

**NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

**SUBJECT:** RETIREMENT RESOLUTION FOR ALEXANDER T J OLSON

**FOR:** JUNE, 2007 **BOARD MEETING**

**TO BE PRESENTED BY:** SCOTT HASSETT

**SUMMARY:**

After 30 years of service to the Dept. of Natural Resources and the citizens of the state of Wisconsin, Alex Olson will retire as of June 2, 2007.

He has served the people of the State of Wisconsin faithfully and well in the performance of duties and has earned the commendation due an exemplary public employee.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:**

- No  Fiscal Estimate Required
- No  Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required
- No  Background Memo

- Yes  Attached
- Yes  Attached
- Yes  Attached

**APPROVED:**

Lloyd J. Argen  
Regional Director,

May 14, 2007  
Date

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Administrator,  
Scott Hassett  
Secretary, Scott Hassett

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
6/5/07  
Date

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/5  
Pam Mickelson, SCR Fitchburg  
Steven Johnston, New Glarus

## ***Retirement Resolution***

Alexander T. J. Olson will retire from the Department of Natural Resources on June 2, 2007 after serving 30 years in service to the people and the State of Wisconsin.

Alex began his work with the DNR in 1974 working as a Limited Term Employee at Yellowstone Lake Park, and as a Special Conservation Warden in Lafayette County.

Alex graduated from University of Wisconsin in Platteville in 1976. His college years were interrupted by a tour of duty in Vietnam, where he served as an artilleryman in the Army. After graduating he was employed as the Chief of Police in Argyle Wisconsin; until June 1, 1977, when he began work with the Department of Natural Resources as a Natural Resources Patrolman in the Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest.

In April of 1978 he returned to the area where he grew up, coming to Cadiz Springs State Park as a Ranger. In 1980, Cadiz Springs was combined with the Browntown Public Hunting Grounds and Browntown Oak Forest Natural Area to become the Browntown Cadiz Springs Recreation Area.

During his tenure at the park, Alex formed the Friends of Cadiz Springs, the friends group for the park, established outdoor skills day, and each Autumn conducted conservation tours field trips for Monroe schools. He is also a long term member of the Monroe Parks Board.

His involvement with conservation includes membership in the Green County Conservation League since 1978, and membership in Ducks Unlimited, the Wild Turkey Federation, and Pheasants Forever. He also serves as a Boating Safety instructor and Master Angler instructor.

He is a lifetime member of Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans Chapter III and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10549. He regularly speaks at local schools about his experiences and veterans issues. He is also a 25 year member of the Loyal Order of Moose, and a Master Mason.

To the people of Green County, managing the park was not just Alex's job, it was his life. He was at the park almost every day; you knew it was his day off if he had his two sons with him. He was always known for having the time to chat about the features of the park, fishing, or conservation issues. Everywhere Alex (aka Ole to his friends in Cadiz Springs) travels, he encounters people he knows; and all are fond of him.

***WHEREAS***, Alexander Terrance James Olson 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 June 2007 meeting at Waukesha, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

*Natural Resources Board*

Christine Thomas, CHAIR