

NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

FEBRUARY 20, 2019 COMMISSION MEETING

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

Commissioners Present: R. Phillipson, T. Baldwin, P. McInnis, B. Temple, C. Hodgdon, D. Patch, R. Green, C. Luppi & E. Stohl.

Commissioners absent/excused: B. Carr

Executive Director Normandeau – Present

Chairman Phillipson called the meeting to order at 1:02 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 McInnis moved to approve the January 9, 2019 Commission Minutes and Commissioner Patch seconded. The vote carried with 7 in favor and 1 abstention (C. Hodgdon).

1a.) Commissioner Stohl moved to approve the January 29, 2019 Special Commission Meeting Minutes and Commissioner Hodgdon seconded. The vote carried with 6 in favor 2 abstentions, (C. Luppi & B. Temple).

Commissioner McInnis asked to clarify his below motion made at the January 29, 2019 Special Commission Meeting, on page 2, to include the words in “***bold italics***”, to read as follows:

Commissioner McInnis moved to be neutral “***until the Commission learns more about the proposed bill***” on CACR-3, relative to hunters’ rights (citizens of the state have the right to hunt subject to laws promoting sound wildlife conservation and management) and Commissioner Stohl seconded. The motion carried with 6 in favor 1 opposed (B. Carr)

For the record, Commissioner Stohl wished to clarify his comment made at the December 12, 2018 Commission Meeting, on bottom of page 2, which should read as follows:

Commissioner Stohl reported that this road would provide access to Coos & Grafton Counties. He stated, “Personally, I will support to build the road to provide better access for my constituents to get to ~~Grafton~~ Coos County from ~~Coos~~ Grafton County.”

2.) Consent Agenda - The following items were grouped together and were noticed as consent agenda items to expedite action on routine matters, which may not require public discussion. The Commission voted to approve these matters as presented. Commission members may remove certain items if further public input or discussion is deemed necessary.

Commissioner Green moved to approve the consent agenda items 2a.-2e., as presented below and Commissioner Patch seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

2a.) The Commission accepted the donation of \$1.00 from Damon Beaudreau, Bennington Fire Department, to be utilized by the Inland Fisheries Division. (Mr. Beaudreau paid \$49.00 in cash for an ice fishing tournament and wished to donate \$1.00 to round it up to \$50.00).

2b.) The Commission accepted the donation of 7 pair of FXR Backshift Speed Boots, valued at \$1,070.00, from Dan & Laurie DaRosa, Mattapoisett, MA, to be utilized by District 1 Conservation Officers.

2c.) The Commission accepted the following donations made to the Small Gifts & Donations Account:

Ronald Brissette, W. Nottingham, NH -	\$ 75.00
David & Grace Mann, Merrimack, NH -	\$1,000.00
RiverMead Retirement Community, Peterborough, NH -	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Total:	\$1,575.00

2d.) The Commission accepted a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from Timothy Feltz, Francestown, NH, in memory of William Feltz, to be utilized by the Game Management Account.

2e.) The Commission accepted a donation in the amount of \$35.00 from Chuck & Wendy Campbell, North Reading, MA, in memory of Scott DeCoste, to be deposited into the Small Gifts & Donations Account.

Commissioner McInnis moved to approve consent agenda items 2f.-2l., as presented below and Commissioner Green seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

2f.) The Commission accepted a donation in the amount of \$50.00 from James Waldo & Susan Mitchell, Dracut, MA, in memory of Robert Edwards, to be deposited in to the Small Gifts & Donations Account.

2g.) The Commission accepted the following donations in memory of Wesley Foote, Manchester, NH, to be deposited into the Small Gifts & Donations Account:

Frederick & Michelle Saam, Derry, NH -	\$50.00
Donald & Diane Foote, Tilton, NH -	\$30.00
Elaine Beauvais & Danielle Maslbas, Manchester, NH -	\$25.00
Joan Fontaine, Bedford, NH -	<u>\$50.00</u>
Total:	\$155.00

2h.) The Commission accepted the following donations in memory of Walter Freeman, Jr., Andover, MA, to be deposited into the Small Gifts & Donations Account:

Richard Bernard, Methuen, MA -	\$50.00
Janet Ellen Graham, Watertown, MA -	\$15.00
Fred Scribner, Rowley, MA -	<u>\$50.00</u>
	Total: \$115.00

2i.) The Commission accepted the following donations in memory of Rosemarie Fisher, Keene, NH, to be deposited into the Small Gifts & Donations Account:

Fred Hamblet, Keene, NH -	\$100.00
Christine Zelazny, Keene, NH -	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
	Total: \$150.00

2j.) The Commission accepted the following donations in memory of William “Bill” Austin, Gilmanton, NH, to be deposited into the Small Gifts & Donations Account:

Susan & Leon Nelson, Andover, NH -	\$25.00
Bake’n Joy Foods, Inc., North Andover, MA -	\$50.00
Mark Austin, Belmont, NH -	<u>\$50.00</u>
	Total: \$125.00

2k.) The Commission accepted the following donations in memory of James Warden Sr., Portsmouth, NH, to be deposited into the Small Gifts & Donations Account:

Robert & Linda Stewart, Dover, NH -	\$100.00
Lafayette Road Residents Association, Portsmouth, NH -	\$ 25.00
Andrea Papoutsy & United Arts Team at Rye Elementary School, Portsmouth, NH -	<u>\$ 35.00</u>
	Total: \$160.00

2l.) The Commission accepted the donation of 13 used ice fishing traps, valued at \$100.00, from Robert L’Heureux, to be utilized by the “Let’s Go Fishing Program.”

3.) Commissioner Green moved to approve utilizing \$1,273.76 from the “Sale of Fish Food Account”, to purchase 2 new 450 gallon polyethylene rearing tanks from Pentair Aquatic Ecosystems Inc., for the Warren Fish Hatchery and Commissioner Baldwin seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

4.) Kris Rines, Moose Project Leader, came before the Commission requesting the adoption of the Department’s 2019 Moose Permit Allocation recommendations for the 2019 moose hunting season.

After a brief slide presentation, Commissioner Patch moved to adopt the Department’s 2019 Moose Permit Allocation recommendations as presented and Commissioner Stohl seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

5.) Commissioner Baldwin moved to accept the donation of \$150.00 from the below individuals, in memory of John “Jack” Holden, who passed away on December 25, 2017, on Mt. Bond Cliff, to be utilized by the Department’s Search & Rescue Team, and Commissioner Hodgdon seconded:

Edward & Sarah Holden
Joceyln & Marjorie Clark

Joe Gerdy

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1.) Director Normandeau reviewed the monthly financial statement dated January 31, 2019.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

POLICY COMMITTEE: Commissioner Carr, Chair; Commissioners Luppi & Temple.

Chairman Phillipson reported that the Policy Committee did not meet, however, he charged the committee with meeting with Colonel Jordan to discuss the proper use of Commissioner’s badges.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Commissioner Stohl, Chair; Commissioners Green, Hodgdon, Patch & Baldwin.

Chairman Stohl reported that the committee met the morning of the Commission Meeting to discuss pertinent legislation that could affect the Department.

He reported that the committee discussed many OHRV bills and took no positions.

Commissioner Stohl moved to oppose HB-640, relative to establishing a registration fee for canoes and kayaks, and Commissioner Patch seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

RIVERS COMMITTEE: Commissioner Hodgdon reported that the Committee met on January 16, 2019, and joined the Lakes Committee later in the day.

LAKES COMMITTEE: Chairman Phillipson stated that he would like to recommend Commissioner Temple to replace Commissioner Millette on the Lakes Committee.

Commissioner Patch moved to nominate Commissioner Temple to serve on the Lakes Committee and Commissioner Green seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Tanya reported that she would submit the nomination paperwork to the Governor’s Office for Commissioner Temple’s appointment to the Lakes Committee.

HANDBOOK & ORIENTATION COMMITTEE: Commissioner Patch, Chair; Commissioner Carr. Commissioner Patch reported that the committee did not meet. He reported that the committee was working on updating the handbook and encouraged anyone with changes/additions, to submit them at their earliest convenience for consideration.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE: Commissioner Hodgdon, Chair; Commissioners Temple, Baldwin & Stohl.

Commissioner Hodgdon reported that the committee met briefly the morning of the Commission Meeting. He reported that he wanted to undertake a “Mid-point review”, to examine the

goals in the plan and to make any amendments. He stated, "I think it's a good time to take a look at where we are at."

Chairman Phillipson responded that he felt that was a great idea as well.

WILDLIFE HERITAGE FOUNDATION: Commissioner Hodgdon reported that the recent Firearms Raffle was a successful fundraising effort, with both Operation Game Thief, and the Wildlife Heritage Foundation, to receive \$9,000 each. He thanked everyone who participated.

AWARDS COMMITTEE: Commissioner Baldwin, Chair; Commissioners Carr & Luppi. Staff Members: Colonel Kevin Jordan, Nicola Whitley, Chief, Public Affairs Division & Allison Keating, Federal Aid Specialist.

The Committee is planning to meet on Thursday, February 14, 2019, at Fish & Game HQ, at 1:30 p.m., to finalize discussions and to vote on award winners.

OLD BUSINESS: Commissioner Stohl inquired as to the possibility of having the Quebec site that tested positive for Chronic Wasting Disease be pointed out on a map for the Commission. Mark Ellingwood, Chief, Wildlife Division, responded that he would be happy to provide that. He believed the site to be at least 150-200 miles from the New Hampshire border.

NEW BUSINESS: Chairman Phillipson reported that he would like to pursue purchasing a Commissioners jacket, honoring the retirement of former, long-term Hillsborough County Commissioner, Walter Morse. He reported that the Commission has purchased these jackets in the past, which normally consist of a green, light weight jacket, with the Fish & Game Department logo on one side of the jacket & the Name of the Commissioner and their years of service on the other side.

Chairman Phillipson stated, "I charge the Treasurer to order this jacket and to keep the board updated on the status."

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER BALDWIN: Commissioner Baldwin commended Mark Ellingwood, Kent Gustafson, Wildlife Programs Supervisor, and Dan Bergeron, Deer Project Leader, for their outstanding efforts in working with the Town of Hanover, to address their deer issues in such a professional manner with a great outcome.

COMMISSIONER CARR: Commissioner Carr was absent.

COMMISSIONER TEMPLE: Commissioner Temple had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER PHILLIPSON: Commissioner Phillipson had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Commissioner Green had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER HODGDON: Commissioner Hodgdon had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER LUPPI: Commissioner Luppi had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER PATCH: Commissioner Patch had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER MCINNIS: Commissioner McInnis had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER STOHL: Commissioner Stohl had nothing to report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Normandeau reported that he was in attendance at the Governor & Council Meeting the morning of the Commission Meeting and discussed permitting and repairs to Downing's Landing in Alton, NH.

He further reported that the Governor & Council approved the purchase of the Ruger & Kimball Hill Properties.

Chairman Phillipson inquired as to getting signage on the Ruger Property moved up on the work schedule. Director Normandeau responded that he would look into it.

In addition, Director Normandeau reported that he recently attended the Lands Team Meeting. He reported that the Department would be shifting its focus toward management vs. land purchases. He stated, "We have a lot to manage!"

He reported that he attended the Governor's Budget Address last week. He reported that agency budget meetings would start to be scheduled soon.

He spoke to PFOA (Perfluorooctanoic acid) concerns in the Pease Air Force Base area. He reported that it was a big problem there, with so many deer in the area there is concern over contamination. He reported that sampling would take place in the near future.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Julia Sinclair, Newmarket, NH, inquired as to whether hiking rescues/incidents were on the rise or decline.

Colonel Jordan responded that rescues continue to be an issue. He reported that things have improved from years past, as there are trailhead people to assist with information/education, however, there is no easy solution.

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Phillipson thanked Tom Flynn, Owl Brook Manager, for hosting the Commission Meeting.

At this time, 2:45 p.m., Commissioner Stohl moved to adjourn and Commissioner Temple seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Carr, Secretary

Approved: _____
Robert Phillipson, Chairman