NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD



10 Baldwin Street Montpelier, VT 05633-3201

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD MEETING Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at 11:00 am

Board Members Present in person or by Microsoft Teams:

Sabina Haskell, Chair Brad Aldrich, Vice Chair Steve Larrabee, Member Andrew Collier, Member Don Turner, Member

Staff Present in person or by Microsoft Teams:

Peter Gill, Executive Director
Alison Stone, General Counsel
Jenny Ronis, Associate General Counsel
Aaron Brondyke, State Coordinator
Michaela Stickney, Enforcement and Compliance Officer
Christopher Kinnick, Enforcement and Compliance Officer
Rachel Lomonaco, Business Director

Members of the Public:

Wayne Lalicon, US Department of Transportation Office of Hazardous Materials Safety was present in person.

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

I. <u>11:02 a.m. Welcome and Introductions</u>

Chair Haskell welcomed those in attendance.

II. <u>11:04 a.m. Opportunity for public to comment and agenda and non-agenda items</u> Chair Haskell offered the public the opportunity to comment.

Mr. Wayne Lalicon from the US Department of Transportation Office of Hazardous Materials Safety joined the meeting. Staff introductions were made. Mr. Lalicon requested to hold his comments until later in the meeting.

No other public comments were made.



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III. <u>11:07 a.m. Review and action on Minutes of Dec 13, 2022, and Jan 10, 2023</u>

A motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, December 13, 2022 meeting was made by Mr. Aldrich, seconded by Mr. Turner and approved by those members in attendance of the December 13, 2022 meeting as follows.

Sabina Haskell - Yes Brad Aldrich - Yes Steve Larrabee - Abstain Don Turner - Yes Andrew Collier - Abstain

A motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, January 10, 2023 meeting was made by Mr. Aldrich, seconded by Mr. Collier and approved by those members in attendance of the January 10, 2023 meeting as follows.

Sabina Haskell - Yes Brad Aldrich - Yes Steve Larrabee - Abstain Don Turner - Abstain Andrew Collier - Yes

IV. 11:10 a.m. NRB office and budget updates

Business Director Rachel Lomonaco gave a budget update. The Fiscal Year 2024 budget is similar to Fiscal Year 2023 with marginal increases to personnel costs and operating costs. Chair Haskell included that we expect to testify on the Fiscal Year 2024 budget request in the next few days and will circulate the budget presentation to the Board members.

Chair Haskell indicated that a draft of the annual report was circulated to the Board members and asked if there were any questions of comments from the Board on the draft report. No comments were made.

Enforcement Officers Michaela Stickney and Chris Kinnick provided an overview of the enforcement information for calendar year 2022, how they identify formal enforcement actions, how they set priorities to resolve complaints and enforcement cases and gave examples of several enforcement cases and complaints that were resolved in 2022.

Chair Haskell inquired with the Board whether the schedule for the NRB Board meetings should be modified. The Board members discussed the topic and resolved that they will revisit the topic at the next meeting.



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V. <u>11:30 a.m. Discussion regarding Act 250 legislative initiatives</u>

Chair Haskell provided a legislative update including H.128 and act relating to working lands businesses, and the omnibus housing bill which both may include some updates to Act 250. Chair Haskell indicated that there is a public meeting on Thursday February 16, 2023 for the omnibus housing bill and if the Board members would like to attend they would need to sign up in advance.

Chair Haskell also indicated that staff are working on the report required under Act 182 and a planning document will be circulated to the Board members. The Governor's Fiscal Year 2024 budget includes a one-time appropriation of \$200,000.00 for the NRB to hire a facilitator for that report. Chair Haskell inquired with the Board members whether they would like to be stakeholders in that process and Mr. Turner expressed some interest.

VI. 11:35 a.m. Opportunity for public to comment and agenda and non-agenda items

Chair Haskell opened the opportunity for public comment again for Mr. Lalicon. Mr. Lalicon specializes in the packaging, handling and shipping of hazardous materials and wanted to make himself available as a resource to the NRB Board members and staff. Enforcement Officer Michaela Stickney and Associate General Counsel Jenny Ronis suggested that the NRB provide Mr. Lalicon with contact information for the Agency of Natural Resources and Agency of Transportation who may also be interested in speaking with Mr. Lalicon.

VII. 11:42 a.m. Executive Session

A motion to find that premature disclosure of information would clearly place the Board at a substantial disadvantage was made by Mr. Aldrich, seconded by Mr. Collier and approved unanimously by the Board.

A motion to enter executive session was made by Mr. Larabee for the purposes of discussing this information, seconded by Mr. Turner and approved unanimously by the Board.

A motion to leave executive session was made by Mr. Larabee, seconded by Mr. Collier and approved unanimously by the Board except for Mr. Turner who left the meeting during the executive session.

VIII. <u>12:09 p.m. Adjourn</u>

At 12:09 p.m., Mr. Aldrich made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Collier, and unanimously approved as follows.

Sabina Haskell - Yes Brad Aldrich - Yes Steve Larrabee - Yes Don Turner – Not present Andrew Collier - Yes



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