

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Sarah Shapiro Hurley

FOR: FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Secretary Matt Frank

SUMMARY:

Sarah Shapiro Hurley is retiring February 13, 2009, after 20 years of state service

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Retirement Resolution for Sarah Shapiro Hurley

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- No Fiscal Estimate Required
- No Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required
- No Background Memo

- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

APPROVED:

Bureau Director,

Laurie J. Osterndorf

Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf

Matt Frank

Secretary, Matt Frank

Date

4/16/09

Date

2/11/08

Date

Retirement Resolution

Sarah Shapiro Hurley retired from the Department of Natural Resources on February 13, 2009 after more than 32 years of dedicated service with both the federal government and the State of Wisconsin. Sarah earned her Veterinarian Degree in 1973 from the University of Illinois, and then in 1976 began her career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – National Wildlife Health Lab as a Veterinary Epizootiologist. In 1979 she moved to a position with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection as an Epidemiologist. In 1983 Sarah accepted a position with the University of Wisconsin, Department of Veterinarian Sciences, where in 1988 she completed her PhD. That same year, the Department of Natural Resources was fortunate that Sarah accepted a position with the Bureau of Wildlife Management as a Wildlife Health Specialist. She was the first veterinarian to be hired by the Department and the combination of her veterinarian and epidemiology training greatly enhanced the Department's fledgling wildlife health program. In 1991 she was promoted to Veterinarian Wildlife Health Supervisor – leading the Bureau's Wildlife Health Team, and in 1997 was promoted to the Deputy Administrator for the Department's Land Division where she served until retiring.

Through out her career, Sarah made use of her talents as a smart, devoted professional – and as a diplomat, advisor to senior level management and mentor – to solve problems by applying the best science available and by compelling people to keep moving forward, working together for the common good.

Sarah's leadership, perseverance, and ability to manage intense controversy prevailed as she led the charge that resulted in Wisconsin's 2001 Act 56 – the Captive Wildlife law. Ironically, the discovery of Chronic Wasting Disease in wild white-tailed deer in 2001 exemplified the need for serious improvement in Wisconsin's Captive Wildlife Laws, just as Sarah had been telling the legislature, hunters and policy makers for years.

Sarah also led the Land Division's development of its diversity policy and programs that has resulted in many highly qualified women and minorities choosing DNR for employment. Sarah was a pioneering woman in a wildlife profession dominated by men and she has earned the respect and professional admiration of her peers. She was active in the Wildlife Disease Association and The American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians where she served as President for 1997-1999.

WHEREAS, Dr. Sarah Shapiro Hurley has been a dedicated employee throughout her career, carrying out her work faithfully and with good grace and humor, and has earned the friendship, respect and gratitude of her colleagues;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Natural Resources Board at its February 2009 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Christine Thomas, CHAIR