



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

**Three Hundred Eighty Seventh Meeting – May 13, 2019**  
**Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany**

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM.

**Meeting Adjourned** – The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM.

**Roll Call: 9:06am**

**Voting Board Members Present**

Tim Huss	Region 1
Gordon Whiting	Region 2
Vacant	Region 3
Tom Williams	Region 4
Jason Kemper	Region 5
Dave Corr	Region 6
Charles Pace	Region 7
Marc Osypian	Region 8
Dale Dunkelberger	Region 9
Bill Conners	FWMB
Raymond Merlotto	NYSCC

**Voting Board Members Excused**

**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**

*DEC Commissioner represented by:*  
Judy Drabicki, Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources

**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:* Anthony Wilkinson, Director; Doug Stang, Assistant Director  
*Division of Law Enforcement:* Bernard Rivers, Director, *Division of Management and Budget Services:* Erin Hovish

**Guests:**

Jane McLaughlin, Legislative Affairs  
Katherine McNamara, Legislative Affairs  
Jeshica Patel, Fellow  
Tom Berkman, Deputy Commissioner, General Counsel  
James Farquhar, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Wildlife

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

### **Minutes of Prior Meeting:**

***MOTION: Dale Dunkelberger motioned to accept March minutes; Bill Conners, Second, Motion passed.***

### **Executive Report:**

Judy Drabicki, Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources; Jane McLaughlin, Legislative Affairs; Katherine McNamara, Legislative Affairs; Tom Berkman, Deputy Commissioner of General Counsel

- Provided a summary of the Safe Storage Act. The proposed legislation should not hinder the hunting education courses. Members expressed concerns with legislation. Members agreed to develop a detailed list of concerns and submit to NYS DEC staff who will seek to clarify those concerns. Members passed resolution to send letter to Governor expressing concerns with proposed legislation.
- Provided update on past WMA violations.
- Legislative Affairs provided a summary on the DEC departmental bills. Staff has met with program and assembly staff in both houses and to date has not received feedback pertaining to departmental bills.
- Members expressed frustration and concern with inability to move forward on youth hunting bills and the inability to move items in the departmental bill in the past.
- Brief update provided on invasive species legislation. Members expressed concern with mandatory cleaning.

### **Division of Fish and Wildlife Report:**

Tony Wilkinson, Director and Doug Stang, Assistant Director: James Farquhar, Chief, Bureau of Wildlife

- Ashley Ferrusi introduced as DEC's new recording secretary for the Board.
- Summary given on Conservation Fund balance. Members express concerns regarding possible inaccuracies. It was determined that Members will submit a list of questions regarding the fund and to request a formal presentation at a future meeting.
- Jim Farquhar provided update on WMA Access and Public Use Plans (APUP's). Template was discussed and Board Members have been asked to provide feedback. Part 51 Regulations update was also provided.
- Update provided on obtaining a new license system. DEC received 5 proposals with 3 making it past screening. Presentations and review to be

conducted May 21 – May 23.

- Still experiencing issues with lifetime license batch processing.
- Provided update on license sales, trends, etc. Fishing licenses and sales are up from 2018.
- Update was provided on Hatchery Improvement Plan. New York Works VIII funding update. \$8.25 Million for DFW of which \$5.25 Million for Salmon River Hatchery Improvements.
- Summary provided on Hatchery Positions. Almost all provisional Fish Culturist 1s were reachable, still a viable list for the foreseeable future. Board expressed appreciation to staff for these efforts.
- An update was provided regarding the Imperial Dam. A new plan was developed that will not require movement of sediment behind the dam. The design is to be completed in 2019 and hopefully construction in 2020.

### **Division of Law Enforcement Report:**

Bernard Rivers, Director, Division of Law Enforcement provided the following updates:

- Next academy May 19, 2019, 42 ECO's, 16 Rangers
- List of alternates has already been exhausted likely withdrawals from the academy in first two weeks. Full number of ECOs will most likely not be achieved. There is a need for another academy.
- 40 new vehicles will be added to the fleet.
- No incidents reported during the youth turkey hunt or opening weeks of turkey season.
- Brief discussion on ATV use on State Lands – DLE didn't believe it was a major issue.

### **CFAB BUSINESS:**

- Members discussed Region 3 appointment. Discussed letter which was drafted and will be circulated to members for comment.
- A summary sheet was submitted by Tim Huss on possible initiatives to enhance income into the conservation fund.
- Members discussed the Lifetime Trust Account year end financials prepared by the NYS Comptroller's Office.

***Dave Corr motioned to adjourn the meeting, Marc Osypian second – motion passed, Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 pm.***