Form 1100-001
(R 2/07)

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Item No. 7.A.3

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution

FOR: MAY, 2007 **BOARD MEETING**

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Scott Hassett

SUMMARY:

Richard E. Wedepohl, Dams & Floodplain Section Chief in Madison, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on April 2, 2007. Richard retired with more than 35 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the retirement resoultion to commend Mr. Wedepohl for numerous years of dedicated service to the citizens and resources of the State of Wisconsin.

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:

Russell Rasmussen — April 18, 2007
Bureau Director, Date

[illegible] — 4/20/07
Administrator, Date

Scott Hassett — 4/22/07
Secretary, Scott Hassett Date

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/5

Retirement Resolution

Richard E. Wedepohl, Dams & Floodplain Section Chief in Madison, retired from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on April 2, 2007. Richard retired with more than 35 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

Richard earned his Bachelor of Science and MBA degrees both from UW Madison in 1972 and 1974 respectively. In 1974, he accepted his first permanent appointment in the Bureau of Standards and Monitoring as an environmental engineer. In 1975, Richard was appointed to the Office of Inland Lake Renewal working with lake protection and rehabilitation. This was a rewarding time in his career as Richard is still very passionate about lake protection issues.

Early in the 1980's, Richard made his mark on national water resources policy by co-founding the North American Lake Management Society with other lake professionals. The society's mission is to forge partnerships among citizens, scientists, and professionals to improve the management and protection of lakes and reservoirs for today and tomorrow. NALMS has become a key clearinghouse for information and education related to lake and watershed management.

In 1982, Richard was reassigned to the Water Quality Evaluation Section. In this position, Richard worked on lake studies and water quality standards criteria. In 1984 Richard accepted a permanent transfer to the Bureau of Water Resource Management. He has also served in acting supervisory positions in Groundwater Management, Air Management Endangered Resources and Waste Management during his career.

The spring of 1993 moved Richard into the Planning Unit Leader position in the Nonpoint Source Section. Back in the Water Resources Bureau, Richard worked on the priority watershed program and supervised numerous staff and work activities in this area.

In August of 1997, Richard was appointed the Section Chief for the Dam Safety, Floodplain and Shoreland Management Section. Over the last 10 years, he has worked tirelessly to protect state residents from the dangers of flood events and dam emergencies. Highlights include his leadership of the floodplain program's Wisconsin Waterway Initiative, his role in developing revisions to NR 115, the administrative code covering shoreland zoning and his work in initiating the redrawing state's floodplain maps,

Richard's career with the Department has been extensive but mostly focused on the water resources of the state. Richard cares deeply about the resources he worked to protect and the people who shared his commitment. Richard has always been extremely passionate and dedicated about his work, but is quick to teach others what obligations need to be met and provide the room and latitude to make positive outcomes a reality. His extensive knowledge of water resources and lake management and the history he takes with him will truly be missed. Richard is a well respected co-worker, manager and professional who has made a dramatic difference in water resource management in the State of Wisconsin during his tenure.

WHEREAS, Richard E. Wedepohl 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 May 2007 meeting recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Christine L. Thomas, CHAIR