

## NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

### JUNE 17, 2009 COMMISSION MEETING

Meeting Location: Owl Brook Hunter Education Center, 387 Perch Pond Road, Holderness, NH 03245.

Commissioners Present: E. Orff, R. Phillipson, R. Rowan, T. Tichy, P. Costa, J. Ryan, T. Hubert, M. Kalter, and S. Guaraldi.

Commissioners absent: W. Morse

Coastal Commissioner: vacant

Executive Director Normandeau - present

Chairman Phillipson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., and asked the audience to join in the pledge of allegiance. He informed the audience that the public is entitled to attend all Commission meetings and when recognized by the chairman, may speak on any item on the agenda.

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Phillipson thanked Tom Flynn, Facility Manager and Joshua MacKay, Program Assistant, of the Owl Brook Hunter Education Center, for their efforts and contributions to the meeting.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Commissioner Kalter moved to approve the May 20, 2009 Commission minutes as written and Commissioner Hubert seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.
2. Commissioner Costa moved to approve \$935.00 in memorial contributions in memory of Robert Seitz, an avid outdoorsman, to be deposited into the Pheasant Dedicated Account, for the specific purpose of purchasing pheasants and Commissioner Guaraldi seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative. See below list of donors:

Maryann & Mark Dunn  
Manchester, NH

Maureen Kay Hop & Larry Hergenreder  
Greeley, CO

Sandra & Myrle Morgan  
Candia, NH

Tonya Angwin & Stephen Houle  
Manchester, NH

Donald & Martha McGinley  
New Boston, NH

Jane Cushing  
Concord, NH

Sally Ryan  
Manchester, NH

The East Manchester Fish & Game Club  
Manchester, NH

James Vailas  
Bedford, NH

Stanley & Beverly Ziemba  
Manchester, NH

Shauna & Christopher Gagnon  
Manchester, NH

Brett & Cynthia Gray  
Breckenridge, CO

Mary Ann & Nicholas Vailas  
Bedford, NH

3. Commissioner Kalter moved to approve the final proposal for marine rules relative to changing the recreational size limit for haddock as presented and Commissioner Rowan seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Doug Grout, Chief, Marine Division, reported that this proposal would keep the department concurrent with federal rules.

Commissioner Kalter reported that he attended the public hearing and heard no controversy.

4. Commissioner Orff moved to approve the operational budget consisting of \$124,470 for the Pheasant Dedicated Account as presented and Commissioner Guaraldi seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Steve Weber, Chief, Wildlife Division, reported that the pheasant hearing was excellent with comments in opposition and comments of support. He reported that the comment period ends on June 25, 2009.

Commissioner Costa moved to approve the operational budget consisting of \$168,348 for the Wildlife Habitat Dedicated Account as presented and Commissioner Hubert seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Commissioner Rowan moved to approve the operational budget consisting of \$454,058 for the Game Management Dedicated Account as presented and Commissioner Hubert seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

5. Commissioner Tichy thanked Commissioner Orff for keeping the Nominating Committee motivated.

At this time, Commissioner Kalter moved to nominate Commissioner Rowan for the role of Chairman and Commissioner Ryan seconded. Much discussion ensued.

Commissioner Kalter withdrew his original motion and Commissioner Ryan withdrew his second. Commissioner Tichy inquired whether there were any other nominations to be heard. Commissioner Hubert nominated Commissioner Rowan for Chairman, Commissioner Guaraldi for Vice Chairman, and Commissioner Costa, for Secretary/Treasurer. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

1. Kathy LaBonte, Chief, Support Services, read the monthly Financial Statement dated May 31, 2009 (See attached statement)

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**POLICY COMMITTEE:** Commissioner T. Hubert, Chair; Commissioners; Kalter, Orff, Costa, and Ryan. Commissioner Hubert reported that the committee met the morning of the Commission Meeting and continues to work on policies for insertion into the handbook. He reported that the committee had identified a few policies that need language crafted for.

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:** Commissioner Guaraldi, Chair; Commissioners Tichy, Rowan and Morse. Commissioner Guaraldi reported that the committee did not meet this month.

She further reported that the amendment to HB-45 was removed today. In closing, she reported that to date she had not heard from anyone with comments regarding legislative initiatives for next year.

**RIVERS COMMITTEE:** Commissioner Morse; Commissioner Morse was absent, therefore, no report.

**LAKES COMMITTEE:** Commissioner Kalter; Commissioner Kalter reported that the committee met on May 29, 2009 and had an interesting presentation by James Haney, Professor of Biological Sciences, University of New Hampshire, regarding cyanobacteria. He reported that it has been detected in Willard Pond and Mascoma Lake and is predicted to get worse due to the climate change. In addition, he reported that the next meeting would take place on July 24, 2009. He requested that the Chairman look to appoint another Commissioner to serve on the Lakes Committee as his term expires on June 29, 2009.

**HANDBOOK COMMITTEE:** Commissioner Rowan, Chair; Commissioner's Kalter and Orff. Commissioner Rowan reported that the committee met a few times. He reported that the committee received input from 2 Division Chiefs (Fish and Wildlife). He stated that the committee adopted some of the comments/recommendations, rejected some, and amended some, however, they found the input to be very helpful. In closing, he reported that the "updated version" of the handbook has been put on disk and will be voted on at the August 19, 2009 Commission Meeting.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** This committee was sunset.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Commissioner Costa moved to cancel the July Commission Meeting and Commissioner Ryan seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:**

**COMMISSIONER HUBERT:** Commissioner Hubert reported that he attended the Sullivan County Sportsmen's Meeting in conjunction with his liaison meeting this month. He stated that most of his efforts continue to revolve around HB-45 and stressed the importance that work needs to continue to ensure the Department of Environmental Services has all the information they need. Further, he reported that the Sullivan County Sportsmen's Club wished to thank the Fish and Game Department for all their hard work and felt progress had been made regarding the proposed Wild Goose Boat Access Site. In closing, he reported that there would be a kids fishing derby held at Don Clarke's house in Claremont on June 27, 2009.

**COMMISSIONER KALTER:** Commissioner Kalter reported that he has been attending the Adapting to change meetings. He reported that since his term as Strafford County Commissioner would be expiring soon he suggested that another Commissioner be appointed to attend the very important Facilitators Meetings. He further reported that the Advisory Committee on Marine Fisheries would be conducting interviews for the vacant Fish and Game Coastal Commissioners seat tonight.

**COMMISSIONER ORFF:** Commissioner Orff reported that he took a Legislator on a tour. He reported that he attended the Pheasant Hearing, Sunapee Hearing, Friends of Suncook River Meeting, Handbook and Policy Committee Meetings.

**COMMISSIONER COSTA:** Commissioner Costa reported that she spoke with Senator Sgambati, who serves on the Finance Committee, and provided her with some background information regarding the Wild Goose boat access proposal and reported that she seemed receptive to the idea. She reported that she went on a dinner cruise and Councilor Burton, Gene Chandler, and Jeb Bradley were in attendance. She further reported that she attended the Sunapee Hearing and received calls regarding fish stocking and the proposed Wild Goose Boat Access Site. In closing, she reported that she had received e-mails regarding the milfoil issue and folks are not happy regarding the floater mussel.

**COMMISSIONER GUARALDI:** Commissioner Guaraldi reported that on her way to the meeting she stopped at the Rumney Rest Area as was greeted by a pleasant man who was excited to have received materials from Fish and Game to distribute and educate folks. She reported that things were fairly quiet and that she had been attending the Changing Times Meetings and attended the Pheasant Hearing as well.

**COMMISSIONER ROWAN:** Commissioner Rowan reported that he attended the Pheasant Hearing held in Concord and attended the Sea Herring Hearing in Dover. He stated that the Sea Herring Hearing was an excellent meeting and received a great deal of input. He further stated that he found the hearing to be informative and recommended that all Commissioners attend when they have the opportunity. In addition, he reported that much of his time was spent on HB-45 this past month. He thanked Senator Jeb Bradley, Representative Dennis Abbott, Director Normandeau, Sandy Falicon, Legislative/Rules Coordinator for the Fish and Game Department, and Bill Carney, supporter of the department, for their outstanding efforts on this bill. In closing, Commissioner Rowan reported that he attended the Let's Go Fishing Training to become an instructor, which was very interesting.

**COMMISSIONER MORSE:** Commissioner Morse was absent, therefore, no report.

**COMMISSIONER RYAN:** Commissioner Ryan reported that he received the usual calls this month, mostly related to fishing. He further reported that he has been attended the Changing Times Meetings.

**COMMISSIONER TICHY:** Commissioner Tichy reported that he received calls regarding OHRV issues. He stated that utilizing Ames Farm in Gilford as a launch site for the public has closed and remains to be an issue. In closing, he reported that he received a call regarding Law Enforcement not boarding boats to check for extra lines.

**COMMISSIONER PHILLIPSON:** Commissioner Phillipson reported that he received the usual calls regarding fish stocking and concerns that fish were not being stocked. Steve Perry, Chief, Inland Fisheries Division, reported, "The fish are getting out". He stated that sometimes when a new Conservation Officer comes on board they have a different philosophy on things and do things a little differently, however, the fish are being stocked. In addition, he reported that

there was a Jakes Event held at the Cheshire County Fish and Game Club on June 7, 2009 and sponsored by the Tri-State Long Spurs Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Director Normandeau reported that the Governor signed the Saltwater License Bill. He reported that he went to Ames Farm in Gilford and met with Don Ames, brother Peter, and daughter Denise. He reported that the site could accommodate 200 trailers & parked cars and has 2 deep-water ramps. He stated that the abutters were attorneys and were trying to shut it down. Initially the Ames Family was grandfathered, however, the abutters appealed to the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the decision was overturned with a vote of 3 to 2. The Ames Family is now in debt in the range of \$100,000 in legal fees and is not in a position to appeal to the Zoning Board. He stated that their focus now was to get some summer rentals in to keep business flowing and to help pay some of the legal fees incurred. Director Normandeau reported that the next step was to have a discussion with the Attorney General's Office regarding the potential for leasing the property.

In closing, Director Normandeau reported that the ramp at Powder Mill would be repaired in the near future to address parking issues.

At this time, Colonel Garabedian announced that Kevin Jordan was selected to fill the Captain's position in the Law Enforcement Division and would be starting the beginning of July.

Commissioner Ryan thanked the outgoing Chairman for his dedication and hard work.

Commissioner Phillipson thanked the Commission and staff for their support while serving as Chairman and for the opportunity. He stated that he felt during his time as Chairman good things happened, such as the hiring of a great Executive Director who kept the Department from dissolving.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

At this time, 3:17 p.m., Commissioner Costa moved to adjourn and Commissioner Orff seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Costa, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Phillipson, Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_