



# New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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December 17, 2021

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
And the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, N.H. 03301

## REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to accept a donation pursuant to RSA 4:8 of a 35-foot safe boat from Mr. George Wells valued at approximately \$1,500,000. This safe boat, if approved, would be provided to the Law Enforcement Division and be permanently assigned to the coastline of the state.

## EXPLANATION

This is a request to accept this generous donation of this 35-foot safe boat equipped with four outboard motors. This is a boat designed for ocean patrol especially designed to navigate during times of foul weather. This donation will eventually replace the current 17-year old, 27-foot safe boat being used as a patrol boat along our coastline today. This boat is currently three years old but when purchased new was valued at approximately \$1,500,000.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Commission voted unanimously to accept this donation at their October 12, 2021 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott R. Mason  
Executive Director

**NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT**  
**OCTOBER 12, 2021 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Location: Major Waldron's Sportsmen's Association, 339 Franklin Pierce Highway, Barrington, NH

Commissioners Present: J. Caveney, B. Temple, P. DeBow, C. Hodgdon, S. Price, M. Hodgson, E. Stohl, P. McInnis, & R. Green.

Strafford County Commissioner position: vacant

Commissioners absent/excused: M. Lachance

Executive Director Mason – Present

Chairman Stohl called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., and asked the audience to join in the pledge of allegiance. He informed the audience that the public is entitled to attend all Commission meetings and when recognized by the chairman, the public may speak on any item on the agenda. The Chair reserves the right to limit comment to the extent necessary for the orderly conduct of the meeting.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1.) Commissioner Green moved to approve the September 14, 2021 Commission Meeting Minutes, as written, and Commissioner Temple seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

2.) Consent Agenda - The following items were grouped together and were noticed as consent agenda items to expedite action on routine matters, which may not require public discussion. The Commission voted to approve these matters as presented. Commission members may remove certain items if further public input or discussion is deemed necessary

Commissioner Hodgdon moved to approve consent agenda items 2a.-2f., as presented below, and Commissioner Green seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

2a.) The Commission accepted the following donations totaling \$515.00 made in memory of Raymond Cerri Jr., Derry, NH:

**Donations made to the Hunter Education Program:**

- The Bradley Family, Windham, NH - \$100.00

**Donations made to the Small Gifts & Donations Account:**

- Susan Gilbert, New York, NY - \$ 25.00
- Mitchell Gershonowitz, New York, NY - \$ 30.00
- Allen & Joyce Heidorn, Cromwell, CT - \$ 35.00
- Raymond & Judith Ouellette, Windham, NH - \$ 50.00
- Hans Jackson, Derry, NH - \$ 75.00
- Stephen & Susan Nawn, Bedford, NH - \$100.00

5.) Chairman Stohl announced that the Commission received a petition from Weldon Bosworth, on behalf of the NH Wildlife Coalition, relative to a rule change in reference to the take of wild passage Peregrine Falcons.

At this time, Commissioner Green moved to forward the petition to the Wildlife Division for review & input at the November 9, 2021 Commission Meeting and Commissioner Hodgson seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

1.) Kathy LaBonte, Chief, Business Division, came before the Commission and reviewed the financial statement & dedicated account balances and answered questions.

Commissioner Hodgdon thanked Kathy LaBonte for the extensive amount of work she put into compiling the dedicated account balances. He stated, "This information is very helpful and informative to everyone."

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Stohl thanked Kathy, as well.

2.) Cheri Patterson, Chief, Marine Division, updated the Commission on the following:

- Black Sea Bass rule change to allow a directed commercial fishery that meets the requirements of the ASMFC (Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission) Black Sea Bass Fishery Management.
- Restoration closure to oyster harvest in the area around Nannie Island to continue the restoration efforts in the Great Bay area. This restoration closure is being considered as a current restoration closed area adjacent to Nannie Island opens in November.

 **LATE ITEMS:**

1.) Colonel Jordan, Chief, Law Enforcement Division, came before the Commission requesting acceptance of the donation of a 35-foot safe boat made to the Law Enforcement Division from George Wells, who has a home in Walpole, NH.

Colonel Jordan reported that the boat is designed for ocean patrol and is equipped with four outboard motors. This donation will replace the current 17- year old, 27- foot safe boat and is valued at \$1.5 million dollars when purchased new.

Commissioner Temple moved to accept the donation of a 35-foot safe boat made to the Law Enforcement Division from George Wells, Walpole, NH, and Commissioner McInnis seconded.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Price moved to make this an action, to be voted on today, and Commissioner Hodgson seconded.

A vote was taken to make this an action item, to be voted on today, and was unanimous in the affirmative.

A vote was taken on the original motion to accept the donation of a 35-foot safe boat made to the Law Enforcement Division from George Wells, Walpole, NH, and was unanimous in the affirmative.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**COMMITTEE STRUCTURE:**

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:** Public policy development & recommendations, as well as Commission advocacy before legislature.

Commissioner Green reported that the language to LSR's would be coming out in the very near future. He reported that he was told that the Senate was advised to keep bills submitted down to a minimum.

He further reported that he felt the weekly legislative committee meetings via Microsoft teams was very helpful in keeping everyone updated. He inquired with Director Mason as to whether that option would still be available for meetings. Director Mason responded that he would look into it and get back to the Commission.

Commissioner Green, Chair; Commissioners: DeBow, Price & Hodgson  
Staff members: Paul Sanderson & Kevin Jordan

**GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:** Commission professional development, education & policy recommendations related to Commission conduct & activities. No report.

Commissioner Lachance, Chair; Commissioners: Green & Temple.  
Staff member: Cheri Patterson

**SUSTAINABILITY & STRATEGIC PLANNING:** Agency funding, development & oversight of strategic plan. No report.

Commissioner Hodgdon, Chair; Commissioners: Caveney & Hodgson.  
Staff member: Scott Mason

**RESOURCES & INFRASTRUCTURE:** Policy recommendations related to agency infrastructure; including facilities, public access, habitat & wildlife.

Commissioner Temple, Chair; Commissioners: McInnis, Lachance & Caveney.  
Staff member: Dianne Timmins

Commissioner Temple reported that this committee would be meeting in the near future.