

BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMISSION

\* \* \* \* \*

BEFORE: CHARLIE E. FOX, President  
Stanley I. Knick, Jr., Vice President  
Michael F. Mitrick, Secretary  
Scott H. Foradora, Commissioner  
Dennis R. Fredericks, Commissioner  
Brian H. Hoover, Commissioner  
Timothy S. Layton, Commissioner  
Kristen Schnepf-Giger, Commissioner

HEARING: Saturday, September 26, 2020  
9:24 a.m.

LOCATION: Telephonic Meeting

WITNESSES: None

Reporter: Morgan McKendrick

Any reproduction of this transcript  
is prohibited without authorization  
by the certifying agency

A P P E A R A N C E S

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

BRADLEY C. BECHTEL, ESQUIRE  
Chief Counsel  
Pennsylvania Game Commission  
2001 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110  
Counsel for Pennsylvania Game Commission

ALSO PRESENT:

CREIGH MARTSON  
BRYAN J. BURHANS  
JASON L. DECOSKEY  
PETER SUSSENBACH  
LYDIA CRAIG

I N D E X

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

DISCUSSION AMONG PARTIES	5 - 30
CERTIFICATE	31

E X H I B I T S

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

Number

Description

Page  
Offered

NONE OFFERED

## P R O C E E D I N G S

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

-----

-

PRESIDENT FOX: At this time, I'd like to call this meeting of the Pennsylvania Game Commission to order.

Commissioner Mitrick, will you please call the roll?

COMMISSIONER MITRICK: I will, President Fox.

President Fox?

PRESIDENT FOX: Yes.

COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Commissioner Knick?

COMMISSIONER KNICK: Here.

COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Commissioner Mitrick? Here.

Commissioner Foradora?

COMMISSIONER FORADORA: Here.

COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Commissioner Fredricks?

COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Here.

COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Commissioner Hoover?

COMMISSIONER HOOVER: Here.

1                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Commissioner  
2 Layton?

3                   COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Here.

4                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Commissioner  
5 Schnepf-Giger.

6                   COMMISSIONER SCHNEPP-GIGER: Here.

7                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: All are  
8 present, Commissioner Fox.

9                   PRESIDENT FOX: Thank you. The first  
10 item of business is approval of the minutes of the  
11 Commission meeting held July 25th, 2020.

12                   COMMISSIONER HOOVER: I'll make a  
13 motion to accept those. Hoover.

14                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Second.

15                   PRESIDENT FOX: Second? Is there any  
16 opposition? If not, we'll move on.

17                   At this time, I'd like to turn the  
18 meeting over to Mr. Betchel.

19                   ATTORNEY BECHTEL: Thank you, Mr.  
20 President. The first item from our agenda is from  
21 the Bureau of Wildlife Management. It concerns  
22 proposed rulemaking to amend 58 Pa. Code Sections  
23 137.34 and 137.35.

24                   Section 137.34, relating to chronic  
25 wasting disease and emergency authority of the

1 director, currently addresses only the emergency  
2 authority of the Pennsylvania Game Commission  
3 Executive Director as it pertains to chronic wasting  
4 disease or CWD.

5                   This section does not address matters  
6 of any other diseases or the impacts of these  
7 diseases on other species of wildlife. The  
8 Commission has determined that a more comprehensive  
9 regulation capable of application to any number of  
10 wildlife diseases would provide the Executive  
11 Director with the necessary authority and flexibility  
12 to respond to additional wildlife diseases, other  
13 than CWD that threaten human, domestic and wild  
14 animal, or environmental health and safety within the  
15 Commonwealth.

16                   The need for expanding existing  
17 regulatory language was recently recognized as a  
18 result of the ongoing rabbit hemorrhagic disease, or  
19 RHD, outbreak in the Southwestern United States.

20                   The Commission is proposing to amend  
21 Sections 137.34 and 137.35 to expand the authority of  
22 the Executive Director to issue executive orders to  
23 address additional diseases and species of wildlife  
24 other than only CWD as it relates to only cervids.

25                   The Commission is also proposing to

1 amend Section 137.35 to define the term 'Established  
2 Area', restrict the movement of high-risk parts  
3 outside from "Established Areas" and further expand  
4 the ban on importation of high-risk parts to all  
5 areas outside the Commonwealth. These changes  
6 reflect the strategies described in the recently  
7 accepted CWD response plan.

8                   The text is shown on pages two through  
9 six of your Agenda.

10                   PRESIDENT FOX: Do we have a motion?

11                   COMMISSIONER HOOVER: I'll make that  
12 motion. Hoover.

13                   COMMISSIONER KNICK: So moved.

14                   PRESIDENT FOX: Second?

15                   COMMISSIONER KNICK: Second. Knick.

16                   PRESIDENT FOX: Any discussion?

17                   Commission Mitrick, will you call the  
18 roll, please?

19                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: I will.

20                   PRESIDENT FOX: Call the vote.

21                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Commissioner  
22 Fox?

23                   PRESIDENT FOX: Yes.

24                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Commissioner  
25 Knick?

1                   COMMISSIONER KNICK:   Yes.

2                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK:   Commissioner

3 Mitrick?   Yes.

4                   Commissioner Foradora?

5                   COMMISSIONER FORADORA:   Yes.

6                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK:   Commissioner

7 Fredricks? Commissioner Fredricks?

8                   COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS:   Yes.

9                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK:   Commissioner

10 Hoover?

11                   COMMISSIONER HOOVER:   Yes.

12                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK:   Commissioner

13 Layton?

14                   COMMISSIONER LAYTON:   Yes.

15                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK:   Commissioner

16 Schnepf-Giger?

17                   COMMISSIONER SCHNEPP-GIGER:   Yes.

18                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK:   Motion passes.

19                   ATTORNEY BECHTEL:   Thank you.

20                   And the next item before the

21 Commission is also from the Bureau of Wildlife

22 Management. It concerns adopted rulemaking to amend

23 58 Pa. Code Section 147.746, relating to exceptions

24 for resident Canada geese to align state-level

25 regulations with recent federal amendments to

1 depredation orders.

2                   Depredation orders for resident Canada  
3 geese were established in federal and state  
4 regulations in 2006 and have been successful in  
5 providing affected individuals and businesses with  
6 methods to reduce goose-related damage and conflicts,  
7 especially in situations where recreational hunting  
8 is impractical or insufficient for population  
9 control.

10                   The text of these rulemaking is shown  
11 on pages eight and nine of your agenda.

12                   PRESIDENT FOX: Do we have a motion?

13                   COMMISSIONER KNICK: So moved.

14 Commissioner Knick.

15                   PRESIDENT FOX: Second?

16                   COMMISSIONER HOOVER: Second. Brian  
17 Hoover.

18                   PRESIDENT FOX: Any discussion? Any  
19 opposition?

20                   Motion carried.

21                   ATTORNEY BECHTEL: And the next item  
22 on the agenda today is from the Bureau of Wildlife  
23 Protection. It concerns adopted rulemaking to amend  
24 58 pa. Code Section 141.18, relating to permitted  
25 devices to authorize the use of handheld and

1 firearm-mounted night-vision and infrared or thermal  
2 optics used solely for furbearer hunting.

3                   The text is shown on page 11 of your  
4 Agenda.

5                   PRESIDENT FOX: Do we have a motion?

6                   COMMISSIONER HOOVER: So moved. Brian  
7 Hoover.

8                   PRESIDENT FOX: Second?

9                   COMMISSIONER SCHNEPP-GIGER: Schnepp-  
10 Giger, second.

11                   PRESIDENT FOX: Any discussion on  
12 that?

13                   COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Yeah, President.  
14 It's Commissioner Layton. I don't know if Bureau  
15 Director Decoskey is available, but I think there had  
16 been some - there had been some changes to the  
17 language of this.

18                   MR. DECOSKEY: Yes, Commissioner  
19 Layton, I'm available.

20                   COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Can you - can  
21 you just explain - I understand that there was some  
22 changes to the language. Just for cleaning up  
23 purposes.

24                   MR. DECOSKEY: Yeah.

25                   In the commentary part, we added the

1 part about thermal. Because the normal hunter or  
2 sportsman believes that thermal technology is quite  
3 different than infrared technology. And to keep it  
4 in a layman's terms, infrared technology is used in  
5 thermal technologies. Therefore, you wouldn't have  
6 thermal without infrared. That's why we kept with  
7 the same language with the infrared optics versus  
8 same thermal. Because they're the same technology.  
9 It's just what's out there to the general public and  
10 what they believe is thermal is the same thing as  
11 infrared. You need infrared in order to detect  
12 thermal images.

13 COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Very -.

14 MR. DECOSKEY: That's the only change  
15 that we added to - is the commentary, where we added  
16 thermal in there versus the actual regulation.

17 COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Very good. I  
18 just wanted you to clarify that for us. Thanks,  
19 Jason. I appreciate that.

20 COMMISSIONER HOOVER: I just want to  
21 point out that this is one of the opportunities where  
22 the Commission has listened to the hunter and to the  
23 public and has gone out and made changes based on the  
24 comments that we received.

25 We wanted the hunters that were out

1 there to understand, you know, that the Commission  
2 does listen and this is - this is what comes from it.

3 PRESIDENT FOX: Any further  
4 discussion?

5 Commission Mitrick, will you call the  
6 roll, please?

7 COMMISSIONER MITRICK: All in favor?

8 ---

9 (WHEREUPON, AYES RESPOND.)

10 ---

11 PRESIDENT FOX: Motion carries.

12 COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Opposed?

13 All right.

14 ATTORNEY BETCHEL: So the next item  
15 that would come before the Commission today comes  
16 from the Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management. It  
17 concerns real estate and the donation of real estate.  
18 Contract Number L-3771, State Game Land Number 55,  
19 Columbia County.

20 Regency Marcellus Gas Gathering, LLC,  
21 or Regency, is offering to donate 75 more or less  
22 acres of land in North Centre Township, Columbia  
23 County, adjoining State Game Land Number 55, as shown  
24 on Exhibit RED 1, on page 14 of any the agendas you  
25 may have.

1                   Regency offered to donate the land as  
2 replacement habitat to mitigate for lost wildlife  
3 resources and recreational values associated with  
4 construction and maintenance activities associated  
5 with the issuance of licenses for right-of-way for  
6 natural gas pipelines and appurtenances on State Game  
7 Land Number 12 in Sullivan and Bradford Counties.  
8 Access is from Fester's Lane Access Road off S.R.  
9 1012, Mountain Road.

10                   PRESIDENT FOX: Do we have a motion?

11                   COMMISSIONER HOOVER: So moved, Brian  
12 Hoover.

13                   PRESIDENT FOX: Second?

14                   COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Second. Tim  
15 Layton.

16                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Mitrick,  
17 Second.

18                   PRESIDENT FOX: Is there any  
19 discussion on that?

20                   COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Denny  
21 Fredricks, I have a question, Mr. President. Is  
22 anybody able to answer what the exchange rate on this  
23 was? You know, it looks like we got 75 plus or minus  
24 acres, but in exchange for how many disturbed? Does  
25 anybody know the answer to that?

1                   MR. SUSSENBACH: Yes, Mr. Fredricks -  
2 can you hear me?

3                   COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Yes, sir.

4                   MR. SUSSENBACH: So this is actually  
5 in addition to a parcel that we acquired at an  
6 earlier Commission meeting, so that was 154 acres.  
7 This additional 75 acres. Total impacts were between  
8 40 and 50 permanent impacts to the acres of permanent  
9 impact to the game lands.

10                   However, all of that habitat has been  
11 restored just in a little different state than it was  
12 before. It was kind of converted from forest to  
13 grassland, and it is quite the mosaic up on Game  
14 Lands 12 and 36 of this point. So doing the math  
15 there, we're not quite at five to one, but we're a  
16 little better than four to one.

17                   And I just want to add that this is  
18 enhanced mitigation. This is above and beyond what  
19 our normal rates would have been. The Commission  
20 gave up, you know, nothing to acquire these  
21 properties. This was all negotiated with the company  
22 through regional staff and staff in Harrisburg as an  
23 enhancement to the already - you know, the financial  
24 end of things with regard to that right-of-way.

25                   COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Thank you,

1 Pete. Good job. Thank you.

2 PRESIDENT FOX: Any other questions?  
3 Do you want to call the vote, Commissioner Mitrick?

4 COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Yes.

5 Do I hear any nays?

6 ---

7 (WHEREUPON, THERE WAS NO RESPONSE.)

8 ---

9 COMMISSIONER MITRICK: The motion  
10 carries.

11 PRESIDENT FOX: Okay.

12 ATTORNEY BETCHEL: Thank you. The  
13 next item on your agenda appears on page 15 of your  
14 agenda. It's Contract L-3772, State Game Land Number  
15 219, Bradford County.

16 The Conservation Fund is offering to  
17 donate 139 more or less acres of land in Warren  
18 Township, Bradford County, adjoining State Game Land  
19 Number 219, as shown on Exhibit RED 2 on page 16 of  
20 the agendas.

21 The Conservation Fund, acting as a  
22 conservation agent, is acquiring the property with  
23 funding provided by Williams Companies for voluntary  
24 mitigation as a result of impacts associated with the  
25 Constitution Pipeline project located in Susquehanna

1 County. Access is from Cadis Road.

2 PRESIDENT FOX: Do we have a motion on  
3 that?

4 COMMISSIONER KNICK: So moved,  
5 Commissioner Knick.

6 PRESIDENT FOX: Second?

7 COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Second, Denny  
8 Fredricks.

9 COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Second,  
10 Commission Mitrick.

11 PRESIDENT FOX: Discussion?  
12 Denny, did I hear you come in?

13 COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: No. I'm  
14 good, Charlie. Thank you.

15 PRESIDENT FOX: Oh, okay.

16 Okay.

17 Thank you.

18 Commissioner Mitrick, do you want to  
19 call the vote?

20 COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Yes. And do I  
21 hear any nays?

22 ---

23 (WHEREUPON, THERE WAS NO RESPONSE.)

24 ---

25 COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Hearing none,

1 the motion passes.

2 PRESIDENT FOX: Okay.

3 ATTORNEY BETCHEL: Thank you. And the  
4 next item is on page 17 of your agenda, it's contract  
5 number L-3773, State Game Land Number 156 in Lebanon  
6 County.

7 The estate of Daniel R. Blouch is  
8 offering to donate 2.67 more or less acres of land in  
9 South Lebanon Township, Lebanon County, adjoining  
10 State Game Land Number 156, as shown on Exhibit Red 3  
11 on page 18 of the agendas. Access is from existing  
12 State Game Land Number 156.

13 PRESIDENT FOX: Do we have a motion on  
14 that?

15 COMMISSIONER HOOVER: So moved,  
16 Hoover.

17 PRESIDENT FOX: Do we have a second?

18 COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Mitrick,  
19 second.

20 PRESIDENT FOX: Any discussion?

21 MR. SUSSENBACH: Mr. President, this  
22 is Pete Sussenbach. May I just add a few things?

23 PRESIDENT FOX: Absolutely.

24 MR. SUSSENBACH: I just want to say  
25 that, you know, acquiring any land in the Southeast

1 Region is a challenge at times. And this is just an  
2 exciting opportunity for us. Although it's small  
3 acreage, it protects the ultimate integrity and  
4 future of that section of game lands. You know,  
5 we're just excited to see this donation. The  
6 previous donation, it had some technical difficulty  
7 there, but our partners over at the Conservation Fund  
8 were instrumental in that previous proposal as well.

9                   And this one to, you know, to see that  
10 a private individual was actually thinking about us,  
11 or individuals at this point, and considering the  
12 Game Commission as a, you know, a donation to us is  
13 pretty exciting and greatly appreciated. I just want  
14 to throw that in there.

15                   PRESIDENT FOX: Thank you.

16                   Commission Mitrick, do you want to  
17 call the vote?

18                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Do I hear any  
19 nays?

20                   ---

21 (WHEREUPON, THERE WAS NO RESPONSE.)

22                   ---

23                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Hearing none,  
24 the motion passes.

25                   ATTORNEY BETCHEL: And the next item

1 before the Commission is on page 19 of your agenda.  
2 It's Contract number L-3774, State Game Land Number  
3 264 in Dauphin County.

4 Dauphin County is offering to donate  
5 any and all of the interest they may have in a 0.36  
6 more or less acre of land parcel in Wiconisco  
7 Township, Dauphin County, an interior within State  
8 Game Land Number 264. This is shown on Exhibit RED 4  
9 on page 20 of your agenda.

10 This is the same tract of land that  
11 was offered as a donation from Ladnar, Inc. under  
12 contract L-3735. After an examination of Ladnar's  
13 title, it was determined that Dauphin County may also  
14 have an interest in the land. Access is from  
15 existing State Game Land Number 264.

16 PRESIDENT FOX: Do we have a motion on  
17 that?

18 COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Denny  
19 Fredricks -.

20 COMMISSIONER KNICK: Commissioner  
21 Knick, so moved.

22 PRESIDENT FOX: Second?

23 COMMISSIONER FREDERICKS: Second.

24 PRESIDENT FOX: Any discussion?

25 Mitrick, call the vote, please.

1                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Do I hear any  
2 nays?

3                   ---

4 (WHEREUPON, THERE WAS NO RESPONSE.)

5                   ---

6                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Hearing none,  
7 the motion passes.

8                   PRESIDENT FOX: Okay.

9                   ATTORNEY BETCHEL: And the next item  
10 concerns an acquisition. It's on page 21 of your  
11 agenda. It's contract number L-3775, State Game Land  
12 Number 170 in Perry and Cumberland Counties.

13                   The Nature Conservancy is offering  
14 213.5 more or less acres of land in five tax parcels.  
15 The three northern tax parcels are located in Penn  
16 Township, Perry County, and adjoin State Game Land  
17 Number 170, as shown on Exhibit RED 5 on page 22 of  
18 your agenda.

19                   The two southern tax parcels are  
20 located south of State Game Land Number 170 in East  
21 Pennsboro and Hampden Townships, Cumberland County.

22                   The option price is \$213,000 lump sum  
23 to be paid with funds from third-party commitments  
24 for compensation of habitat and recreational losses,  
25 which occurred on State Game Lands from previously

1 approved projects.

2                   The Nature Conservancy has applied for  
3 grant funding through the Department of Conservation  
4 and Natural Resources and if successfully awarded,  
5 covenants, conditions and restrictions associated  
6 with this funding source will be required to accept  
7 the property. Access for the three northern parcels  
8 is from existing State Game Land Number 170. The two  
9 southern parcels are landlocked.

10                   PRESIDENT FOX: Do we have a motion on  
11 that?

12                   COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Denny  
13 Fredricks, so moved.

14                   PRESIDENT FOX: Second?

15                   COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Commissioner  
16 Mitrick, second.

17                   PRESIDENT FOX: Is there any  
18 opposition? Any discussion?

19                   MR. SUSSENBACH: Mr. President, this  
20 is Pete Sussenbach again, if I can just add a few  
21 things.

22                   PRESIDENT FOX: Yep.

23                   MR. SUSSENBACH: I just want to thank  
24 the Nature Conservancy and our folks at the  
25 Department of Conservation of Natural Resources for

1 working with us through this process, although it's  
2 not a finalized deal quite yet, even after the  
3 pending approval. There's still some logistics we've  
4 got to work through.

5                   They are going out of their way to  
6 make this happen and work with the Pennsylvania Game  
7 Commission in moving this land to us should it be  
8 approved. So pretty exciting opportunity. And the  
9 \$213,000 lump sum, I got to tell you, is really a  
10 fraction of what the appraised value came in at. So  
11 it's quite the acquisition in a place of - and if you  
12 look at the map, there's quite a bit of, you know,  
13 commercial and residential properties just to the  
14 south of there. So it will be heavily used, we're  
15 convinced of that by the hunting public. So we're  
16 pretty excited about it.

17                   PRESIDENT FOX: Okay.

18                   COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Mr.  
19 President, it's Denny Fredricks. To add to the  
20 discussion, I would like to, once again - and I will  
21 continue to do so, is point out these significant  
22 land acquisitions that we get from private donors and  
23 conservation partners, again, just to reiterate that  
24 the thought being out there, that hunting - hunters  
25 and hunting licenses pay for all these game lands,

1 you know.

2                   Again, just to make a point in  
3 discussion and bring to everybody's attention that  
4 the amount of acreage that we receive through  
5 conservatorships, donations privately and otherwise,  
6 are extremely significant.

7                   Thank you.

8                   PRESIDENT FOX: Is there any  
9 opposition to this?

10                   All right.

11                   We'll move on.

12                   ATTORNEY BETCHEL: Yes. The next item  
13 is from the Oil/Gas and Mineral Division. It shows  
14 on page 23 of your agenda and concerns a Coal Refuse  
15 Reclamation Agreement, Tract 79A-20, Blacklick  
16 Township, Cambria County.

17                   Robindale Energy Services, Inc., or  
18 RES, of Armagh, Pennsylvania, has requested an  
19 agreement to mine and remove an estimated 10,000 to  
20 15,000 tons of economically-recoverable coal refuse  
21 material within, approximately, 4.6 acres of State  
22 Game Land Number 79. The area is shown on Exhibit  
23 OGM 1 on page 24 of your agenda.

24                   The Game Commission owns the surface  
25 and surface support rights, and coal refuse conveyed



1 motion.

2 PRESIDENT FOX: Second?

3 COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Denny

4 Fredricks, second.

5 PRESIDENT FOX: Is there any

6 opposition?

7 COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Mr. President -

8 Mr. President, I have a question. This is

9 Commissioner Layton.

10 So Pete, if you could just touch on  
11 this a little bit, I know that State Game Land 79 has  
12 been mined now for an extremely long amount of time.

13 Is this part of that continued mining that's going  
14 on there? Is this a different project? What is this  
15 all about?

16 MR. SUSSENBACH: You know, this is an  
17 entirely different project. This is cleaning up,  
18 basically, a bunch of the refuse material from - you  
19 know, mining from long ago. So at the end of the day  
20 once this coal material is removed, that 4.6 acres  
21 should be restored to something pretty nice, probably  
22 a nice addition to some of the grasslands that  
23 already exist out there.

24 COMMISSIONER LAYTON: So is this -

25 this area is not adjacent to what's being mined now?

1 This is - if I'm seeing this correctly, this is  
2 across the hard road from that?

3 MR. SUSSENBACH: Yes. That's correct.

4 COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Okay.

5 Very good. Thank you.

6 MR. SUSSENBACH: And basically, it's  
7 removal of existing spoil piles, which provide, you  
8 know, honestly, very limited to no wildlife benefit.

9

10 COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Gotcha (sic).

11 Thanks, Pete.

12 PRESIDENT FOX: Any other discussion?

13

14 Is there any opposition?

15 Okay.

16 Any other new business?

17 COMMISSIONER HOOVER: I just wanted to  
18 take the opportunity -.

19 PRESIDENT FOX: We have one more  
20 individual that needs to be recognized. I'd like to  
21 take a minute to thank Commissioner Brian Hoover for  
22 his service to the Pennsylvania Game Commission and  
23 the citizens of the Commonwealth.

24 Mr. Hoover was appointed and confirmed  
25 with the Board, June of 2012. It will be his final

1 Board meeting. On behalf of the entire Board, thank  
2 you, Brian, for your hard work over the years.

3 COMMISSIONER HOOVER: Thank you,  
4 President Fox.

5 I do want to take a moment to thank  
6 the staff. It's been - it's been a great eight  
7 years. I've had the opportunity to do a tremendous  
8 amount of work and see many things that I would never  
9 have been able to see as a - as just a hunter.

10 And I want to thank the staff, because  
11 the staff - I think we have assembled probably the  
12 greatest staff in the country to work on  
13 hunting-related items and to control the State of  
14 Pennsylvania. And this agency is the best. And I  
15 want to thank the Commissioners that I've worked with  
16 and had the opportunity to work with over the last  
17 eight years.

18 And yes, this is - this is my last  
19 official meeting as a Commissioner, as I retire from  
20 my eight-year term. I want to, again, thank everyone  
21 for all the positive work and the things that I've  
22 learned. Thank you very much.

23 MR. BURHANS: Commissioner Fox -  
24 President Fox?

25 PRESIDENT FOX: Yes?

1                   MR. BURHANS: This is Bryan Burhans,  
2 if I could just say a few words? I just want to  
3 thank Commissioner Hoover for everything he's done.  
4 I've been here for, now going on seven years, and  
5 Commissioner Hoover's been there. He's been - served  
6 as president. He has been active and engaging in all  
7 the activity of the Commission. He has been a great  
8 support, mentor for me, has taught me a lot. I'm  
9 just ever so grateful as his service as a  
10 Commissioner, what he means to staff and the wildlife  
11 resource.

12                   So Commissioner Hoover, thank you so  
13 much for your services. Greatly, greatly  
14 appreciated.

15                   COMMISSIONER HOOVER: Thank you.

16                   COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Mr. President,  
17 if I may, just for a second, please.

18                   Brian, I just want to thank you. It's  
19 been a pleasure serving the Board with you. I'm  
20 honored to call you a colleague and a friend. I'm  
21 going to miss you. I'm going to rely on you for my  
22 last year for guidance moving forward. I just think,  
23 as I look back and see all the things that you helped  
24 accomplish, Commissioner, you know, we - you have  
25 helped drive this agency to where it is today, and I

1 want to thank you for that.

2 COMMISSIONER HOOVER: Thank you very  
3 much.

4 PRESIDENT FOX: I'd like to echo those  
5 comments and simply say it's been a great ride.

6 Thank you.

7 Under new business, the Board was  
8 previously presented a draft of the 2023 Strategic  
9 Plan. At this time, I'd like the Board to approve  
10 this new Strategic Plan.

11 Commissioner Mitrick, do we have a  
12 motion? Do we have a motion?

13 COMMISSIONER KNICK: So moved, Mr.  
14 Knick. Commissioner Knick.

15 PRESIDENT FOX: Second?

16 COMMISSIONER FREDRICKS: Second, Denny  
17 Fredricks.

18 PRESIDENT FOX: Any discussion on  
19 that?

20 Commissioner Mitrick, would you call  
21 the roll?

22 COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Are there any  
23 nays?

24 ---

25 (WHEREUPON, THERE WAS NO RESPONSE.)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

---

COMMISSIONER MITRICK: Hearing none,  
the motion passes.

COMMISSIONER LAYTON: Mr. President,  
we really didn't get a chance to comment on that.  
Can I just say that, I want to thank the staff for  
all the work they put into the strategic plan?  
That's - it's not an easy task, and they - they got a  
lot accomplished in a short amount of time. And  
kudos goes out to Executive Director Burhans and his  
staff for taking care of this and getting it done.

PRESIDENT FOX: Any other new business  
from the Commissioners?

Okay.

The next Commission meeting will be  
held on January 22, 23 of 2021, here in Harrisburg.

Do I have a motion to adjourn?

COMMISSIONER MITRICK: So moved,  
Commissioner Mitrick.

COMMISSIONER HOOVER: Second,  
Commissioner Hoover.

PRESIDENT FOX: That adjourns this  
meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 9:52 A.M.

\* \* \* \* \*

CERTIFICATE

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceeding was reported by me on 09/26/2020 and that I, Morgan McKendrick, read this transcript and that I attest that this transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceeding.



Morgan McKendrick,

Court Reporter

