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NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

BRIEF OF ACTION

The regular meeting of the Natural Resources Board was held on Wednesday, September 28, 2011 at the Best Western Harborside Inn, 5125 6th Avenue, Kenosha, Wisconsin in the Warf Meeting Room. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. for action on items 1-7. The meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Organizational Matters
- 1.A. Calling the roll

William Bruins – present	Preston Cole – present
Christine Thomas – present	Jane Wiley – absent
Terry Hilgenberg – present	David Clausen – present
Greg Kazmierski – present	
- 1.B. Approval of agenda for September 27-28, 2011

Mr. Bruins MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Kazmierski. The motion carried 6 – 0. Ms. Wiley was absent.
- 1.C. Approval of minutes from August 10, 2011

Mr. Bruins MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Cole. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Ratification of Acts of the Department Secretary
- 2.A. Real Estate Transactions

Mr. Bruins MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Cole. The motion carried unanimously.
3. Action Items
- 3.A. Air, Waste, Water, and Enforcement

None
- 3.B. Land Management, Recreation, Fisheries, and Wildlife
- 3.B.1 Request authorization for public hearing for Board Order CF-16-11, revising chs. NR 50 (snowmobile grant program) and NR 64 (All-Terrain Vehicle grant program) and solicitation of economic impact information

Dr. Thomas MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Kazmierski. The motion carried unanimously.
- 3.B.2 Request approval of Salvage Operations in the Governor Knowles State Forest

Mr. Cole MOVED approval, seconded by Dr. Thomas. The motion carried unanimously.
- 3.B.3 Land Acquisition and Project Boundary Modification – Spread Eagle Barrens Natural Area – Florence County

Mr. Bruins MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Hilgenberg. The motion carried unanimously.

3.B.4 Land Donation – Statewide Natural Area – Door County

Dr. Thomas MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Kazmierski. The motion carried unanimously.

3.B.5 Land Donation and Project Boundary Modification – Brooklyn Wildlife Area – Dane County

Dr. Thomas MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Kazmierski. The motion carried unanimously.

3.B.6 Easement Donation and Project Boundary Modification – Grassy Lake Wildlife Area – Columbia County

Mr. Bruins MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Cole. The motion carried unanimously.

3.C. Scope Statements

3.C.1. Request approval of the following scope statement and to proceed with drafting of the proposed rule: Board Order FH-21-11, NR 19 relating to sport trolling on the Great Lakes

Mr. Cole MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Dr. Thomas. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Citizen Participation

4.A. Citizen Participation
None

5. Board Members' Matters

Mr. Bruins questioned the need for the Department's recent air quality alert related to the Pagami Creek fire in Minnesota.

Mr. Hilgenberg shared concerns he received from constituents on invasive species and the Department's policy of maintaining maximum public access on water bodies. This is a substantial issue for people that live along a lake, the general public, and its impact on the tourism industry and shipping. He requested the Department look into how invasive species issues are identified, the Department's responsiveness to what is occurring in today's world, and whether the Department responds in a timely manner.

Mr. Kazmierski stated that according to Department policy, it is illegal for a hunter to leave a game camera on state land. He inquired if a rule change could be done to give blanket permission for use of equipment. He requested background information on this regulation and that this item be brought before the Board at the October 26, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Bruins requested that deer stands be added to Mr. Kazmierski's request.

Dr. Clausen spoke on three issues.

1) He was concerned with the Department's long-term competitive ability to retain quality employees. He requested the Department work with a to-be-designated Board member to do a study on the Department's compensation package for various entry level and experienced positions as compared to other state governments, universities, and private industry. He would like this report completed no later than March 2012.

2) He received a request from the Department for a special meeting of the Board to act on an emergency order extending the whitefish season. The request did not include a statement of emergency. When he receives the statement of emergency, he will schedule a special meeting.

3) He then reported on a mining conference at Bad River that he recently attended. A broad spectrum of people attended. The conference did a good job of presenting the science. An Army Corps of Engineers presenter went to great lengths to point out that if a proposed mine requires a federal impact statement, the Department should work in conjunction with the federal government on it. He requested the Department look into this combined effort.

6. Special Committees' Reports

None

- 7. Department Secretary's Matters
- 7.A. Retirement Resolutions
- 7.A.1 Scott Boran
- 7.A.2 John M. Bronikowski
- 7.A.3 Derek Duane
- 7.A.4 Thomas Gilbert
- 7.A.5 Robert J. Goerlinger
- 7.A.6 Curtis W. Hare
- 7.A.7 Gloria L. McCutcheon
- 7.A.8 Thomas I. Meier
- 7.A.9 Judith M. Meierotto
- 7.A.10 Jeffrey G. Norris
- 7.A.11 John Pfender
- 7.A.12 Joseph Renville
- 7.A.13 Kenyon M. Rosenthal
- 7.A.14 Greg Scalissi
- 7.A.15 Charles Schuler
- 7.A.16 Susan Scobell Watson
- 7.A.17 Joseph Stecker-Kochanski
- 7.A.18 Kathleen Thompson
- 7.A.19 Steven M. Ugoretz

Mr. Hilgenberg MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Cole of the retirement resolutions. The motion carried unanimously.

- 7.B. Donations
- 7.B.1 The Milwaukee Brewers will donate \$17,595 to plant 150 native trees on the Hank Aaron State Trail

Mr. Hilgenberg MOVED approval, seconded by Dr. Thomas. The motion carried unanimously with an enthusiastic "Go Brew Crew".

- 7.B.2 Waumandee Rod & Gun Club will donate \$15,000 to be put towards trout stream restoration in the Waumandee area in Buffalo County

Mr. Cole MOVED approval, seconded by Mr. Bruins. The motion carried unanimously.

- 8. Information Items
- 8.A. Air, Waste, Water, and Enforcement
- 8.A.1 Blue-green algae in Wisconsin waters: cause and locations of blooms, Department monitoring program, ecology and ecological effects, and human health

Mr. Cole asked what the next steps were on this issue.

Secretary Stepp stated the Department will contact the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on how to address this in a watershed fashion and will come back to the Board with a briefing.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM – NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

- 8.A.2 Update on non-forest biomass sustainability guidelines

INFORMATIONAL ITEM – NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

SEPTEMBER 28, 2011

- 8.B. Land Management, Recreation, Fisheries, and Wildlife
- 8.B.1 Report on the management status of greater prairie chickens in Wisconsin

INFORMATIONAL ITEM – NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

Mr. Bruins MOVED, seconded by Mr. Cole to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

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Natural Resources Board Liaison: Laurie Ross at 608-267-7420 or laurie.ross@wisconsin.gov

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