

Natural Resources Board Minutes <u>April 14, 2020</u>

<u>Attendance</u>

Board Members Present by Phone

Diane Snelling, Chair, Marty Illick, Vice Chair, Brad Aldrich, Member and Steve Larrabee, Member

Board Members Absent Don Turner, Member

Staff by Skype

Gregory Boulbol, General Counsel, Kimberley Lashua, Business Director, Evan Meenan, Associate General Counsel, Aaron Brondyke, State Coordinator and Pamela Morin, Legal Technician

I. <u>Meeting Convened</u>

11:05 a.m. Diane Snelling, Chair opened the meeting via phone and Skype conference.

II. Opportunity for public to comment and agenda and non-agenda items

The Chair invited public comments. There were no members of the public present.

III. NRB COVID-19 response/update

Mr. Greg Boulbol gave an overview of the NRB's Notice of Emergency Responses listed below.

- NRB Notice of Emergency Response (COVID-19: NRB Statement #3; 3-26-20)
- <u>NRB Notice of Emergency Response (</u>COVID-19: NRB Statement #2; **3-20-20**)
- NRB Notice of Emergency Response (COVID-19: NRB Statement #1; **3-18-20**)

Ms. Marty Illick asked how court and permit hearings will be conducted so the public can attend. Mr. Greg Boulbol and Mr. Evan Meenan stated that the Environmental Court had canceled all hearings in pending matters in which the NRB is a party and that NRB Notice of Emergency Response (COVID-19: NRB Statement #1; 3-18-20) provides guidance on how to handle permit hearings.



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IV. Minutes of February 11, 2020 and March 10, 2020

A motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, February 11, 2020 meeting was made by Marty Illick, seconded by Steve Larrabee and approved unanimously.

A motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, March 10, 2020 meeting was made by Marty Illick, seconded by Brad Aldrich and approved unanimously.

V. <u>NRB office and budget updates</u>

Kimberley Lashua presented office and budget updates. An offer has been made and accepted for the position of compliance and enforcement officer. We worked with DHR to put together an offer that provides flexibility around the start date in consideration of COVID-19.

Chair Snelling and Ms. Kimberley Lashua testified last month in front of the Senate Appropriations Committee concerning the proposed FY 21 budget. Ms. Kimberley Lashua will provide updates to budget when we receive them. Chair Snelling stated that a great deal of effort was made to transition staff to telework due to COVID-19.

VI. Discussion regarding Act 250 legislative initiatives

The legislature is currently primarily dealing withCOVID-19 related matters. Mr. Greg Boulbol does not believe that the Act250 bill will be picked up this year during the legislature session. Chair Snelling hopes that the legislature would try to pass a budget or a short-term budget and complete the legislative session.

VII. Discussion of appeals, enforcement, and attorney-client memoranda

Mr. Greg Boulbol stated that the courts are only dealing with emergency cases at during the COVID-19 crisis. Mr. Evan Meenan stated that we have no court dates currently. To the extent possible, he is continuing to work on appeals and enforcement matters outside of the court process.

VIII. Adjourn

At 11:35 a.m., Marty Illick made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brad Aldrich and unanimously approved by the Board.



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