

**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2021
Conference Call/Virtual Meeting**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rose called the meeting of the commission to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Chair Rose asked for a roll call of the commissioners.

Present for the Natural Resources Commission (commission)

Carol Moncrieff Rose, chair, Hillman, MI
David Nyberg, Marquette county, MI
J.R. Richardson, Carp Lake township, MI
Keith Creagh, Williamston township, MI
Mike Lashbrook, East Lansing, MI

Present for Department of Natural Resources (department) Staff

Dan Bock, legal counsel, Office of the Attorney General, Lansing, MI
Daniel Eichinger, DNR director, Isabella county, MI
Trevor VanDyke, DNR director of legal and legislative affairs office
Brooke Parmalee, DNR, legal and legislative affairs office
Cheryl Nelson, executive assistant to the NRC

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Rose then called for a motion to approve the March 11, 2021, Natural Resources Commission's meeting agenda. **Commissioner Creagh** made a motion to adopt the day's agenda; commissioner **Lashbrook** supported the motion. **Rose** called for discussion, there being none, a vote was taken and the agenda was approved unanimously.

Chair Rose informed the public and commission that the February 11, 2021, commission meeting minutes were not completed on time and will be added to the April NRC meeting agenda for approval.

IV. NRC COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Director Eichinger made a statement regarding the appointments to the Wolf Advisory Management Council. The selected applicants are listed below.

Dan Kennedy	Director-Designee	CHAIR
Miles Falck	Tribal Government	3 year
Beatrice Friedlander	Animal Advocacy	2 year
Richard Pershinske	Agricultural Interests	2 year
Mike Thorman	Hunting/Fishing Organization	2 year
Amy Trotter	Conservation Organization	3 year

a. Director's Report

- i. Pigeon River County Boating/Land Use Order (*Matt Fry*)
- ii. Bear Regulations and License Quotas (*Cody Norton*)

Presentations for the Director's reports may be found on the commission's webpage at www.michigan.gov/nrc under "Presentations."

That concluded the Director's Report at 9:41 a.m. **Chair Rose** called for another roll call at 9:51 a.m., all commission members were present.

V. PUBLIC APPEARANCES BEFORE THE NRC

(**Brooke Parmalee** read the official timekeeping procedures and guidelines for the meeting's public appearances which began at 9:52 a.m.)

Joe DeKorne – commented on the proposed bear regulations.

Steve Dey – representing the Straits Area Sportsmen's Club commented on wolf management.

Gary Gorniak – representing the Upper Peninsula Sportsmen's Alliance commented on wolf management.

Jordan Hoover - representing Baraga County U.P. Whitetails commented on deer and wolf management.

Ian Fitzgerald – representing Michigan United Conservation Clubs commented on the proposed bear regulations.

James Kleinschmidt – commented on democracy and Senate Resolution 15.

George Graves – commented on wolf management and deer management.

Nancy Warren – commented on proposed bear regulations, wolf management and pending resolutions with the State Legislature.

Dale Hendershot - representing Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association commented on trapping and wolf management.

Karol Miller – commented on Senate Resolution 15.

George Lindquist – representing UP Whitetails of Marquette County commented on Upper Peninsula deer regulations and wolf management.

Molly Tamulevich – representing The Humane Society of the U.S. commented on wolf management.

Jeffrey Towner – commented on wolf management and Senate Resolution 15.

Luke Hilgemann – representing Hunter Nation commented on Senate Resolution 15.

Veronique Becka – commented on Senate Resolution 15.

Nick Green – representing Michigan United Conservation Clubs commented on sandhill crane management.

David Payne – commented on sandhill crane and wolf management.

Marcie Terwilliger – commented on wolf management.

Gary Morgan – commented on proposed bear regulations.

Bee Friedlander – representing Attorneys for Animals commented on sandhill crane management.

Francene Amari-Faulkner – commented on wolf management.

Trish Marie – commented on wolf management.

Matt Pedigo – representing Michigan Hunting Dog Federation commented on the proposed bear regulation.

Keith Huff – representing the Michigan Bear Hunters Association commented on the proposed bear regulations.

Keith Shafer – representing Michigan Bear Hunters Association commented on the proposed bear regulations.

Mike Thorman – representing Hunting Dog Federation commented on the proposed bear regulations.

Chair Rose adjourned the public appearances portion of the meeting at 11:52 a.m. The meeting readjusted at 12:02 p.m., the chair noting that all commissioners are present.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. New Business - Land Transactions

Chair Rose read the land transactions that are before the Director, which may be acted on during the day's meeting:

Land Transaction Case #20190153 Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Roscommon District – Huron County

Land Transaction Case #20190260 Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Cadillac Management Unit– Lake County

Land Transaction Case #20200113 Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Eastern Upper Peninsula District– Schoolcraft County

Land Transaction Case #20210007 Gift of Land
Baraga Management Unit – Keweenaw County

Land Transaction Case #20210014 Gift of Land
Roscommon Management Unit – Roscommon County

Land Transaction Case #20210011 Gift of Conservation Easement
Gaylord District – Charlevoix County

Land Transaction Case #20190113 Forest Resources Land Exchange
Atlanta Management Unit – Montmorency and Presque Isle Counties

Director Eichinger indicated that he would sign all new land transactions.

b. New Business - Director's Orders

Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 3 of 2021 - Order to Consolidate and Standardize Watercraft Use Restrictions in the Pigeon River Country State Forest

c. New Business - NRC Orders

Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 3 of 2021 - Bear Regulations and License Quotas

VII. OLD BUSINESS

a. Old Business – Director’s Orders

Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 2 of 2021 - PRD Possession and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages, Prohibited Conduct

Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 2 of 2021 – Hunting and Trapping in State Parks and Recreation Areas

Director Eichinger indicated that he would be signing both Land Use Order Amendment No. 2 of 2021 and Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 2 of 2021 today.

b. Old Business – Commission Orders

Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 1 of 2021 - Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons

Commissioner Lashbrook made a motion to adopt Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 1 of 2021, Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons. **Commissioner Richardson** supported the motion. **Rose** called for a vote on Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 1 and it passed by unanimous consent.

VIII. COMMISSION REPORTS

Commissioner Lashbrook – Shared his gratitude for being able to meet with Michigan Resource Stewards and obtain a better understanding of their operations and natural resource interests. He also provided an update on the successful progress he is having with the hunting training of his puppy.

Commissioner Creagh – Thanked the Wildlife Division for their thoughtful and diligent work on the migratory bird regulations. Requested from the DNR information and feedback regarding Matt Pedigo’s comments on bear population and license numbers.

Commissioner Nyberg – Shared about his opportunity to get out and partake recently in some ice fishing. He also thanked Nick Green for his thoughtful comments on sandhill crane management. He also congratulated the members of Wolf Advisory Management Council on their recent appointments.

Commissioner Richardson – Shared that he recently attended a UP Habitat workgroup session where the main discussions were regarding the meeting logistics. He also shared that there is an upcoming UP CAC meeting on the 19th, as well as a UP CWD Task Force meeting coming up. He also requested that the DNR send out information to the commissioners about what the NRC did for last wolf hunt in 2013, the science the NRC reviewed leading to its decision, the harvest goals that were established, and how many were harvested during the hunt.

Director Eichinger – Shared that there is an abundance of published information regarding the first 100 years of the Department of Natural Resources available on the DNR’s website.

Chair Rose – Shared that she participated in a recent TB Advisory Council meeting. At the meeting, the council discussed strategies for collecting the necessary deer heads for testing for TB within the established zone.

IX. COMMISSION CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner **Nyberg** made a motion for the commission to enter closed session at 12:28 p.m. to discuss the legal memorandum the commission has received regarding the settlement negotiations of U.S. v. Michigan. The motion was supported by commissioner **Lashbrook**, and unanimously approved.

Commissioner **Nyberg** motioned to adjourn the closed session; the motion was seconded by commissioner **Lashbrook**. A vote was taken, and the CLOSED SESSION adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Rose shared that the next meeting of the commission will be held on Thursday, April 15, 2021, in a format to be determined later.

Commissioner Nyberg made a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Richardson** supported the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:39 p.m.



Carol Moncrieff Rose, NRC Chair



Daniel Eichinger, DNR Director

DATE: April 15, 2021