

NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

AUGUST 19, 2009 COMMISSION MEETING

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

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

Coastal Commissioner: vacant

Executive Director Normandeau - present

Chairman Rowan 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.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Orff moved to approve the June 17, 2009
Commission minutes with the following revisions and Commissioner
Ryan seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Revisions: (Page 4 of the minutes) "Commissioner Costa", third
sentence should read:

"She further reported that she attended the public hearing
on pheasant hunting; received calls and e-mails regarding fish
stocking and the proposed Wild Goose Public Access Site."

Last sentence should read:

"In closing, she reported that she received e-mails
regarding the treatment of milfoil in the Suncook River in
Barnstead and concerns about the Brook Floater Mussels."

2. Commissioner Phillipson moved to approve items 2a-2f as
presented below and Commissioner Costa seconded. The vote was
unanimous in the affirmative.

2a. Donations made to the Owl Brook Hunter Education Center
totaling \$1,660.00. Donations are eligible for Federal Aid
Match. Donors below:

NH Guides Association	Henry Parker
Helen & Christopher Wilcox	New Millennium Alpaca Farm
Gilbert & Rita Parker	Donation box at Owl Brook
Hunter Ed Center	

2b. Donations to the Hunter Education Program totaling \$250.00. Donations are eligible for Federal Aid Match. Donors below:

Laurette Clark	Sandy & Ron Krieder
Donna & Bernie Knighton	Florence Stearns
Kim & Toby Knighton	Rick LaFaivre

2c. Donation to the "Let's Go Fishing Program" in the amount of \$50.00, from Michele Angers and Tom Dooley in memory of Ray Angers. Donation is eligible for Federal Aid Match.

2d. Donation in the amount of \$50.00 from Jeffrey and Tina Fillion, to be deposited into the Search & Rescue Account.

2e. Donation in the amount of \$2,324.46, from the Nancy Coutu Memorial Fund, to be utilized for fish and wildlife habitat projects.

2f. Donations to the Hunter Education Program totaling \$180.00. Donations are eligible for Federal Aid Match. Donors below:

Richard Brewster	William & Noreen Johnson
Leonard & Anne Bushnell	Malcolm Noyes

Due to time constraints in staff schedules, certain items were heard out of sequence.

3. Julie Robinson, Wildlife Biologist, requested Commission participation in the drawing of the Bow Hunters, Small Game, and Ruffed Grouse Wing and Tail Surveys. Winners listed below:

<u>Drawing</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Prize</u>
Wing & Tail Survey gauge shotgun	Sara Rose, Loudon, NH	Charles Daley 20
Small Game Survey	Charles Kane, Duxbury, MA	10/22 Rifle
Bow Hunter's Mail Survey cert to Brian's Archery	Darren Mallot, Deerfield, NH	\$500 gift

The Ruffed Grouse Society graciously donated the Charles Daley 20 Gauge Shotgun, Sturm, Ruger & Company donated the 10/22 Rifle, and Brian's Archery donated the \$500.00 gift certificate.

3a. Commissioner Costa moved to accept the donation of a muzzleloader from Thompson Center Firearms and rifle from Sturm Ruger & Company, to be utilized as awards for the 2009 Deer Hunter Mail Survey.

3b. Kristine Rines, Moose Project Leader, requested Commission participation in the drawing of 2 names from the 2008 Deer Hunter Mail Survey.

<u>Drawing</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Prize</u>
Deer Hunter Mail Survey caliber muzzleloader	Todd Prevett, Amherst, NH	Triumph 50
Deer Hunter Mail Survey model 7124 30:06	Gary Dashner, Georges Mills, NH	Hawkeye

Thompson Center Firearms graciously donated the Triumph 50 caliber muzzleloader and Sturm, Ruger & Company donated the Hawkeye model 7124 30:06.

4. Commissioner Orff moved to amend Item #4 of the May 20, 2009 Commission minutes to read as follows and Commissioner Kalter seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

"Commissioner Orff moved to accept a 54.59 acre Conservation Easement from the New Hampshire Motor Speedway and Commissioner Kalter seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative."

5. Commissioner Hubert moved to expend up to \$36,500 from the Fisheries Habitat Account, to be reimbursed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, for Phase II of the current research on wild brook trout at Nash Stream State Forest and Commissioner Ryan seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

6. Commissioner Kalter moved to approve the latest updated version of the Commission Handbook and Commissioner Orff seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Chairman Rowan announced that the Handbook Committee and the Vice Chairman would be responsible for compiling the updated handbook into 3 ring binders for the full Commission. Tanya will then compile 1 notebook for each Division Chief and distribute them accordingly. Division Chief's may photocopy the book if additional copies are desired in specific divisions.

Commissioner Hubert inquired as to where the master copy of the disk containing the latest updates would be kept. Chairman

Rowan responded that it would be kept in the Director's Office where the Commission Minutes are housed.

Commissioner Ryan commended Commissioner Kalter for his efforts and contributions to the Commission Handbook. Commissioner Kalter stated that he appreciated the comment, however, stated "It was a committee effort".

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Normandeau reported that the next legislative session was approaching. He stated that he expected to see a few bills that would notably affect the department, such as a proposal to eliminate pheasant stocking and trapping, and possibly bills relative to the proposed boat launch at Lake Sunapee. He further reported that he has been requested by Senator Martha Fuller Clark to provide all materials and information that would have been requested by the Study Committee that was not approved by her committee.

Further, he reported that Biennial Hearings are required this year. He reported that there was discussion to possibly combine a Commission Meeting and Biennial Hearing to be held in Lancaster on the same day. Typically the hearings are held in Lancaster and Concord, and the other could be held in Keene or on the Seacoast.

In addition, Director Normandeau reported that he would be attending a Department Head's Meeting this afternoon in hopes of learning more about the collective bargaining agreement.

7. Chairman Rowan appointed the following Commissioners to the below committees:

Commissioner Phillipson - Policy Committee, Designee to the Wildlife Heritage Foundation
Commissioner Guaraldi - Chairman of Handbook Committee (remain as Legislative Member)
Commissioner Orff - Lakes Committee (replacing Commissioner Kalter)
Commissioner Ryan - Rivers Committee (replacing Walter Morse)
Commissioner Morse - Chairman of Legislative Committee
Commissioner Kalter - (hold over, remain on present committees until replacement has been appointed.)

LATE ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Costa moved to approve the below donations totaling \$150.00 and Commissioner Guaraldi seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Harbert - \$100.00 In lieu of wedding gifts-donations made to Search

& Rescue Account

Kollsman Inc. - \$ 50.00 In memory of Robert Sullivan

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Kathy LaBonte, Chief, Support Services, read the monthly Financial Statements dated June 30, 2009 and July 31, 2009.

(See attached statement)

2. Sandy Falicon, Legislative/Rules Coordinator, updated the Commission on several rulemaking proceedings in progress, including interim rules relative to the boat access and subsequent regular rules; interim rules relative to license revocations and suspensions; rules in Chapter Fis 200 relative to Department's practice and procedures; rules relative to the description of the Department; OHRV rules; and the final proposal regarding youth pheasant rules.

3. Steve Weber, Chief, Wildlife Division, provided the Dedicated Account quarterly financial reports (See attached)

4. Steve Weber provided an overview of the Granite Reliable Power Settlement Agreement and wind farm project in Coos County in which the Department has been deeply involved. Steve distributed a copy of the resolution outlining the mitigation provisions, other obligations, and general terms. He also provided a map of the high elevation mitigation acres. Steve stated that wind energy can be a difficult environmental discussion to have as everyone is in favor of renewable energy sources, although there is a lot of unanswered questions regarding impacts to fish and wildlife. Much discussion ensued. (See attached)

5. Chairman Rowan stated that he would like to have a discussion relative to "Agency Name Change". Lengthy discussion took place relative to this subject. Commissioner Kalter stated that to his recollection the real issue was due to the exuberant cost of changing the name. He further stated that he did not feel it was due to the concept of changing the name, rather the practicality and the cost. Commissioner Tichy reported that some time ago, the name change was brought up at Commission Meetings as an item and received overwhelming response by the

public not to change the name. Commissioner Phillipson reported that he recalls that no Commissioners were in favor of changing the name and not completely due to the costs, rather traditional values and because it has been the name for a very long time and something the sportsmen are proud of. Much discussion ensued.

In addition, Steve Perry, Chief, Inland Fisheries Division, questioned whether the Adapting to Change groups should continue to pursue and research this item. Chairman Rowan stated that he was not trying to instruct employees what to do, however, suggested bringing the pros and cons to the Commission.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

POLICY COMMITTEE: Commissioner Hubert, Chair; Commissioners; Phillipson, Orff, Costa, and Ryan. Commissioner Hubert reported that the committee did not meet last month or this month. He requested that Chairman Rowan review any outstanding issues to be addressed and to get back to the committee with them.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Commissioner Morse, Chair; Commissioners Tichy, Rowan and Guaraldi. As Commissioner Guaraldi's last report as Chairman of this committee, she reported that the committee met the morning of the Commission Meeting. She distributed a package of proposals to be addressed as follows:

Commissioner Guaraldi moved to support the repeal of 215-A:19 VIII and 215-C:34 VIII, regarding the Administrative Penalty, and Commissioner Ryan seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Commissioner Guaraldi moved to support 215-C, proposal for duplicate registration for \$5.00, and Commissioner Ryan seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Commissioner Guaraldi moved to support a proposal to amend RSA 215-A:23, regarding a resident antique all terrain vehicle permanent registration, and Commissioner Ryan seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Commissioner Guaraldi moved to support a proposal to amend 215-C:1 XVIII, adding language "all vehicles within this definition shall be classified as snowmobiles", and Commissioner Kalter seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Commissioner Guaraldi moved to support a proposal to amend RSA 207:1, to use the more specific regulatory definition in FIS

401.13, and Commissioner Morse seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Commissioner Guaraldi moved to support the proposal 207:7, regarding hunting from motor vehicle, OHRV, snowmobile, boat, or aircraft, and Commissioner Morse seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Commissioner Guaralid moved to support a proposal to amend RSA 207:1, to use the more specific regulatory definition in FIS 401.13, and Commissioner Morse seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

RIVERS COMMITTEE: Commissioner Ryan; Chair; As Commissioner Morse's last report as the Commission's representative on the River's Committee, he stated that he had nothing to report at this time.

LAKES COMMITTEE: Commissioner Orff; As Commissioner Kalter's last report as the Commission's representative on the Lakes Committee, he reported that the July 24, 2009 meeting was cancelled and that he has not been informed as to when the next meeting would take place.

HANDBOOK COMMITTEE: Commissioner Guaraldi, Chair; As Commissioner Rowan's last report as Chairman of this committee, he reported that the Handbook Committee and the Vice Chairman would be working to compile Commission Handbooks for the full Commission. Once a copy has been provided to the Commission Secretary, she will then compile 1 handbook for each Division Chief.

OLD BUSINESS: Discussion took place relative to the dam repair at the Ellis Hatch Wildlife Management Area. Chairman Rowan stated that the question was whether it was a worth- while fishery with the cost being around \$400,000 to repair.

Chairman Rowan requested that the Commission review studies done by John Magee of the Inland Fisheries Division, and to look at the options and whether they are worthwhile.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

COMMISSIONER HUBERT: Commissioner Hubert reported that most his activities have revolved around the proposed Wild Goose Boat Access Site. He stated that he felt the department was making progress. He further reported that Don Clarke, former Acting Executive Director and Sullivan County Commissioner, held a

fishing derby at his home the last Saturday in June, which was very well attended and a great event.

COMMISSIONER KALTER: Commissioner Kalter reported that he recently participated as a Counselor at the Trout Unlimited Youth Camp. He reported that some of the footage was filmed and featured on "NH Chronicle". You may view the footage by accessing their WMUR website at www.wmur.com. In closing, he stated, "It was a great event".

COMMISSIONER ORFF: Commissioner Orff reported that he recently took 15 kayakers on a trip down the Merrimack River. He further reported that he attended the Wildlife Taxidermy open house in Manchester and set up a table with department brochures and answered a few questions. In closing, he reported that he received the usual calls, mostly related to fishing spots.

COMMISSIONER COSTA: Commissioner Costa reported that on July 7, 2009 she attended an organizational meeting of the "Hunt of a Lifetime" volunteers, including members of the New Hampshire Guide's Association, Representative L'Heureux, and Dale Carruth, President, New Hampshire Chapter of the Safari Club International. She reported that they reviewed the guidelines for selection of volunteer guides to be involved with the program. She was asked to look into whether there were any 2009 Moose Hunt T-Shirts available for the youth hunter and also his sub-permittee. Judy Stokes, Chief, Public Affairs Division, requested the sizes from Commissioner Costa and stated that she would look into getting the shirts. In addition, she reported that the Barnstead Development Group had expressed an interest in hydro-electric power at the old Barnstead parade dam. In closing, she reported that there were concerns regarding the water-level dropping at Rollins Pond in Gilmanton and that she referred them to the Dam Bureau at the Department of Environmental Services.

COMMISSIONER PHILLIPSON: Commissioner Phillipson reported that he only had 1 person in attendance at the liaison meeting last night. He reported that there would be a pheasant volunteers meeting held on August 28, 2009 at the American Legion in Claremont to iron out details. He further reported that he received comments on the lack of deer and turkey sightings in Cheshire County.

COMMISSIONER MORSE: Commissioner Morse reported that he received the usual calls, in addition to a few complaints regarding the proposed boat access site at Wild Goose on Lake

Sunapee. He further reported that there was an interesting article in the recent NRA magazine regarding crossbows. In closing, he reported that on September 26, 2009, there would be an event similar to "Women on Target" held at the Deering Fish and Game Club.

COMMISSIONER RYAN: Commissioner Ryan reported that he has started visiting various sporting clubs in the area and was recently at the Chester and Raymond clubs.

COMMISSIONER TICHY: Commissioner Tichy departed the meeting prior to report.

COMMISSIONER GUARALDI : Commissioner Guaraldi reported that she attended local outing club meetings and fielded calls relative to hunter education. She reported that the Becoming and Outdoor Woman Program recently held a "Cook Like a Wild Woman" event held at the Barry Conservation Camp. She further reported that the official Becoming an Outdoor Woman Workshop would be held on September 11th - 13th, 2009. In closing, she reported that she would be meeting with the Lebanon Woman's Club in November as a part of an outreach step.

COMMISSIONER ROWAN: Commissioner Rowan reported that he attended the moose lottery at headquarters and found it to be a great experience. He reported that he has completed the "Let's Go Fishing" instructor training. He further reported that he attended the Major Waldron's Sportsmen's competition shoot. In addition, he reported that he attended the kid's fishing derby in Sandwich where an excited youth took an 11.25 pound rainbow trout. In closing, he reported that he has received complaints regarding the department managing the bear population properly and the destruction of bird feeders. He informed the callers that having feeders up would only continue to encourage this behavior, as there is a food source there. He also informed callers that signs on their property stating, "No bear dogs", is not helping to resolve the problem either.

In closing, he announced that the Advisory Committee on Marine Fisheries did put a name forward to the Governor Lynch for the vacant Coastal Commissioner's seat.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comments were heard at this time.

At this time, 5:01 p.m., Commissioner Phillipson moved to adjourn and Commissioner Guaraldi seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Costa, Secretary

Approved: _____

Date:

Robert Rowan, Chairman