



# Natural Resources Commission

## Meeting Minutes

Date: July 14, 2022

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: Lansing Community College

West Campus Rooms M119-121

5708 Cornerstone Drive

Lansing, Michigan 48917

### Roll call

Present for the Natural Resources Commission (Commission):

- Tom Baird, Chair
- Dave Anthony
- David Cozad
- Keith Creagh - absent
- Leslie Love
- David Nyberg - absent
- Carol Moncrieff Rose

Present for the Department of Natural Resources (Department) and Office of Attorney General

- Dan Bock, Legal Counsel, Office of the Attorney General
- Dan Eichinger, Director, DNR

### Meeting minutes

Opening Comments:

**Chair Baird** called the meeting of the Commission to order at 10:34 a.m.

**Chair Baird** conducted a roll call of Commissioners, Director, and the Office of the Attorney General.

**Commissioners Creagh** and **Nyberg** were absent. **Chair Baird** called for a motion to approve the day's agenda. **Commissioner Rose** made the motion to approve the agenda for July 14, 2022,

**Commissioner Love** supported the motion. **Chair Baird** called for discussion, there being none, **Chair Baird** called for a vote. The day's agenda was approved unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was the approval of the June 9, 2022, Commission meeting minutes.

**Chair Baird** called for a motion to approve June 9, 2022, Commission meeting minutes. **Commissioner Rose** made a motion to approve; supported by **Commissioner Cozad**. **Chair Baird** called for additional discussion, there being none, **Chair Baird** called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

Director's Report:

**Director Eichinger** began the report by introducing Kristin Philips, Chief, Marketing and Outreach Division.

- Digest Printing Update (Kristin Phillips, Chief, Marketing and Outreach Division)
- [Budget Update](#) (Erik Eklund, Chief, Finance and Operations Division)
- [Legislative Report](#) (Informational Item)

The meeting continued at 11:13 a.m. with Stacy Welling-Haughey reading the official timekeeping procedures and guidelines for the meeting's public appearances. [NRC Public Appearance Guidelines](#)

- a. 10 Minute Comment
  - i. Ed Flanagan, Slice of Life Archery
- b. 5 Minute Comment
  - i. Erik Schnelle, National Deer Association – Hunting Digest and Deer Regulations
  - ii. Dan Ulfig, National Deer Association – Hunting Digest and Deer Regulations

**Chair Note:** *After these presentations, a discussion was had on the advisability of reinstating APRs in the CWD area for the 2022 deer hunting season. No action was taken or requested to do so by the NRC. The issue will be revisited in our review of deer hunting regulations in 2023.*

  - iii. Amy Trotter, MUCC Executive Director – Hunting Digest
- c. 3 Minute Comment
  - i. Liam Harp, Slice of Life Archery (time yielded to Ed Flanagan)
  - ii. Trevor Wolff, Slice of Life Archery (time yielded to Ed Flanagan)
  - iii. Reynaldo Rodriguez, Slice of Life Archery (time yielded to Ed Flanagan)
  - iv. Nichole Biber, Anishinabek Caucus, 2022 Wolf Management Plan
  - v. Molly Tamulevich, The Human Society of the United States
  - vi. Tom Audris
  - vii. Chase DeBack, Action for Animals

**Chair Baird** adjourned the public comment portion of the meeting and called to order the regular meeting of the Commission at 12:02.

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

### New Business

**Chair Baird** noted there are no orders for the **Director** this month.

- a. Director Action - None

**Chair Baird** noted there are six land transactions for the **Director**.

- b. Land Transactions

- i. [Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land  
Metro District, Oakland County  
Land Transaction Case #20210122](#)
- ii. [Acquisition of State Managed Land  
Forest Resources Division, Chippewa County  
The Stephens Tract  
Land Transaction Case #20220018](#)
- iii. [Acquisition of State Managed Land  
Forest Resources Division, Menominee County  
The Mulzer Tract  
Land Transaction Case #202210019](#)
- iv. [Acquisition of State Managed Land  
Wildlife Division, Muskegon County  
The Ames Tract  
Land Transaction Case #20210203](#)
- v. [Acquisition of State Parks and Recreation Land Easement  
Parks and Recreation Division, Schoolcraft County  
Lyme Great Lakes Tracts  
Land Transaction Case #20220130](#)
- vi. [Exchange of State Forest Land  
Forest Resources Division, Marquette County  
The County of Marquette Exchange  
Land Transaction Case #20220028](#)

**Director Eichinger** indicated he would sign all the land transactions.

**Chair Baird** noted there are no orders for the **Director** and NRC up for information this month.

Old Business

**Chair Baird** noted there are no orders for the **Director** this month.

- a. Director's Orders - None

**Chair Baird** noted there are no orders for the **Director** and NRC under old business this month.

- b. NRC/Director's Orders - None

Fisheries Committee Report

Fisheries Committee: **Commissioner Cozad** stated the Committee received an informative presentation from Gary Whelan and Dr. Seth Herbst, Fisheries Division. These presentations will help the Commission better understand the subject material and the upcoming fisheries orders and make an informed decision moving forward.

- o [Fisheries Research Overview](#) (Gary Whelan, Fisheries Division)
- o [Upcoming Fisheries Orders Update](#) (Dr. Seth Herbst, Fisheries Division)

## Commissioner Reports:

**Commissioner Anthony** – reported he had an interesting month beginning with being a guest on the radio in the UP area, most recently having a meeting with the UP Sportsmen’s Alliance and the UP Wildlife Habitat Workgroup where they discussed how to interrelate and how to coordinate the activities more efficiently with the groups. He also met with individuals who have concerns about natural resources issues in general. He stated he had a good educational month.

**Commissioner Cozad** – reported he attended a number of meetings including the AuSable Resilience and Sustainability Project where they continue to make progress in their second year. He also attended a town hall meeting relating to the proposed Camp Grayling expansion meeting where there were about 250 people including the Military of Veterans Affairs and Department staff. He also attended the Pere Marquette Watershed Council 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Fisheries Division, Assistant Chief Todd Grishke, gave a very good presentation on the Fisheries Division initiatives throughout the state as well as within the Pere Marquette Watershed.

**Commissioner Love** – reported she and **Commissioner Creagh** met with the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy. She stated she enjoys the Commission meetings and the presentations provided by Department staff. This meeting was very robust. She expressed that hearing the Department almost doubled its revenue from the General Fund was a cheerleader moment. She also stated she enjoys listening to and appreciates the citizens that come to the meetings to speak.

**Commissioner Rose** – reported that she and her husband traveled to see the impact of the Blue Lakes fire. They were able to see where the landscape was beginning to heal itself. She was very grateful to all the agencies that participated in putting the fire to rest along with all those who supported the effort. She stated she’s looking forward to doing some lake trout fishing. She had the opportunity to attend the Michigan United Conservations Club annual convention in Lansing. It’s always encouraging and refreshing to see conservation at work. She thanked the Department staff for their time in providing the presentations.

**Director Eichinger** – thanked the Department staff for their presentations and for organizing the meetings. He also thanked the Commission for volunteering their time to serve on the Natural Resources Commission and the members of the public that attend the meetings.

**Chair Baird** – thanked the staff for organizing the meetings. He recognized Don Reynolds of Elk Rapids for putting together a free fishing show which drew over 250 people. This year's show had several representatives from the Department including COs, research personnel, biologists, several fishing tables, several first responders from the area, and many activities. He stated he attended the Michigan United Conservations Club annual convention in Lansing. He also attended the AuSable Resilience and Sustainability Project meeting along with **Commissioner Cozad**. He thanked the Director for providing a modified timeframe to allow for comments for the Camp Grayling proposed expansion. The Director will decide whether to conduct a full review of the proposal in August or September and encourages anyone with comments to provide them to Tom Barnes, Forest Resources Division, by mid-August. If the Director decides to proceed with a full review, it is anticipated that a final decision will be made by December 2023.

**Chair Baird** moved that the Commission meet in closed session as permitted under section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by the Michigan Freedom of Information Act. Specifically, to consult with counsel regarding a memorandum provided to the Commission which falls under the attorney-client privilege exemption in section 13(1)(g) of the FOIA. The motion was supported by **Commissioner Cozad**. The motion was passed unanimously.

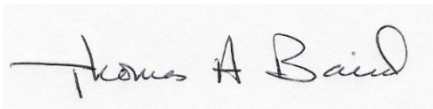
During the closed session, the minutes of the closed session must be kept, and no deliberations are allowed on the business before the Commission.

#### Adjournment

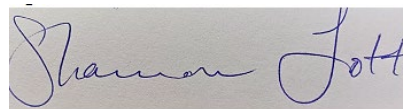
**Chair Baird** asked for a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Anthony** made a motion to adjourn the meeting; **Commissioner Cozad** supported the motion. **Chair Baird** called for discussion. a vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:14 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Commission is scheduled for **Thursday, August 11, 2022**, at the **Outdoor Adventure Center, 1801 Atwater Street, Detroit, MI 48207**.



Thomas Baird, NRC Chair



for

Daniel Eichinger, DNR Director

DATE: August 11, 2022