

NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

FEBRUARY 8, 2017 COMMISSION MEETING

Meeting Location: NH Fish & Game Department, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301

Commissioners Present: T. Tichy, R. Phillipson, J. McGonagle, T. Baldwin, J. Ryan, V. Greco
T. Hubert, D. Patch, F. Clews, B. Carr and W. Morse.

Commissioners absent/excused:
Executive Director Normandeau – Present

Chairman Tichy called the meeting to order at 1:20 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, the public may speak on any item on the agenda. The Chair reserves the right to limit comment to the extent necessary for the orderly conduct of the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1.) Commissioner Greco moved to approve the January 11, 2017 Commission Minutes as written, and Commissioner Morse seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.
- 2.) Commissioner Hubert moved to approve the below agenda item as presented and Commissioner Ryan seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Donations

Clam™ ice fishing jig rod combos, valued at \$150.00-
50 fly boxes, valued at \$100.00 -
FL-8SE Vexilar Fishing System, valued at \$309.00 -
Fishing lures, valued at \$100.00-

Donors

Tim **Moore** Outdoors, Greenland, NH
Donald Dobrowski, Manchester, NH
Chuck Fitz, Hardwater Guide
John Morahan, Manchester, NH

These donations total \$659.00 in value & are eligible for Federal Aid match.

- 3.) Commissioner Patch moved to approve the donation of up to \$500.00 and manual labor from the Guides Association to put towards safety enhancements at Melvin Village Camp, where Salmon Sunday is hosted annually and Commissioner Greco seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.
- 4.) Mark Ellingwood, Chief, Wildlife Division, came before the Commission to review last month's Ducks Unlimited request relative to ongoing waterfowl habitat management work in Quebec.

Mark reported that at the January 11, 2017 Commission Meeting the Commission unanimously approved a \$10,000 per year funding request for 5 years, for Ducks Unlimited, for ongoing waterfowl habitat management work in Quebec. He reported that at that time, it was intended that funding for the project, which had previously come exclusively from the Game

Management Account, be equally split between the Game Management Account and the Wildlife Habitat Account. Mark reported that upon further review, the Department has determined that the Wildlife Habitat Account can only be used for projects within the State of New Hampshire (RSA 214:1-f, section VII). As a consequence, the Department respectfully requests Commission approval to pay the \$10,000 annual commitment to Ducks Unlimited for the next 5 years from the Game Management Account, which has no restriction (RSA 206:34-b).

Commissioner Carr moved to approve the above request and Commissioner Phillipson seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

5.) Kris Rines, Moose Biologist, came before the Commission requesting approval of the department's draft moose permit allocation proposal for the 2017 moose season. She reported that minor changes in the planned allocation of moose permits have been prompted by recently completed data analysis. She further reported that with Commission approval the department can initiate the formal rulemaking process, including the establishment of a public hearing in the region where the change is proposed.

Commissioner Morse moved to approve the proposed reduction in moose permits from 71 to 51 and Commissioner Phillipson seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

6.) Commissioner Patch moved to approve the request to utilize up to \$1,000.00 from the "Sale of Fish Food Account" at Water Management Technologies, to purchase replacement clocks for New Hampton Hatchery's belt feeders and Commissioner Carr seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

7.) Commissioner Greco moved to change the March 8, 2017 Commission Meeting to March 15, 2017, and to hold it at the Owl Brook Hunter Education Center, 387 Perch Pond Road, Holderness, NH, and Commissioner Patch seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

LATE ITEMS:

1.) Commissioner Ryan moved to approve the below donations totaling \$1,175.00 in memory of John Holden, who died on Bond Cliff in Lincoln, NH, on December 25, 2016 and Commissioner McGonagle seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Mary Ellen Boyle -	\$20.00
Jane Grady -	\$25.00
Annette Posell -	\$40.00
Nancy Pope -	\$50.00
Ronald & Catherine Rosenstock -	\$50.00
Mark & Janice Fuller -	\$50.00
Ben & Erika Schneider -	\$100.00
David & Sara Hingtgen -	\$100.00

Patrick & Elizabeth Boylston -	\$100.00
John & Lana Rautenberg -	\$100.00
Kathleen Clonan -	\$140.00
Richard & Cynthia Holden -	\$200.00
Kazim & Ann Qutab -	<u>\$200.00</u>

Total: \$1,175.00

2.) Commissioner Carr moved to approve the following donations, valued at \$4,700, from Daniel DaRosa & the Lopes family, in memory of Gary Lopes, who died in a snowmobile accident 7 years ago and Commissioner Patch seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

1 – 7 ft. x 12 ft. V noise enclosed trailer, valued at \$3,800

6 – Super clamps front & rear to better secure snow machines onto trailers, valued at \$900.00

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1.) Kathy LaBonte, Chief, Business Division, discussed the monthly financial statement dated January 31, 2017 with the Commission.

2.) Jill Kilborn, Wildlife Biologist, came before the Commission to discuss the East Inlet Road proposal. She reported that the Wildlife Division has identified the resurfacing of the East Inlet Road in the Connecticut Lakes Natural Area (CLNA) as a priority infrastructure project for the department and north-country at large. Jill provided the details of the proposed project and stated, “The Wildlife Division tentatively plans to request a formal vote for funding of the East Inlet Road proposal project at the March Commission Meeting.”

Commissioner Phillipson stated, “Doing nothing is not an option. We need to come up with the funds to do this project.”

Chairman Tichy inquired, “Has the department been in contact with the Nature Conservancy, as they have a lot of money and it would be in their best interest to assist.”

Commissioner Patch agreed that it needs to get done.

The Commission suggested that the department get an opinion from the Attorney General’s Office to determine whether the use of the Connecticut Lakes Natural Area Stewardship Endowment Funds is an appropriate use for this project.

Commissioner McGonagle stated, “Good presentation Jill!”

STANDING COMMITTEES:

POLICY COMMITTEE: Commissioners; Commissioners McGonagle & Clews.
Commissioner McGonagle reported that the committee did not meet.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Commissioner Morse, Chair; Commissioners Hubert, Greco, Patch, and Baldwin. Commissioner Morse reported that the committee did not meet, however, the Commission addressed the below bill during the Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Baldwin moved to oppose HB-141, relative to warnings prior to the imposition of civil fines assessed by state agencies and Commissioner Carr seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

RIVERS COMMITTEE: Commissioner Ryan reported that he was not able to attend the last meeting.

LAKES COMMITTEE: Commissioner Clews reported that the committee met jointly with the Rivers committee and discussed legislation.

HANDBOOK & ORIENTATION COMMITTEE: Commissioner Patch, Chair; Commissioner Carr. Commissioner Patch reported that the committee did not meet.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE: Commissioner Greco, Chair; Commissioners McGonagle, Tichy and Phillipson. Commissioner Greco reported that the committee was sunset at this point.

WILDLIFE HERITAGE FOUNDATION: Commissioner Greco reported that the drawing for the “10, 10, 10” raffle raised over \$5,000.

AWARDS COMMITTEE: Commissioners Hubert, Chair; Commissioners Baldwin, Phillipson and McGonagle. Commissioner Hubert reported that the committee met and finalized their nomination selections for the Commission Awards of Excellence.

Commissioner Hubert circulated the slate of award recipients to the full Commission for review.

After reviewing, Commissioner Hubert moved to approve the slate of award recipients and Commissioner Phillipson seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Commissioner Hubert thanked staff involved in the awards process for their time & efforts. He reported that there were more nominations than ever this year, which made it very difficult to select just one candidate. He encouraged everyone to submit nominations for next years' Commission Awards of Excellence.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Phillipson reported that the Commission has had a brief discussion about the potential for building another cabin at Barry Conservation Camp to accommodate the great customer base we have out there. The funding for the camp would come from the Commissioners themselves and the labor as well.

Chairman Tichy asked Director Normandeau to look into this and get back to them.

Director Normandeau stated, "We would need to get permission from the Forest Service and have a discussion with the UNH Cooperative Extension/4-H Foundation, as well.

OLD BUSINESS:

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Director Normandeau reported that the Governor's budget would be public tomorrow, February 9, 2017. He reported that things were not as good as he hoped, however, they could be worse. He further reported that the department would be lobbying the legislature for a little more money.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER BALDWIN: Commissioner Baldwin had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER CARR: Commissioner Carr had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER GRECO: Commissioner Greco had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER PHILLIPSON: Commissioner Phillipson had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER MORSE: Commissioner Morse had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Commissioner Ryan had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER PATCH: Commissioner Patch had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER MCGONAGLE: Commissioner McGonagle had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER CLEWS: Commissioner Clews had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER HUBERT: Commissioner Hubert had nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSIONER TICHY: Commissioner Tichy had nothing to report at this time.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

At this time, 3:11 p.m., Commissioner Greco moved to adjourn and Commissioner Morse seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

James Ryan, Secretary

Approved: _____
Ted Tichy, Chairman