



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

**Three Hundred Eighty Ninth Meeting – September 9, 2019**  
**Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway, Albany**

**Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM.

**Meeting Adjourned** – The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 PM.

**Roll Call: 9:05am**

**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 Connors	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:*  
Kelly Turturro, Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner  
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, Division of Fish and Wildlife: Doug Stang, Division of Law Enforcement: Bernard Rivers*

**Guests:**

William Soter, NYS Outdoor Guides Association  
John Stouffer, Office of the New York State Comptroller  
Kristee Iacobucci, Office of the New York State Comptroller  
Steve Piatt, Outdoor News

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: Marc Osypan to accept July minutes; Dave Corr, Second, Motion passed.***

### **Executive Report:**

Kelly Turturro, Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner and Judy Drabicki, Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources

- Judy Drabicki introduced Executive Deputy Commissioner Kelly Turturro.
- Kelly Turturro led a discussion regarding Governor Cuomo's Free Fishing (no fishing license required) promotion for Lake Ontario and assured the Board that any lost revenue associated with the promotion would be reimbursed to the Conservation Fund.
  - The Board expressed concern and displeasure with the initiative and the lack of communication with Board members. Members also expressed concern regarding the lost revenue to the Conservation Fund and the precedent set by issuing free licenses as the NYS Legislature, annually, proposed many bills offering free hunting and fishing licenses. Members also questioned the true benefit of the promotion.
  - Executive will watch the Conservation Fund at the end of the year to see if there was an impact to it.
- Members brought up concerns regarding the possible loss of Port Security grant funding for an offshore patrol vessel. The boat needs to be in possession by August 2020.
  - Kelly Turturo stated that Executive is working with Division of Budget regarding the grant. They will provide an update.
- An update was provided regarding the Mandatory Boat Washing Stations. Members felt that there is a lack of signage about preventing introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species and that the mandatory boat washing negates the current emphasis of *CLEAN, DRAIN AND DRY* initiative.
- Tom Williams brought up the Region 3 appointment. Kelly has engaged the chamber to try and move the appointment along.
  - The reappointments for multiple members have expired.

### **Office of the New York State Comptroller**

John Stouffer, Director of Environmental Initiatives: Kristee Iacobucci, Special Assistant to First Deputy Comptroller

- Guests from the Comptroller's Office came to discuss the Conservation Fund balance and ways to promote hunting and

- fishing.
- John Stouffer provided an update with the 2015 Comptrollers Report and what data was used to compile the report.
- A discussion about the Lifetime Trust Account was held and possible future actions to increase the annualized rate of return on the account.
- Members requested a prompt review and approval of the new license issuing system and any assistance with the Patrol Vessel Grant.

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

Tony Wilkinson, Director and Doug Stang, Assistant Director

- Doug provided an update regarding the License Sales contract negotiations with Kalkomey.
- Provided an update on the License Sales trends.
- Summary provided on Hatchery positions.
- An update was provided on the Hatchery system infrastructure improvements.
- Updates on regulations:
  - Notice of Proposed Rule Making Amendments for Deer Feeding, Hunting Bear in Wildlife Management Unit 4W, Omnibus, CWD, and Endangered/Threatened Species have been posted on the State Register and are open for comment.
  - Tony Wilkinson stated that the Notice of Proposed Ruling for Part 189, CWD, has been posted and are out for public comment.
    - Motion was put forward by Dave Corr, seconded by Dale Dunkleberger and passed to send a letter in support of these regulations.
    - Notice of Proposed Rule Making Amendment to be issued for Dangerous Wildlife on September 18, 2019.
  - Members expressed desire to establish a Spring Turkey Hunting Season in Region 1 and to allow the use of crossbows on Long Island. This will be looked into by DFW.

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

Bernard Rivers, Director, Division of Law Enforcement

- Provided an update on the academy which currently has 30 recruits and will be graduating December 2019.
- The ECO Exam is scheduled to be given October 2019.

- Received approval for 56 new vehicles.

**CFAB BUSINESS:**

- Members discussed the appointment of Anthony Kordziel from Region 3. Board will continue to work on outreach for this appointment.
- Discussion regarding a Taxidermy License was held. Members agreed to consult with DEC staff in October meeting. A possible option would be to ask DEC to consider as part of their legislative package.
- Members welcomed William Soter from NYS Outdoor Guides Association. Held a discussion on ways the Board could work with this group.

***Dave Corr motioned to adjourn the meeting, Tim Huss second – motion passed, Meeting Adjourned at 2:01 pm.***