



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

2B - 6/17/26

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Stephanie L. Simek, Ph.D.
Executive Director

May 11, 2026

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
And the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 206:33-a, authorize the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to accept a donation of \$5,000.00 from John Berry, to be donated to the Law Enforcement Division to be utilized for search and rescue related equipment and training, from the date of Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2026. Funds to be deposited as follows:

Funds to be deposited into 020 07500 21120000 407364 Search & Rescue	<u>FY2026</u> \$5,000.00
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EXPLANATION

The family trust of John Berry has been making annual financial donations to the New Hampshire Fish and Game Law Enforcement Division for the past several years. These donations are made to honor New Hampshire Fish and Game Officers and to recognize all the work they do during challenging search and rescue missions throughout the state. This donation will provide much needed financial support to properly outfit the Conservation Officers and Canine Teams with lifesaving safety equipment and skill sets from training that is utilized to complete the myriad of search and rescue missions each year. This donation will greatly assist the members of the Advanced Search and Rescue Team to be successful in achieving improved public safety and education with the challenges faced during the various backcountry search and rescue missions.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Commission voted unanimously to accept this donation at their March 17, 2026, Commission Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted

Stephanie L. Simek Ph.D.
Executive Director

Kathy Ann LaBonte, Chief
Business Division

NEW HAMPSHIRE FISH AND GAME DEPARTMENT

MARCH 17, 2026 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Location: NH Fish & Game Department, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301

Commissioners Present: A.J. DeRosa, R. Green, J. Titone, D. Trahan G. Chandler, J. Caveney, C. Hodgdon, E. Stohl, B. Temple & D. Poole.

Commissioners absent/excused: P. McGonagle

Executive Director Simek – Present

Tanya Haskell, Administrative Assistant – present (transcriber of minutes)

Chairman DeRosa called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and asked everyone 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 Chairman reserves the right to limit comment to the extent necessary for the orderly conduct of the meeting.

Commissioner DeRosa announced that the meeting was being captured on video.

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1.) Commissioner Stohl moved to approve the February 17, 2026, Commission Minutes, as written, and Commissioner Trahan seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.
- 2.) Commissioner Stohl moved to approve consent agenda items 2a & 2b., as presented below, and Commissioner Temple seconded. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

2a.) The Commission accepted the following donations totaling \$5,100.00 made to the Search & Rescue Account:

• John Berry -	\$5,000.00
• Marvin Swartz -	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
	\$5,100.00

2b.) The Commission accepted the donation of \$100.00 from the Buffington Family, Enfield, NH, in memory of Allen Buffington of Clinton, CT, for deposit into the Fish & Game Fund.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- 1.) Financial Statement – Kathy LaBonte, Chief, Business Division, reported:
 - Federal recoveries indirect rate approved.
 - Expectation of increased incoming federal funds.
 - No major concerns reported.