

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Board
TUESDAY, April 11th, 2017
10:00 am

Location of Meeting:

NRB – Dewey Building
1 National Life Drive
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-3201

Present at Meeting:

Board Members

Diane Snelling, Chair
Dominic Cloud, Member (by teleconference)
William Boyd Davies, Esq., Member (by teleconference)
Martha (Marty) Illick, Member (by teleconference)
Don Sargent, Member (by teleconference)

Staff

Donna Barlow Casey, Executive Director
Gregory Boulbol, General Counsel
Aaron Brondyke, Enforcement Officer
Peter Gill, Associate General Counsel
Kimberley Lashua, Business Director
Elexandra Arthers, Legal Technician

Members of the Public

Kate McCarthy, VNRC

The Natural Resources Board meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM on April 11th, 2017 at NRB – Dewey Building- by Diane Snelling.

I. Approval of the Minutes

Bill Davies made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14th, 2017 meeting as printed. Dominic Cloud seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the motion in a 4-0 roll call vote:

Diane Snelling – Yes

Bill Davies – Yes

Marty Illick – Yes

Dominic Cloud – Yes

Don Sargent – Recused himself due to being absent from the last meeting.

II. Opportunity for Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

The Board received no comments on non-agenda items.

III. NRB, Office, and Budget Updates

Welcome-

Kimberley Lashua gave a formal introduction and warm welcome to Donna Barlow Casey- the Natural Resource Board's New Executive Director. Diane explained that Donna has been with the NRB for three weeks and is settling in well, noting that she has visits to all regional offices planned in the coming weeks.

Budget-

Recent reports indicate that we are within range of meeting budgetary goals for the 2017 fiscal year. We will continue to track this progress.

Lean-

We are in coordination with ANR's Office of Planning to discuss overlap in Lean implementation plans. We will be working together to achieve Lean implementation goals.

IV. Legislative/Policy updates

Greg, Peter, and Diane updated the Board on active legislative and policy matters as follows:

Act 174 (Appeal Procedure for Energy Compliance Determinations): Under the statute, the NRB hears appeals of the Department of Public Service Energy Compliance Determinations. The Board reviewed a draft procedure.

Bill Davies made a motion to adopt the procedure with the changes as written. Don Sargent seconded this motion, and the motion was passed with a 5-0 roll call vote as follows:

Diane Snelling – Yes

Bill Davies – Yes

Marty Illick – Yes

Dominic Cloud – Yes

Don Sargent – Yes

H.424: Chair Snelling offered an overview of the Proposed Bill, and her suggested amendments to the bill. She will be meeting with the Legislature directly after this meeting and will be presenting these amendments. The Chair asked for comments and input and Dominic Cloud offered that he is energized by the changes to this proposal, and offered that the Board appreciates the insightful framing and general tone of the Chair's Draft. Chair Snelling thanked the Board for its input and expressed being encouraged by this feedback as she has focused on creating a proposal that will lead to healthy discussion about what Vermonters want to preserve

moving forward and how we can best grow into the future. The Board voted unanimously in support of the general concepts of H.424 as modified by the Chair.

V. Appeals (Summary Discussion/ Status)

Greg Boulbol and Peter Gill gave status updates to the Board via the pre-meeting memo on the following active enforcement and appellate matters, Big Rock Gravel, Chester Water Tower, Mountain Top Inn, and Korrow. Due to time constraints, the Board was asked if it has comments or questions about these cases. The Board had no questions or comments to offer at this time. Bill Davies made a motion to ratify the Board's decision to enter an appearance in the following cases: Big Rock Gravel, Chester Water Tower, and Mountain Top Inn. Marty Illick seconded this motion and the motion was approved with a 5-0 roll call vote.

Diane Snelling – Yes

Bill Davies – Yes

Marty Illick – Yes

Dominic Cloud – Yes

Don Sargent – Yes

VII. Other Business

Bill Davies made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marty Illick seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the motion in a 5-0 roll call vote:

Diane Snelling – Yes

Bill Davies – Yes

Marty Illick – Yes

Dominic Cloud – Yes

Don Sargent – Yes