

NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

AUGUST 8, 2018 COMMISSION MEETING

Meeting Location: Barry Conservation Camp, York Pond Rd, Berlin, NH 03570.

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

Commissioners absent/excused: J. Ryan, B. Temple

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, 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.

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Phillipson welcomed Ray Green, who has been appointed to represent Hillsborough County, replacing long term Commissioner, Walter Morse.

ACTION ITEMS:

1a.) Commissioner Stohl moved to approve the June 13, 2018 Commission Minutes with the following amendment and Commissioner Carr seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Amendment – Page 6 of the June 13, 2018 Commission Minutes, 1st paragraph, should read:

COMMISSIONER PHILLIPSON: Commissioner Phillipson reported that he, along with Commissioner's Millette, Carr, **Hodgdon** and former Coos County Commissioner, Ted Tichy & Wife, Mary, spent time finishing the archery range at Barry Conservation Camp. He thanked Wayne Pascal, Superintendent, Berlin Fish Hatchery, Mary Tichy, for all she did, including providing an excellent breakfast, and thanked all Commissioners who assisted as well.

1b.) Commissioner Carr moved to approve the July 2, 2018 Special Commission Meeting Minutes as written and Commissioner Patch seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

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 Carr asked to remove item 2a from the consent agenda for further discussion.

Commissioner Carr moved to approve consent agenda items 2b-2g, with the exception of 2a, and Commissioner Millette seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

2b.) Commission accepted the following donations in memory of Walter John Niland, of Westmoreland, NH, to be deposited into the Small Gifts & Donations Account:

Joanne & Bruce Smith, Westmoreland, NH - \$50.00
Simplify Compliance, Brentwood, NH - \$200.00

2c.) Commission accepted the following donations in memory of Robert Copeland, of Manchester, NH, to be deposited into the Small Gifts & Donations Account as follows:

Judith Barrett, Manchester, NH - \$50.00
Donald & Millie Aldrich, Hudson, NH - \$50.00

2d.) Commission accepted the donation of \$165.00 in memory of Dr. Court Stearns, of Gorham, NH, from Clare Fox & Nancy Gordon, to be deposited into the Small Gifts & Donations Account.

2e.) Commission accepted the donation of \$50.00 in memory of Ray Angers, from Michele Angers & Thomas Dooley, Contoocook, NH, to be utilized by the "Let's Go Fishing" Program.

2f.) Commission approved the donation of \$100.00 from Douglas Sutor, Jr., of North Sutton, NH, to be utilized by the Inland Fisheries Division.

2g.) Commission approved the donation of \$100.00 in memory of Thomas Lambert, of Jaffrey, NH, to be deposited into the Fisheries Habitat Account.

Commissioner Carr inquired as to whether Consent Agenda Item #2a was a monetary donation or an equipment donation.

Tanya Haskell, Administrative Assistant, responded that it was a donation of equipment (tree stands, harnesses and miscellaneous equipment) donated to the hunter education program.

Commissioner Carr inquired about the Mentor Deer Program.

Mark Beauchesne, Advertising & Promotions Coordinator, responded that the department is instituting a brand new program out of the Owl Brook Hunter Education Center, called the "Mentor Deer Hunting Program".

Commissioner Carr moved to approve Consent Agenda Item #2a below and Commissioner Baldwin seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

2a.) Commission accepted 2 donations totaling \$3,769.73, from the below donors, to be utilized by the Hunter Education Program:

- Donation of tree stands, harnesses and miscellaneous equipment from Pradco Outdoor Brands, Birmingham, AL & Hunter Safety Systems, Danville, AL.
- Donation of \$1,000 from Whitetails Unlimited, Sturgeon Bay, WI, to be utilized for the Mentor Deer Hunting Program.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1.) Director Normandeau reported that Kathy LaBonte, Chief, Business Division, was absent from the meeting, however, stated that Kathy could review the financial statement at the September 12, 2018 Commission Meeting if so desired.

POLICY COMMITTEE: Commissioner Carr, Chair: Commissioners Millette & Temple. Commissioner Carr reported that the committee did not meet this month.

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

Chairman Phillipson asked Commissioner Green to serve on the Legislative Committee and Commissioner Green agreed to do so.

RIVERS COMMITTEE: Commissioner Hodgdon has been officially confirmed as a member of the Rivers Committee.

LAKES COMMITTEE: Commissioner Millette has been officially confirmed as a member of the Lakes Committee. Commissioner Millette reported that he attended his first meeting that took place at Marine Patrol, Gilford, NH, where they discussed shoreland protection, abuses and compliances. He reported that he is looking forward to serving on this committee.

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

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

Commissioner Hodgdon reported that (CORD) The Commission on Resources & Development met regarding the Lake Sunapee Boat Access site (Wild Goose). He reported that the next meeting will take place in September.

Commissioner Stohl expressed an interest in serving on the Strategic Planning Committee. Chairman Phillipson welcomed him to serve on that committee.

WILDLIFE HERITAGE FOUNDATION: Commissioner Hodgdon reported that there was nothing new to report.

AWARDS COMMITTEE: Commissioner Baldwin, Chair; Commissioners Carr & Millette. Committee is sunset at this time.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing heard at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing heard at this time.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER PHILLIPSON: On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Phillipson thanked Mark Beauchesne, Advertising & Promotions Coordinator, Larry Barker, UNH Cooperative Extension Administrator, Barry Conservation Camp and the New Hampshire 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator/Specialist and all of the Barry Conservation Camp Staff for hosting the August 8, 2018 Commission Meeting and providing lunch and a tour of the facility.

COMMISSIONER BALDWIN: Commissioner Baldwin had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER CARR: Commissioner Carr had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER TEMPLE: Commissioner Temple was absent.

COMMISSIONER GREEN: Commissioner Green reported that he attended the Town of Milford Selectmen's Meeting. He reported that there was discussion to start Phase II of the Osgood Pond Project. He further reported that he expressed his concern in seeing this be more "child accessible".

In closing, he reported that he would keep the Commission apprised of any new information as it becomes available.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Commissioner Ryan was absent.

COMMISSIONER PATCH: Commissioner Patch had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER MILLETTE: Commissioner Millette had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER MCINNIS: Commissioner McInnis had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER HODGDON: Commissioner Hodgdon had nothing to report.

COMMISSIONER STOHL: Commissioner Stohl thanked the department for the Becoming an Outdoor Woman brochure. He reported that he heard from Candice Bouchard, of Concord, NH, who could not say enough good things about the Becoming an Outdoor Woman Program.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Normandeau reported the department received notice of violations and intent to file lawsuit under the Clean Water Act from the Conservation Law Foundation, as it relates to water quality permits at the Powdermill Fish Hatchery. He further reported that the matter was referred to the Attorney General's Office.

Director Normandeau was asked to announce that the Trapper's Rendezvous would take place at the Belknap Fairgrounds, Belmont, NH, on August 24 & 25, 2018.

He reported that he had a meeting with the Governor's Budget Director and felt it went well. He reported that he was given targets to meet, with some exceptions.

He further reported that he would not be attending the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Conference, as he put it on hold due to his wife's illness, although she is doing better.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Larry Barker, thanked the Commission for coming to Barry Conservation Camp for the August Commission Meeting. He thanked Mark Beauchesne and Wayne Pascal, Superintendent, Berlin Hatchery, for going above and beyond to assist where-ever needed to get the job done.

Kristina Snyder, audience member, inquired as to the status of the Rockingham County Commissioner seat, James Ryan.

Tanya Haskell, Administrative Assistant, responded that Commissioner Ryan's term had expired and that the Governor's Office has assured her that they are currently conducting a search for a replacement.

Julie Sinclair, audience member, inquired about the potential lawsuit from the Conservation Law Foundation and the monies that the Fish & Game Department donated towards water quality testing/studies in the past.

Director Normandeau responded that the department did, in fact, donate towards the Merrymeeting River Watershed Plan back in September, 2017, to identify water quality problems in the watershed, to propose solutions, and to create a strategy for correcting the identified problems.

Jessica Williams, audience member, spoke to the issue of swimming at boat access sites. She felt swimming was acceptable, although, the Fis.1600 rules address the issue as outlined below:

Fis 1603 USE OF DEPARTMENT-CONTROLLED PUBLIC BOAT ACCESS AREAS

Fis 1603.01 General Standards and Restrictions Regulating Use of a Public Boat Access Area.

(d) Swimming shall be prohibited at all public boat access areas.

Colonel Jordan spoke at length with Jessica regarding the issue and expressed to her that it was a safety issue to swim at boat access sites.

At this time, 2:15p.m., Commissioner Carr moved to adjourn and Commissioner Hodgdon seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Carr, Secretary

Approved: _____
Robert Phillipson, Chairman