



STATE OF NEW YORK CONSERVATION FUND ADVISORY BOARD
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4750
Monthly Meeting Minutes

Three Hundred Ninety-first Meeting – December 9, 2019
Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM.

Meeting Adjourned – The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 AM.

Roll Call: 9:08am

Voting Board Members Present

Tim Huss	Region 1
Vacant	Region 3
Tom Williams	Region 4
Jason Kemper	Region 5
Dave Corr	Region 6
Charles Pace	Region 7
Marc Osypian	Region 8
Bill Conners	FWMB
Raymond Merlotto	NYSCC

Voting Board Members Excused

Gordon Whiting	Region 2
Dale Dunkelberger	Region 9

Voting Board Members Absent

Abbreviations

Ag. & Mkts = Department of Agriculture and Markets
CFAB or the Board = Conservation Fund Advisory Board
DEC or the Department = NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
DFW = Division of Fish and Wildlife
DLE = Division of Law Enforcement

Ex-Officio Members Present

Judy Drabicki, *Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources & Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner*

Ex-Officio Members Absent *Senate Finance Committee Senate EnCon Committee Assembly Ways and Means Committee Assembly EnCon Committee*

DEC Personnel

Division of Fish and Wildlife: Doug Stang, Assistant Director,
Division of Law Enforcement, Bernard Rivers, Director
Division of Law Enforcement, Brian Gillis, Major

Guests:

Jane McLaughlin, Director, Legislative Affairs
Erin Hovish, DMBS

DLF = Division of Lands and Forest
DMBS = Division of Management and Budget Services
OGC = DEC Office of General Counsel
DOB = Division of the Budget
DOP = Division of Operation Services
OSC = Office of State Comptroller

Correspondence:

Brian Fuller, Office of the State Comptroller, letter regarding DEC's proposed award of an automated license system to Kalkomey Enterprise.

Minutes of Prior Meeting:

MOTION: Dave Corr to accept September minutes; Marc Osypian, Second, Motion passed.

Executive Report:

Judy Drabicki, Executive Deputy Commissioner; Jane McLaughlin, Director, Legislative Affairs

- Judy will be following up on the sporting community conference call held on December 4, 2019. The projections presented to the Board on the financial impact of the "free fishing promotion" will be used as a basis for reimbursement and/or shifting of costs from the Conservation Fund.
- A discussion was held regarding WMAs and concerns with expanded recreation that is not wildlife-dependent. The enforcement action in regard to snowmobile trail work on the WMA's could not be discussed as it is a pending enforcement action.
- Judy will also be providing an update to the Board on the grant for the vessel in the Division of Law Enforcement.
- Board members again expressed frustration with the lack of a CFAB appointment for Region 3 and no known progress toward an appointment.
- Board members discussed the legislation regarding boat washing. Concern was expressed with the details of this new legislation and the cost of implementation. The suggestion was made to coordinate efforts with ORPHP. Board members also suggested that the Department develop an AIS video for school age students.
- Jane discussed possible legislative initiatives for the 2020 legislative session. She is optimistic that the Sportsmen's package will again be introduced as a departmental bill. Jane will be sending a recap of the last legislative session.
- A discussion was held regarding the captive deer heard at the Cortland Water Department.

Division of Fish and Wildlife Report:

Doug Stang, Assistant Director

- Doug provided an update regarding the License Sales contract negotiations with Kalkomey. Kalkomey would be onsite next week.
- Provided an update on the License Sales trends. Habitat Stamp sales are up 30%, DEC staff and Board both agreed that sales should be significantly more.
- Summary provided on Hatchery positions.
- An update was provided on the Hatchery system infrastructure improvements. Dr. Neil Ashton is looking at the hatchery system and making recommendations to DEC. The results will be shared with the Board once the recommendations are complete.
- Updates on regulations. Board members will be submitting comments on the Part 10 Sportfish regulation change proposals.
- A discussion regarding the reintroduction of the taxidermy license occurred. The Board has requested for input from Fish and Wildlife, Law Enforcement and the Taxidermy Association. Board members will reach to local taxidermists and trade organizations about reintroducing this license.

Division of Law Enforcement Report:

Bernard Rivers, Director; Brian Gillis, Major

- Brian provided an update on the Academy graduation. 44 recruits graduated (30 ECOs and 14 Rangers). ECO staff is still down 28 uniformed officers.
- Brian stated that there will be a new training academy building at the former Cleveland Elementary School. The location and the logistics of the building and changes needed were discussed.
- An update was provided on the delineation for duties between ECOs and Rangers was given.
- Board members discussed the grant opportunity for the off-shore vessel. There has been no movement on the process, and it appears that the opportunity may have been lost.

Dave Corr motioned to adjourn the meeting, Bill Conners second – motion passed, Meeting Adjourned at 11:56 am.