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## WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

### BRIEF OF ACTION

For meeting at:  
Room G09, State Natural Resources Building (GEF 2)  
101 South Webster Street  
Madison, Wisconsin

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

The hybrid meeting of the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board was held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, from room G09, State Natural Resources Building (GEF 2), 101 S. Webster Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. for action on items 1-4 and 7. The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:47 p.m.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS (0:00:00 – 0:07:54)

A. Calling the roll (0:05:24 – 0:05:46)

Sharon Adams – Present  
Paul Buhr – Present  
Terry Hilgenberg – Present  
Greg Kazmierski – Present

Sandra Dee Naas – Present  
Bill Smith – Present  
Marcy West – Present

B. Secretary's Remarks (0:05:54 – 0:06:50)  
(Adam Payne, Department Secretary)

- Secretary Payne requested that item 6A to be elevated to immediately following the consent agenda to accommodate the friends and family attending for the Rebecca Wallace Award presentation.
- Secretary Payne requested permission to invite Dave Clutter, Executive Director of the Natural Resources Foundation to say a few words in support of their partnership with the DNR.

C. Approval of agenda for February 22, 2023

**At 0:07:25 Terry Hilgenberg MOVED, seconded by Greg Kazmierski approval of the agenda for February 22, 2023 as reordered during Secretary's remarks. The motion carried unanimously.**

2. CONSENT (0:07:55 – 0:50:57)

A. Approval of brief of action from January 25, 2023

B. Acknowledgement of Donation – Friends of Crex donated \$25,000 to support LTEs that work at Crex Meadows

(Adam Payne, Department Secretary)

C. The Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin will donate \$28,931.92 for management of Pool 4 – Pierce County Islands Wildlife Area and \$18,800 to support Cranberry Creek Mound Group State Natural Area.

(Adam Payne, Department Secretary)

D. The Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Inc. will donate \$35,773.80. This donation will be used to support resources within the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Fund.

(Adam Payne, Department Secretary)

E. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) donated \$18,124.00. This donation will be used to fund elk research in the state of Wisconsin, most frequently to pay data fees on electronic monitoring collars.

(Adam Payne, Department Secretary)

F. Request that the Board authorize a preliminary public hearing and comment period for the Statement of Scope for Board Order FH-01-23, for proposed rules affecting chapters NR 25, related to Lake Michigan trawling regulations.

(Meredith Penthorn, Fisheries Management Policy Specialist)

**At 0:10:05 Terry Hilgenberg MOVED, seconded by Sandra Dee Naas approval of the consent agenda for February 22, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.**

6. INFORMATION ITEMS (0:10:38 – 0:40:08)

A. The Rebecca Wallace Award

(Adam Payne, Department Secretary; Phil Rynish, Property Planning Section Chief; Dan Baumann, Secretary's Director, West Central Region)

3. CONSENT AGENDA (0:44:56 – 0:50:57)

B. Dave Clutter of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin spoke in support of the partnership between the Natural Resources Foundation and the Department of Natural Resources.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA – NONE

5. ACTION ITEMS (0:51:08 – 0:00:00)

SCOPE STATEMENTS (0:51:08 – 0:54:45)

A. Request that the Board approve the Statement of Scope for Board Order WM-18-22 and conditionally approve the public hearing notice and notice of submittal of proposed rules to the Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse, for proposed rules affecting chapters NR 10 and 45 related to the 2023 Wildlife Management Spring Hearing rule.

(Scott Karel, Wildlife Policy Specialist)

**At 0:52:44 Terry Hilgenberg MOVED, seconded by Greg Kazmierski approval of the department's recommendation. The motion carried unanimously.**

OTHER APPROVALS (0:53:05 – 1:31:25)

- B. Request approval of the Central Sand Plains Regional Master Plan  
(Phil Rynish, Property Planning Section Chief)

Public Appearances (1:01:29 – 1:17:40)

1. **Doug Hemken**, Madison, representing the Wisconsin Climbers Association
2. **Burton Lindquist**, Madison, representing self
3. **Sharon Schwab**, WI Rapids, representing the Dane County Conservation League

**At 1:18:44 Marcy West MOVED, seconded by Sandra Dee Naas approval of the department's recommendation.**

**At 1:20:28, the Department proposed the following an amendment to page 16 of the plan regarding rock climbing:**

*Rock climbing is considered a traditional recreational activity that may occur on department lands (NR 1.33, Wis. Admin. Code). Bouldering and scrambling, types of rock climbing generally performed without the use of equipment, are allowed on all department lands unless posted closed to all public access. Rock climbing with equipment (e.g., cams, nuts, carabiners, anchors, ropes, etc.) may occur in non-designated use areas on most department lands unless posted closed, except for State Natural Areas where it is allowed only under specific circumstances as provided for in NR 45.13(1)(e), Wis. Admin. Code.*

**At 1:22:26, Terry Hilgenberg moved to amend the motion to include approval of the Department's proposed amendment on page 16 of the plan. The motion to amend was seconded by Greg Kazmierski. At 1:24:50, the motion to amend passed unanimously.**

**At 1:29:50 the motion to approve the plan as amended carried unanimously.**

6. OPEN FORUM (1:31:54 – 1:48:33)

1. **Joe Miller**, Bowler, representing Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe and Shawano Co Land Conservation Department

*Topic: Grant Programs*

2. **Brad Hopp**, Baldwin, representing Crex Wildlife Area

*Topic: Crex Wildlife Area*

7. INFORMATION ITEMS (1:49:18 – 03:39:38)

B. Overview of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress

(Kari Lee-Zimmermann, Wisconsin Conservation Congress Liaison)

C. Wisconsin Conservation Congress Spring Hearing Questions 2023

(Rob Bohmann, Wisconsin Conservation Congress Chair)

D. Overview of Stewardship Funding

(Steven Little, Assistant Deputy Secretary)

E. Lake Michigan Commercial Fishing Board Update

(Charlie Henriksen, Lake Michigan Commercial Fishing Board Chair)

8. DEPARTMENT SECRETARY'S MATTERS (03:39:39 – 03:52:56)

A. RETIREMENT RECOGNITION – Action

1. Wayne E. Hasel, Parks and Recreation, 16 years
2. Randahl J. Besonen, Fisheries Management, 19 years
3. Warden Dale J. Hochhausen, Public Safety and Resource Protection, 25 years
4. Richard E. Rosen, Public Safety and Resource Protection, 28 years
5. Reagan S. Arndt, Parks and Recreation, 30 years
6. Wayne A. Utke, Technical Services, 33 years
7. Philip L. Nawrocki, Technical Services, 41 years

**At 3:44:42 Terry Hilgenberg MOVED, seconded by Greg Kazmierski to recognize the department retirees. The motion carried unanimously.**

B. DEPARTMENT SECRETARY'S MATTERS

1. Acts of the Department Secretary – Real Estate Transactions
2. Deer Season Recruitment Advertisements – Katie Grant

9. BOARD MEMBERS' MATTERS (03:53:00 – 04:04:15)

- A. Board Member Spring Hearing Questions
- B. Board Member Matters

**Sharon Adams**, at 3:53:46, expressed gratitude for collaborations between the board, department, and citizens of Wisconsin.

**Paul Buhr**, at 3:54:25, expressed gratitude for the staff and board members for helping him get acclimated with the board.

**Terry Hilgenberg**, at 3:55:27, asked if there will be a hearing held on the wolf plan. Requested that the recording of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation listening sessions be sent to board members. Expressed gratitude for Diane Brusoe and team for tending to an issue in Shawano promptly.

**Greg Kazmierski**, at 3:59:17, Requested his proposed resolution be brought up for a vote at the April meeting.

**Sandra Dee Naas**, at 4:01:29, provided follow up regarding the use of panoptic in regard to fish populations. Expressed gratitude for Justine Hasz for providing a briefing on this topic.

**Marcy West**, at 4:02:33, None

**Chair William Smith**, at 4:03:00, expressed gratitude for Secretary Payne and his team's dedication to strengthen the partnership between the department, board and citizens.

**At 4:04:27, Paul Buhr MOVED, by Sharon Adams to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.**

**The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:47 p.m.**

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