



MASSWILDLIFE

DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

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Jack Buckley, *Director*

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DIVISION OF FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Present: Dr. Joseph Larson/Chair, Michael Roche/Vice Chair, Bonnie Booth/Secretary, Ernest Foster, Stephen Sears, Dr. Brandi Van Roo, Fred Winthrop, George Peterson/Commissioner/DFG, Mary-Lee King/Deputy Commissioner, Jack Buckley/Director, Mark Tisa/Deputy Director, Kris McCarthy/Associate Director/Administration and Finance, Todd Richards/Assistant Director/Fisheries, Michael Huguenin/Assistant Director/Operations/Acting Assistant Director/Wildlife, Craig MacDonnell/Chief/Wildlife Lands, Marion Larson/Assistant Director/Public Affairs; Eve Schlüter/Chief/Regulatory Review, Nicole McSweeney/Marketing Specialist, Sergeant Bill Woytych/OLE; Public: Mel Crouse, John Kellstrand, Dave Morin, Chris Craigue, Sarah Fleming, Deanne Drouillard, Wendy Larson.

Date: June 28, 2017

Location: Cronin Building, MassWildlife Field Headquarters
Westborough, Massachusetts

Chair Larson opened the June meeting at 10:05 A.M., and welcomed the guest speakers from Ducks Unlimited to Massachusetts.

Acceptance of Minutes

A motion was made by Secretary Booth to approve the minutes from the May Fisheries and Wildlife Board meeting. The Chair asked that the minutes be amended to reflect the detail that the reason he did not attend the May meeting was that he was ill with a tick-borne disease. The motion was seconded by Mr. Winthrop, who offered wishes for a speedy recovery; the motion passed unanimously.

Chair's Comments

Chair Larson reported that he wanted to address the motion to form a working group to examine the way policies are rolled out to the public. Noting that the Senior Staff had expressed concern that the charge given to the group lacked specificity as to objective and scope, the Chair asked that the working group use its first meeting to draft an objective and a scope for the work it would be doing. He stated that Mr. Sears and Mr. Foster had agreed to join Dr. Van Roo and the Director and Deputy and their staff. Chair Larson asked that the working group come back to the Board at the next meeting and report on how it would move forward.

The Vice Chair noted that MassWildlife's communication and outreach have improved tremendously over the past several years, and that he was very glad to see it.

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Peterson reported that the Secretary's office had moved the dog regulation to ANF for sign-off. He also reported that the state budget is moving slowly through, and that the Department's numbers are good, particularly MassWildlife's. He stated that the conference committee would reportedly be ready to announce its budget on Friday the week of the meeting, but that he thought that highly unlikely.

Director's Comments

Director Buckley reported that with the dog regulation ready to move, the Board and staff need to revisit the public-hearing presentation and the roll-out of the regulation.

The Director also reported that the MassWildlife Open House, held on June 10, was a great success, with over 2,000 people attending. After reporting about the various agency constituencies present and some of the

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