



NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

10 Baldwin Street
Montpelier, VT 05633-3201

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD MEETING **TUESDAY, June 14, 2022** **11:00 am**

Board Members Present by Phone:

Sabina Haskell, Chair; Brad Aldrich, Vice Chair; Steve Larrabee, Member and Andrew Collier, Member

ABSENT

Don Turner, Member

Staff Present by Microsoft Teams:

Aaron Brondyke, State Coordinator; Katie Emerson, Legal Technician; Rachel Lomonaco, Business Director

Members of the Public:

The Vermont Natural Resources Board convened at 11:02 a.m. via Microsoft Teams, Chair Sabina Haskell presiding.

I. 11:02 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Haskell welcomed board and staff members.

II. 11:02 a.m. Opportunity for public to comment and agenda and non-agenda items

Chair Haskell offered the opportunity for the public to comment, there were no members of the public present.

III. 11:03 a.m. Review and action on Minutes of May 10, 2022

A motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, May 10, 2022, meeting was made by Mr. Brad Aldrich and seconded by Mr. Steve Larrabee and approved unanimously (with one abstention).

IV. 11:04 a.m. NRB office and budget updates

Ms. Rachel Lomonaco started last week as business director. She was previously District Coordinator in D4, a year prior to that served as a commissioner on the D4 commission. Right now she is focusing on the end of fiscal year tasks.



Please hold November 9th as a tentative date for the annual meeting. Chair Haskell is going to AOT training center in Berlin to see the space tomorrow/

V. 11:08 a.m. Discussion regarding Act 250 legislative initiatives

Many proposed Act 250 changes won't be happening this year since S. 234 was vetoed.

S. 226 did pass, it is mostly a housing bill, that exempts priority housing projects under a certain threshold in designated downtowns from Act250, continuing priority housing exemption and changing unit counts in Priority Housing Projects in smaller areas. S.188 also became law, it exempts certain small cannabis operations from Act 250 review. Staff will be putting together a training for staff on how those changes will affect work going forward.

The NRB is required to do two legislative study reports. The first is on accessory on farm businesses and is due at end of 2022. The second is on modernizing Act250 and is due by the end of 2023. Will be working closely with ANR on both reports. The NRB has not authorized previous studies on Act250, we have just been a participant/ stakeholder.

Will the board members be involved in these studies? Will have many stakeholders involved including the Board. The Board members will have a chance to review the final study before it gets submitted.

There was a short discussion regarding confusion that occurs when actions taken by the staff, or the chair are perceived to be taken by members of the Board.

VI. 11:19 a.m. Adjourn

At 11:19 a.m., Mr. Brad Aldrich made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Steve Larrabee, and unanimously approved by the Board.