



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

Four Hundred and Eleventh Meeting – September 12, 2022
Department of Environmental Conservation, 625 Broadway,
Albany

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:03AM.

Meeting Adjourned – The meeting was adjourned at 1:08PM.

Roll Call: 9:03am

Voting Board Members Present

Tim Huss	Region 1
Vacant	Region 3
Tom Williams	Region 4
Jason Kemper	Region 5
Scott L. Faulkner	Region 6
Vacant	Region 7
Marc Osypian	Region 8
Dale Dunkelberger	Region 9
Bill Conners	FWMB
Anthony Kordziel	NYSCC

Voting Board Members Excused

Gordon J Whiting	Region 2
------------------	----------

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

Katharine Petronis, Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources
Katherine McNamara, Director of Legislative Affairs

Ex-Officio Members Absent

Senate Finance Committee
Senate EnCon Committee
Assembly Ways and Means Committee
Assembly EnCon Committee
Executive Deputy Commissioner

DEC Personnel

Division of Fish and Wildlife:
Director, Jacqueline Lendrum
Chief, Bureau of Wildlife, James Farquhar
Chief, Bureau of Fisheries, Steve Hurst
Chief, Bureau of Ecosystem Health, Chuck Nieder
Mary Bailey, License Sales
Kerry Weiskotten, Personnel
Division of Lands and Forest:
Rob Messenger
Brian Giles
Division of Law Enforcement:
James Boylan
Division of Management & Budget:
Andrew Rowinski
Ann Melody

Guests

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
FWMB = Fish and Wildlife Management Board

Correspondence:

Minutes of Prior Meeting:

Being reviewed.

Executive Report:

Katharine Petronis, Deputy Commissioner of Natural Resources

Katherine McNamara, Director of Legislative Affairs

- Katie Petronis mentioned that they have been focusing on developing the guidance on the new gun law. We have the FAQ that was posted, and we have received more questions we are collecting them to work on an additional FAQ.
- The executive team is also looking at The Bond Act, looking at projects, Fish and Wildlife, Lands and Forest all our divisions. We are building that out; trying to put together some sense of priority. There was some work done in 2020 to identify high priority projects.
- Tom Williams discussed the new gun law and the agency thoughts on the impacts. Tom also wanted executive to know that having the FAQ on the website is great but it is very hard to find especially out of state hunters and he was not sure how they expect people to find it if our own NY hunters don't know where it is.
 - Katie commented that the new gun law is not aimed at law-abiding gun owners.
 - Bill Conners asks why there is not an alert on our website. James Farquhar said it is on the hunting DEC page. Scott and Tom said it should be on the licensing page too for all that go on to buy a hunting license. Also, anyone that has bought a license should get an email or a physical letter letting them know the new gun laws/FAQs.
 - Questions about when the email that was sent to the License Issuing Agents (LIA's) with the original documents because there have been lots of questions and people have said they didn't get any emails to post on their pages.
 - Katie Petronis asked if anyone has recommendations on how we can get stuff out to more people let us know.
 - Scott discussed concerns with people that have already bought licenses, Tom suggested sending a letter out to everyone that buys a hunting license. Jason mentioned many people don't agree with what is in the FAQ.
- Katie McNamara said there have been no new bills since last meeting.
 - Early stages on state-of-state so there haven't been anything but ideas floating around.

- Bill Conners mentioned he asked a few months ago about a bill he would like to see passed in Dutchess County; he is promoting a local bill that would allow the migration from shotgun only to rifle or straight-walled cartridge rifle. He was assured that the department wouldn't have taken a position on it. Bill would like to hear that again to have it memorialized in the minutes. Katie McNamara said her area normally focuses on state and that they would not comment on any pending local legislation or take a position.
- Katie asked if there is anything the board wants other than the gun law issues that they want to share with her, and she can raise it up with legislative.
- Katie Petronis let the board know that there has been a change at the chamber with the new Counsel for Energy and Environment - Jeshica Patel.
- Jason asked if there is a deadline for the holiday hunt bill. He is concerned if we get into the third week of November, and someone signs a bill and then it's hectic to try to get counties to be able to opt-in or opt-out. Jason did say one issue he has is the late notice about the holiday hunt and some people are claiming they still didn't get it. Jason would like to know how it went out. [The Department followed up with an email to the Board confirming that the Youth Deer Hunting Report, including participation during the "Holiday Hunt" period, was sent to the legislature on March 21, 2022.]
- Rich Davenport made some comments about it being an issue allowing counties to opt in or out.
- Tim Huss brought up Flax Pond, Katie McNamara said they are planning a discussion with SUNY. Regarding Henry's Hollow Cooperative Area, Katie said DEC does have concerns but neither have been delivered.
- Dale asked about a piece of land that the DEC wanted to buy and the landowner turned it down, he wondered why and what the difference was in the amount the landowner wanted compared with what DEC was offering.

Division of Management & Budget

Chief Budgeting Analyst, Andrew Rowinski

Chief Budgeting Analyst, Ann Melody

- Andrew went over the level of effort report.
- Andrew went over the SR-O/Conservation Fund Year-End Report
- Jason asked if Andrew could get him a 3–5-year projection for the conservation fund that he could share with the board
- Andrew went over the Capital Habitat Conservation & Access Account

Division of Lands & Forest

Section Leader, Robert Messenger

- Rob discussed – changes to the Tax Law Regulations

- Questions about how to request State Property Lines to be looked at and remarked

Division of Law Enforcement

Assistant Director, James Boylan

Colonel, Brian Giles

- *Bill Conners asked why we have 40 caliber Glocks now but going back to 9's, James explained they went to 40 years ago but since then the 9's have changed a lot and are much better with shooting, most of the country has switched over to 9 and they don't want to be behind the ball and lose money on trade ins or lack of ammo if they stayed with the 40's. Brian added that a lot of the 40 the night sites are going to have to be replaced as they retire so it was good timing to switch over too.*
- *Tom brought up the new gun laws asking if they were going to stick around to discuss that in the fish and wildlife section of the agenda. His big questions are if someone from out of state came into NY to hunt as they always have and their guns are in a soft case and not a new regulated case what will happen, with it being a felony now.*
 - *James asked Tom and all board members if they want to field any questions from public and then let DEC know we are still collecting all questions and plan to publish a second FAQ. Some of the questions Tom brought up were: questions about carrying a gun in a locked box in their car and they go to MOSA which is owned by the county? Another question was traveling down thruway with guns locked in the correct case and they stop at the rest stop to use the restroom is that a felony; Jackie and Jim answered this it is in the FAQ that was sent out.*
 - *Tom made comments that people are commenting because the law is so confusing, they are not going to hunt this year.*
 - *Jackie made it clear that we can only answer questions regarding hunting (going to or from hunting) not regarding anyone just carrying a handgun, those questions will need to be referred to the State Police.*

Division of Fish and Wildlife

Director, Jacqueline Lendrum

Chief, Bureau of Wildlife, James Farquhar

Chief, Bureau of Fisheries, Steve Hurst

Chief, Bureau of Ecosystem Health, Chuck Nieder

Mary Bailey, License Sales

Kerri Weiskotten, Personnel

- *Oneida Lake update – there isn't an update yet; Jackie stated we are working with OGC and OINA on a response. Scott expressed that what happened in April was very bad and asked why and how we are now handling it. People are expressing that they won't be buying fishing and hunting license due to this issue.*

- Bill asked Kevin about getting a local agent's name changed. They had an agent who had left years ago for legal offense but the new agent can't get the name changed through Kalkomey. Town of Pleasant Valley Dutchess County is the agent that needs to be changed.
- Steve went through the hatchery updates.
- Tom asked if someone from DLE would come speak at an event that one of his counties are holding. Jackie responded to send the request to her and she can pass it to DLE for him to answer or he can go to DLE directly if he wishes.
- Scott asked about the new hunter safety courses [Next Step], he would like to see a report on how the classes are going. He would like to see how well they were attended and how the classes went. Jim said they are trying to do one in every region and after the last one is done; they are going to do a write up about the pilot program how everything went. Then they are hoping to have a full program out next year.

CFAB Business

- Vote on old minutes to get them posted on the website – Motion to approve all old minutes Bill, Tom second.
- The board introduced Scott Faulkner to replace David Corr in Region 6. A donation was sent to the Corr Foundation on behalf of the CFAB board
- The board introduced Rich Davenport as a guest who has been requested to replace Dale Dunkelburger.

1:08pm Jason motioned to adjourn the meeting, Marc second – motion passed, Meeting Adjourned at 1:08PM.