

**NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

**SUBJECT:** Retirement Resolution for Michael E. DeBrock

**FOR:** MARCH, 2010 BOARD MEETING

**TO BE PRESENTED BY:** Secretary Frank

**SUMMARY:**

Mike DeBrock retired February 12, 2010 after 31 years of service to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

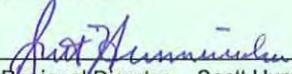
**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt resolution for Mike DeBrock.

**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:**

  
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 Regional Director, Scott Humrickhouse

2.18.10  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

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 Administrator,  
  
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 Secretary, Matt Frank

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date  
3-1-10  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/8  
Colleen Higgins-Eau Claire

## *Retirement Resolution*

Mike DeBrock began his remarkable DNR career in March of 1975 at Rhinelander, working as an LTE Technician in the Department's fledgling Air Management program. His technical skills, positive attitude and ability to think on his feet made an early impression on his supervisor Dale Urso. Mike accepted increasing responsibilities throughout his four year tenure as an LTE.

Mike's talents were recognized and his perseverance rewarded when he was appointed to a permanent position as an Engineering Technician by North Central District Director John Brasch on February 12, 1979. This was a challenging time of rapid expansion of the Air Management program, both in size and scope, and Mike became an important part of the foundation on which the decentralized program was built.

Mike prepared himself to meet these challenges by developing his own leadership and technical skills. He helped pioneer the agency's new engineering equivalency program, being among the first to pass the rigorous qualifying examinations in 1982. With these professional credentials and his demonstrated abilities on the job, he successfully competed for a promotion to Engineer and District program leader in 1983.

Throughout the 1980s and early 90s, Mike was an Air Leader - one of the core team of engineers that worked with Bureau Director Don Theiler to build and guide the agency's Air Management program. Major new statewide initiatives were instituted during these years - sulfur dioxide rules, MOPS, air toxics - and Mike led their implementation as a field supervisor, first in the North Central District then, beginning in 1988, in the Lake Michigan District.

In 1995 Mike used the opportunity of the Department's reorganization to make a lane change in his career. He became a champion for new and improved approaches to customer service delivery, and was central to the development and establishment of the agency's new Service Center model. This was a key factor in Secretary George Meyer's choice to use Lake Michigan District to pilot the operation of the Department's new organizational structure.

Mike progressed naturally into his new role as leader of the internal and external customer service functions in the renamed Northeast Region, then - starting in 2000 - in the West Central Region. Throughout this second half of his career, he continued as strong advocate for Customer and Employee Services. With his thoughtful, thorough style, Mike was highly valued and depended upon heavily by Regional Directors Bill Selbig and Scott Humrickhouse. He finished his career as he was throughout - a respected and influential public servant who made a positive difference.

**WHEREAS**, Michael E. DeBrock 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 March 2010 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

*Natural Resources Board*

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR