Form 1100-001
(R 2/07)

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Item No. 7.A.11

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution for Dr. Ronald H. Laessig, Former Director of Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

FOR: JUNE **BOARD MEETING**

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Jack Sullivan

SUMMARY:

The Department would like to recognize former Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Director Dr. Ronald H. Laessig. Dr. Laessig recently retired from over thirty years of service to the State of Wisconsin and provided very good support to the Department of Natural Resources. A resolution will be prepared prior to the June NRB meeting and presented to Dr. Laessig in Waukesha.

RECOMMENDATION: Present Resolution to Dr. Ronald H. Laessig

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

No	☑	Fiscal Estimate Required	Yes	☐	Attached
No	☑	Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required	Yes	☐	Attached
No	☑	Background Memo	Yes	☐	Attached

APPROVED:

Bureau Director, — Date 5/18/07

Administrator, — Date 5/18/07

Secretary, Scott Hassett — Date 5/21/07

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/5

Retirement Resolution

Dr. Ronald H. Laessig retired as Director of the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene on January 4, 2007, after ably serving the citizens of the State of Wisconsin for more than 40 years. The State Laboratory of Hygiene celebrated its centennial anniversary in 2003, and after 100 years that the laboratory has served Wisconsin, Dr. Laessig was only the sixth director – a testament to the constancy of that institution.

As the Director of the State Laboratory of Hygiene, Dr. Laessig served as a strong ally, partner, and supporter of the Wisconsin Department of Resources. Dr. Laessig championed many synergistic and collaborative links between the University of Wisconsin and state agencies. Dr. Laessig is an unfailing supporter of environmental health, and keenly understands the linkage between human and environmental health. The DNR has participated on the Lab's Board of Directors for many years, and is acutely aware of the important contributions the Lab has made to the health of Wisconsin citizens under Dr. Laessig's leadership.

Dr. Laessig's vision and leadership positioned the Laboratory to respond to DNR needs, both routine and unforeseen such as water, fish, and remedial site testing, and special project support. Under Dr. Laessig's direction, the Lab supported DNR's work to address Chronic Wasting Disease in the form of data and sample tracking systems, which ensured that the information provided to the DNR and to hunters was of the highest possible quality.

Dr. Laessig's career is distinguished by many awards and his personal involvement in many associations and University Programs and the Department. His dedication to supporting public health and the environment and his collaboration with the Department of Natural Resources in his capacity as Lab Director will truly be missed.

WHEREAS, Ronald H. Laessig has faithfully served the people of the State of Wisconsin in an exemplary manner and was a strong partner with the Department of Natural Resources, and thus has earned the commendation due an exemplary public employee;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Natural Resources Board at its June, 2007 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resource Board

Christine Thomas, CHAIR