tribe was asking for the nine-day hunt. After Chairman Solberg announced this, the Tribe contacted Chairman Solberg to correct this. Carl Allen, representing the Lac du Flambeau Tribe, stated that the stand of the Tribe is for opening the date from the day after Labor Day through December 31.

Discussion pursued regarding T-zone hunting and history of the gate.

Citizen Participation on this item included:

4.B.1. **Steve Guthrie**, Minocqua, representing himself, spoke on the history of the gate. Mr. Guthrie stated that he was the manager of this property for the paper companies from 1988 to 1997. He presented the Board with a map showing where the old gate was in 1990, where the iron gate opened during the gun deer season in 1995 and 1996, and where the new gate was installed in 1998. He stated that the iron gate was always kept locked and 10 keys were checked out per week, with a deposit, by company employees to camp there with their families. The deposit was returned when the keys were returned and the gate was very tightly controlled. When a local family purchased the private property in 1988 there was heavy traffic in this area and that was the reason that the second gate was put in, to protect the road as it was an improved road and they didn't want it ruined. In 1990 the property was sold to folks in Milwaukee and the previous owners did not relinquish their keys to the new owners. The new owners were causing some problems during the gun deer season with the

gate and they actually had confrontations with company employees and the owners. That is when the iron gate

was opened during the nine-day gun deer season, from Highway Y up to the second gate (1995-1996). Prior to that, that gate was always kept locked and tightly controlled. Private owners got to their property with a key to get through the iron gate but not the second gate, having a three year renewable road license.

4.B.2. **Gary Baier**, Tomahawk, representing himself and as County Supervisor of Onedia County District 20, spoke in support of opening the gate. He also attended the meeting in June at the Little Rice Town Hall and there he heard from people that have been long time residents and have been using this gate as a family event every year. Mr. Baier reviewed his family history with the nine-day gun season. He asked that the iron gate be opened for the nine-day gun season. He stated that the State keeps buying land and they seem to cut the property owners off to utilize it. All they are asking for 1.7 miles to get into this area to hunt for the nine days.

4.B.3. **Jim Wise**, Tomahawk, representing the Environmental Concerned Citizens of Lakeland Area (ECCOLA), spoke in opposition to opening the gate. Mr. Wise spoke of the membership of his organization. He stated that if this master plan is amended at this time others will follow to ask for amendments. The history of the gate has been misrepresented by politicians and other elected individuals, that the DNR has taken over the land and that the gate has always been open to the public and it is now closed. However, the opposite is the case. The land always was limited motorized access to the general public, the DNR actually opened the land up for further public access. It is critical that the record be set straight because a great deal of the information used was incorrect.

Chairman Solberg asked if Mr. Wise thought there would be any destruction during this nine-days. **Mr. Wise** responded that he felt there would be.

4.B.4. **Ken Anderson**, Eagle River, as Chairman of Vilas County delegation of the Conservation Congress, spoke in support of opening the gate. He requested to have the iron gate open for the nine-day gun season but didn't want this to be a slippery slope where everyone would be requesting to have the gate open at other times during the year. He then spoke of problems that folks with disabilities have with access to places like this and that this needs to be considered by the Board.

4.B.5. **Lyle Kuckhan**, Harshaw, representing himself, spoke in support of opening the gate. Mr. Kuckhan handed out maps showing the Willow Flowage. He spoke of his family history at the Flowage. He stated that he is in favor of opening the first and second gates during the deer gun season. For safety reasons he feels there should be an ATV trail on the main corridor road over the Pier Willow area to help reduce the amount of ATV travel on town roads south of the Willow Flowage.

4.B.6. **Richard Meehan**, Tomahawk, Chairman of Town of Little Rice, spoke in support of opening the gate. He stated that he attended all of the meetings except the one in Madison. He stated that the gate was not discussed at any of these meetings. He spoke of the gravel pit and he thought the DNR would work with them to get the gravel out but that didn't happen. Mr. Meehan stated that there are several elderly people that would like to get beyond the gate to use this area. He further spoke of folks that would like to get the gravel out of the area but are unable to.

Discussion pursued regarding the gravel and being able to remove it from the area.

4.B.7. **Keith Olsen**, Harshaw, representing himself, spoke in support of opening the gate. Mr. Olsen stated that he is in favor of opening the gate for the nine-day deer hunt. He spoke of the Deer 2000 process. He further stated that this is state land and wanted why folks didn't have access to it. He reviewed his history of hunting in the area of the gate. He stated he felt that access was there previously. He further stated that he has never seen anyone in the area except for hunters. At this point in time the road is listed as no ATV, but there is an ATV trail that cuts through.

Discussion as to what type of access folks are asking for, motorized access, and if opened, would it be susceptible to vandalism.

- 4.B.8. **Arlyn Loomens**, Rhinelander, representing himself, spoke in support of moving the gate back to where it was. Mr. Loomens stated that he is a retired DNR employee with his last assignment as the Land Basin Leader which included the Willow Flowage Lands. He was also the co-leader of the master plan team. As a result he feels that he has played a major part in the planning process. Almost immediately after the Willow Flowage Lands were purchase, 1997, a local meeting with the intent to discuss interim management plans before the master plan was completed. More than 200 people showed up for this meeting and it became apparent to the DNR staff that access was going to be an issue. There were people representing snowmobile clubs, ATV clubs, resort owners, and hunters that said the road should be opened. Others said to leave it at the present point of 1.7 miles back. Still others said that the road should be closed at Highway Y and not allow access at all. This is a true wilderness area and there aren't any true wilderness areas in the State. The Willow Flowage is remote and a wilderness. A compromise with the folks that wanted to open the gate all the way to McCord Road and those that wanted to shut it at Highway Y. DNR made the decision to leave the gate open to the traditional site which had been open for 30 years. He then discussed the master plan process. The most controversial issue of the master plan was the gate issue. More hunters and citizens wanted more access. Mr. Loomens stated that it is his opinion, primarily to the persistent efforts of ECOLA another compromise was made. That compromise was to move the gate further back 1.7 miles to the area where the ATV trail crosses the Iron Gate Road and this was the final compromise. This is where the gate currently exists. Mr. Loomens' recommendation was to open the portion where it now exists back to the traditional spot for only the nine-day gun season.
- 4.B.9. **Jerry Wojner**, Abbotsford, representing himself, spoke in support of removing the second gate and opening the other gates. Mr. Wojner spoke of his hunting and fishing history being brought up on the west side of the Willow Flowage. He stated that during that time he could drive anywhere during the deer gun season. He stated that he felt the meetings on the master plan were a waste of time, that over 90% of the people attending these meetings wanted access. He favors taking the second gate out completely. He personally can't get back in that area to hunt unless he takes a boat across the Flowage. He further spoke of the meetings where the DNR stated that there would be access and the gravel pits would be accessible and that didn't happen. Mr. Wojner stated that with the state buying the land, it belongs to the people, but they don't have access.
- 4.B.10. **Dave Kuckkan**, Lake Mills, representing himself, spoke in support of opening the gate. Mr. Kuckkan urged he Board to support opening the gate for the sportsmen nine-day gun season. He spoke of the meetings on the master plan, however, he stated that he felt that so many things they talked about seem to have been decided before the whole process was started. He stated that the folks at the meetings were told they would get more trails for ATVs and have access but it didn't happen. Mr. Kuckkan read from the Wausau Daily Harold regarding the master plan. He spoke of hunting and fishing fees. He stated that they had been monitoring the trails for walkers and there aren't any. He stated that 99% of the folks at the meetings wanted the gate open. He wanted to know why the state would spend \$9.8 million and not let people use it. He then quoted a news article from the Milwaukee Journal dated August 21, 1999 quoting George Meyer regarding this wilderness area.
- 4.B.11. **Norm Poulton**, Tomahawk, representing Environmentally Concerned Citizens of Lakeland Area (ECCOLA), spoke in opposition to opening the gate. Mr. Poulton stated that ECCOLA was not the only group that requested to keep the gate closed. He stated that for the people that say they lost access they are wrong. Because of the Willow Plan these people have gained 3.2 miles of access. For those people that don't want to walk, they can hunt the 3.2 miles. He attended all the public hearings on the Willow and no one there was old or disabled and they did not ask for this. He feels this is a foot in the door to use the elderly or the disabled to get access. Mr. Poulton stated that he testified at the Little Rice Meeting and he was interrupted on numerous occasions for simply telling the truth. He asked about the traditional deer hunter and talked of what the traditional deer hunter is. The grouse hunters are happy that the gate is there. He stated they counted 37 vehicles parked at the Iron Gate Road on the opening day of deer season. There is also access from the other end and they can come in by boat. We are talking about 1.7 miles. Those that talk about going through with

snowmobiles and ATVs, they were doing so illegally. In 1998 the gate on Highway Y was torn off, this was criminal activity. He feels this is a foot in the door, just to get this opened, there will be people wanting this open for bear season, for ATVs, and special interest groups. Mr. Poulton stated that the citizens speaking here

Full Board Minutes - September 24, 2003 Page 12.

today are not the traditional deer hunter. He stated that he has seen quite a few hikers and grouse hunters in the area.

- 4.B.12. **Leon Kroening**, Harshaw, representing himself, spoke in support of opening the gate. Mr. Kroening reviewed his hunting and fishing history on the Willow Flowage during the 1950s. He stated that the area was closed but they had access by motor vehicle to what is now the second gate. He spoke of the meetings and that he attended all of them except the one in Madison. He further stated that there was never a mention at any of these meetings about moving that gate. His problem with the gate is 1.7 miles each way, not just one way. People that have private property can drive that 1.7 miles. The DNR stated they enforce that they can drive to he second gate. He stated that when he went bird hunting he found that second gate was opened for those that have a key. He stated that his problem is with the private property. Mr. Kroening stated that gated public property is no different than posted private property. He urged the Board to open the gate for the nine-day gun season and for the bow season.
- 4.B.13. **Robert Buska**, Wausau, representing himself, spoke in support of opening the gate. Mr. Buska stated that he owns the property closest to the iron gate. He stated that he felt hunters were misinformed at the meetings and there was never any mention of a locked gate. He further stated that the citizens have a right to the property and should have access to it.
- 4.B.14. **Todd Rebek**, Little Rice, representing himself, spoke in support of opening the gate for hunting. Mr. Rebek stated that he has lived on Willow Dam Road for approximately eight years. He stated that in the last few years, since the State has purchased the Flowage, he has seen a great increase in the use of the area, mostly for fishing. Open fishing weekend in May he stated that one can hardly drive down this area because of the vehicles and boats lined up down the road. He stated that he doesn't see people hiking in the woods, he does see hunters and people walking along the road area. He stated that the majority of the people he sees are boating and camping on the islands or at the campsites. He further stated that he has seen more hunters at this site and he estimated at one point there were 100 hunters hunting in this area between the gates at one time. He then explained the process of walking the long distance with a deer stand, pulling a deer, carrying a gun, and other equipment just to hunt the land in the back of the second gate. He feels that more people are hunting closer to the roads because of the second locked gate. He then spoke of the hearing meetings. Mr. Rebek stated that he felt the folks at the meetings weren't listening to the hunters. He stated that he would like to open the gate another 1.7 miles to give the hunters the opportunity to shoot more deer.
- 4.B.15. **Steve Oestreicher**, Harshaw, representing the Conservation Congress, spoke in support of opening the gate. Mr. Oestreicher spoke of contacts by Mr. Jerry Weier and Mr. Lane Webster in December 2002 regarding the second iron gate on Iron Gate Road, which is located off County Highway Y on the Willow Flowage property. Mr. Webster spoke to the Board last February on this very same issue and expressed his concern to the Board at that time. These gentlemen have inquired as to why the second gate could not be opened to allow vehicle access during the nine-day deer gun season. Mr. Oestreicher further stated that in January 2003 he requested to the Natural Resources Board require the Department to hold a public hearing on this issue in order to obtain citizen input. The Department responded by holding a public hearing on June 21, 2003, which was followed by a two week comment period. Many that testified were also involved in the master planning process for the Willow Flowage. That day only one person spoke in opposition to the proposal to opening the locked gate. He stated that after he consulted with the Congress Vice-Chair and Congress Secretary, it was decided that the Conservation Congress would support the opening of this locked gate during the nine-day gun season. Today the Department is recommending that the Board deny this request. Mr. Oestreicher stated that the Department's concern is the integrity of the master planning process, that the master plan can be easily changed by a minor number of people. Mr. Oestreicher urged the Board to approve opening the gate for the nine-day deer gun season.

- 4.B.16. **Carl Allen**, of the Lac du Flambeau Tribe, requested a few minutes to speak to the Board and was granted five minutes by Chairman Solberg. Mr. Allen reaffirmed that the Tribe is requesting to have the iron gate open from the day after Labor Day until December 31.

Chairman Solberg reiterated that the Department's recommendation is to not approve the opening of the gate for the deer gun season.

Mr. Tiefenthaler, stated that they just listened to a great deal of testimony and one of the main points in opposition was setting a precedent. He stated that he thinks mistakes are made from time to time on a lot of master plans and different plans and they need to be adjusted. This was a grave mistake, putting this gate in here because people were not aware of it. For one week, this is one of the most reasonable compromises that he has heard of on this type of an issue. As far as closing it off, we have heard from two people from the same organization stating they don't want to open this and we are talking about 1.7 miles during the nine-day deer season, walking in solitude for those nine-days didn't make any sense to him. He stated that he walks in solitude all the time and he can find several areas where he can walk. The issue of having staff recommend against this was troublesome to him. He doesn't think that the staff have been honest with themselves. He has heard this time and time again. There was vehicle access for ATV's before this master plan and he stated that he feels there is more to this issue and he stated that he is going to vote to open the gate for the nine-day deer gun season.

Mr. Tiefenthaler MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, approval of the amendment of the Approved Willow Flowage Master Plan to allow vehicle access to an additional 1.7 miles of Iron Gate Road in the SE portion of the property during the nine-day gun deer season in November.

Chairman Solberg, called for discussion on this matter.

Mr. Behnke responded, just to clarify a point, he stated that he could understand why the Department would recommend, as they do, because to recommend otherwise would lead to, on their part, he thought, a complete review of the master plan and it would open a door to get that done. He could understand, no matter how they feel about this, that they would recommend that the Board stay with the master plan that went through the planning process, the public hearing process, and he thinks there is a distinct difference between that approach and the Board taking the action to make a minor amendment to the plan. The Board taking this action today does not constitute any reopening or reexamination of the entire plan, it is merely a minor amendment. He thought it appropriate that the Department recommended what they did.

Mr. Ela, stated that he is sympathetic to what he heard today, but the day after he was appointed to this Board he received a telephone call from a family friend saying that now we can change a decision that the Board made last December. He responded, no it is the duty of the Natural Resources Board to look at the situation, analyze the facts, make a decision, and then move on. He stated that he views this as somewhat the same type of situation. If he had been on this Board in October 2000 he probably would have voted to have the road open during the gun season because the arguments heard here were persuasive, particularly the one accommodating an aging population. He thinks that the Department needs to have some procedures in place. He stated the he will probably abstain rather than vote against it. But he feels that it is a serious issue and that the Department is right to be concerned. He stated that under Board Member Matters he would request that the Department and Board review how binding a master plan should be considered, and establish procedures for when and under what circumstances it is appropriate to alter a master plan.

Mr. O'Brien, responded that he doesn't look at this as being as Mr. Ela states. We look at amending laws all the time and if we amend this plan every three years to make adjustments. We are not setting any precedent, we are accommodating the needs of the citizens. He feels it is an appropriate amendment to the plan, particularly after hearing from the people, meeting the people's wishes, we are meeting the people's needs, and we are properly utilizing resources at the same time.

Mr. Behnke responded that he thinks what Mr. Ela is asking for is something that has already been established. There comes a period of time when a master plan is adopted, it will stand for three years, five years, or ten years and then it is reviewed. But in the process, as Mr. O'Brien points out, obviously there needs to be some kind of mechanism in place as time goes on, as circumstances present themselves, that probably were not in due consideration at the time or conditions have changed. He thinks that if they want a further
Full Board Minutes - September 24, 2003 Page 14.

review of how a master plan evolves or what happens to it later, he feels that is a good idea. But, they are not going contrary to anything that hasn't been a practice.

Mr. Ela, responded, that it was his understanding that the testimony heard today was essentially identical to that heard during the master planning process in 2000.

Mr. Behnke stated that his point was in a review of a master plan circumstances change and adjustment sometimes need to be made.

The motion was carried with one abstaining. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

<u>AFFIRMATIVE</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Ela
Mr. Behnke	
Mr. Tiefenthaler	
Chairman Solberg	

4.C. Apostle Islands Wilderness Proposal Resolution.

Laurie Osterndorf, Administrator, Division of Land, presented the Apostle Islands Wilderness Proposal Resolution. Ms. Osterndorf read the resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, since its establishment in 1970 the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore has been an outstanding natural resource available to the people of the state of Wisconsin, and

WHEREAS, in 1975 the Wisconsin legislature declared that "it is the policy of the legislature that the Apostle Islands be managed in a manner that will preserve their unique primitive and wilderness character . . . (to) ensure that the citizens of this state will be assured the opportunity for wilderness, inspirational primitive and scenic experiences in the Apostle Islands into perpetuity," and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service has managed the great majority of the land within the National Lakeshore as wilderness, and has recently completed a study recommending that this management philosophy be made permanent by enacting statutory wilderness dedication for most of the Apostle Islands' land base, and

WHEREAS, former Wisconsin Governor and United States Senator Gaylord Nelson was directly responsible for the establishment of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, and has been for four decades one of the nation's leading advocates for protecting wilderness values throughout the United States,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board recommends to the United States Congress that it pass legislation to enact wilderness status for the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, excluding those lands currently managed for non-wilderness uses and one or more sites of historical and cultural significance where future interpretation would be significantly hindered by wilderness designation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board recommends that the unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System created within the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore be named the Gaylord Nelson Wilderness.

Approved on this 24th day of September 2003 by the Natural Resources Board at its meeting in Boulder Junction, Wisconsin.

Full Board Minutes - September 24, 2003

Page 15.

Citizen participation on this item included:

- 4.C.1. **Bob Krumenaker**, Bayfield, representing National Park Service, spoke in support of the Resolution. Mr. Krumenaker reviewed the steps taken during the process of this resolution with the Apostle Islands and the groups they have meet with. Expressions of support have come from the Mayors of Ashland and Bayfield, City Council of Bayfield, Bayfield Chamber of Commerce, Chequamegon Democratic Community, the General Federation of Women's Clubs Local Chapter, the National Parks Association, and the Duluth Power Squadron. The Town of Russell has come out against this resolution.

Mr. Ela MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien, approval of the resolution for the Apostle Islands Wilderness Proposal. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

- 4.D. **INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Presentation on living in an environment surrounded by state forests.**

Jeffrey Long, Town Chairman of Boulder Junction, presented an informational item on current issues affecting state forests and community towns. He reflected on forest road aides in lieu of tax payments and access to leases for municipal recreational use. He referred to several areas that Boulder Junction leases from the Department. He spoke of the need for economic development. Mr. Long spoke of moving the boundary of 400 acres that Boulder Junction asked from the forest boundary. He stated that this area has just had its second growth of jack pine removed due to disease and tremendous fire danger to the town. It is an area where the sandy soil is so poor for growing anything, it will most likely grow into another jack pine forest bringing the same great danger as in the past. Mr. Long asked the Board and Department to consider moving that boundary that is directly adjacent to their developed community. Some type of recreation use can be developed in that area to provide public recreation and serve as a buffer that will serve everyone much better. He then spoke of hunting and fishing regulations and the changes regarding muskie size limits that do not have scientific backing. He stated that these changes have been requested by groups to serve their own interests. He asked that these changes be cautiously considered. He stated that strong input regarding these changes because of the consequences that these rules might have to the economy. Mr. Long asked that the Boulder Junction needs be considered. He feels that the stronger they make their partnership, the Department and Boulder Junction, with each other the more efficiently they can satisfy customer needs, educate people of the importance of the natural world, and maintain the balance between the forest and their community health.

Mr. Tiefenthaler commented that there have been computer studies done regarding jack pine. He commented that if there were a strong wind the town of Boulder Junction could be destroyed easily. He suggested that the Department and the Board take a look at this.

Mr. Ela requested a summary of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT Program).

No action was taken on this informational item.

- 4.E. **Retirement Resolutions.**
4.E.1. Russell Heizer.
4.E.2. David Herrick.
4.E.3. Linda Jahns.
4.E.4. Lawrence Jonas.
4.E.5. Marilyn Kitten.
4.E.6. John Koch.

- 4.E.7. Richard Koch.
- 4.E.8. Dan Ryan.
- 4.E.9. Stephen Schlimgen.
- 4.E.10. O. Jerry Waters.

Secretary Hassett reviewed the careers of each retiree and commended them for their excellent years of service to the Department and the State of Wisconsin. Mr. Behnke MOVED, seconded by Mr. Tiefenthaler, approval of the Retirement Resolutions, as presented. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

Chairman Solberg called upon Linda Jahns for a presentation of the Governor's Plaque for her retirement.

4.F. **INFORMATIONAL ITEM - Update report on the Northern Initiatives, A Strategic Guide for DNR Management in Northern Wisconsin.**

No action was taken on this informational item.

5. **Board Members' Matters.**

5.A. **Herbert Behnke** - Requested a response to an e-mail received from Tom Scheid, reindeer farmer, regarding rules for movement of captive wildlife, speaking to CWD. Mr. Scheid requested the number of whitetail deer that have been moved from current CWD zones by the DNR that have been unsuccessful. **Secretary Hassett** responded that this e-mail had been forwarded to Mr. Hauge.

5.B. **Jonathan Ela** - Requested that staff present a summary of current policy for review of master plans, with recommendations for establishing guidelines for the circumstances under which master plans should be reviewed, and expressed hope that the Board might receive this summary in three or four months. He also stated that he would visit Lower Wisconsin State Riverway land acquisition in Richland County (the tabled item 3.B.5. of today's meeting), and report back to the Board with information at the October meeting.

5.C. **Gerald O'Brien** - Stated that he has been contacted by citizens regarding milfoil problems and why the DNR keeps taking suckers from Forest Lake. Mr. O'Brien would like staff to follow through on these items and report back to the Board.

5.D. **Stephen Willett** - Absent.

5.E. **Howard Poulson** - Absent.

5.F. **James Tiefenthaler** - Stated that all Board Members received a letter from citizen regarding a deer farm that has one way fences. Mr. Tiefenthaler requested that DNR staff look into this situation and report back to the Board. He presented pictures of these fences.

5.G. **Chairman Solberg** - Stated that Mike Allen of the Lac du Flambeau Tribe misspoke last evening regarding the tribe's position of the iron gate. The tribe's stand is that they would like the gate open from September, the day after Labor Day, until December 31. Also, Chairman Solberg stated that he received a letter and a certificate from Manitoba, where he went fishing. He would like the staff to look into possibly using such devices for tourism advertising for Wisconsin. He presented these items to Secretary Hassett for follow-up with staff and possibly with the Department of Tourism.

6. **Special Committees' Reports**

There were no Special Committees' Reports.

7. Department Secretary's Matters.
7.A. DONATION - from the Milwaukee County Park People for a gift of \$15,000 for aiding in the production and publishing of "Invading Weeds".

Mr. Tiefenthaler MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien acceptance of the donation. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

Full Board Minutes - September 24, 2003

Page 17.

- 7.B. DONATION - from an anonymous donor for a gift of \$10,000 for the Wildlife Management Program to be used to support the DNR's State Game Farm and for pheasant propagation and release onto state lands.

Mr. O'Brien MOVED, seconded by Mr. Ela acceptance of the donation. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

- 7.C. DONATION - from Jackson County Wildlife Fund for a gift of \$5,000 for construction activities designed to improve fish habitat and public access at Teal Flowage located in Black River State Forest.

Mr. Tiefenthaler MOVED, seconded by Mr. O'Brien acceptance of the donation. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

- 7.D. DONATION - from Lake Koshkonong Recreation Association for a gift of \$12,000 to benefit conservation projects on Lake Koshkonong.

Mr. O'Brien MOVED, seconded by Mr. Behnke acceptance of the donation. The motion was carried unanimously by those members present. (Mr. Poulson and Mr. Willett were absent)

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The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.