

ILLINOIS ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTION BOARD

MINUTES OF 178th MEETING, MAY 18, 2018

MIDEWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE, MAIN MEETING ROOM, VISITOR CENTER, 30239 SOUTH STATE ROUTE 53, WILMINGTON, IL 60481

Approved at the 179th meeting, August 17, 2018

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Angelo Capparella, Dr. Janice Coons, Dr. Tracy Evans, Dr. Jeremie Fant, Dr. Joyce Hofmann, Mr. Bruce Ross-Shannon, Mr. Randy Schietzelt, Dr. Philip Willink, and Mr. Chris Young

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeannie Barnes (INHS), Joe Kath (IDNR), Kelly Neal (IDNR), Tom Lerczak (INPC), Andy Stites (INHS), Beth Kramer (IDNR), Brandon Jackson (IDNR), Liz Harney (IDNR), Jeremy Tiemann (INHS), Donnie Dann (INPC), and Lindsey Ramsey (Illinois Farm Bureau)

1 Call to Order, Roll Call of Board Members, and Introduction of Guests

Chair Hofmann called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M. and read the roll call. Since all Board members were in attendance, there was a quorum. Chair Hofmann welcomed the visitors and pointed out that it was Endangered Species Day.

2 Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Ross-Shannon moved that the agenda be adopted as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schietzelt and carried by unanimous vote.

3 Approval of Minutes from the 177th Meeting

Draft minutes of the 177th meeting were distributed to Board members prior to the meeting. Dr. Hofmann had corrected a typo pointed out a typo by Dr. Capparella via email. No further corrections were proposed so the minutes of the 177th meeting were approved as presented.

4 Report from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)

Board members received a report from Mr. Chris Young detailing activities of the IDNR's Office of Resource Conservation and Office of Realty and Environmental Planning. Hiring for several positions is proceeding in the ORC.

5 IDNR Nature Preserves Staff Reorganization

Mr. Young presented a report on the proposed reorganization of the staff of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission. There was an extensive discussion regarding the purpose and goals of such reorganization. Several Board members expressed their concerns regarding certain aspects of the proposed reorganization, such as staff being divided into different groups within the Division of Natural Heritage. Mr. Tom Lerczak and Mr. Donny Dann expressed their views on the proposal to Board members. Mr. Young indicated that a final decision had not been made and that the Board would be informed as consideration of the reorganization proposal continues.

6 IDNR Off-Target Pesticide Drift Monitoring

Mr. Young presented a report on IDNR's off-target pesticide drift monitoring program and efforts underway to formulate policies concerning this issue. There will be an online form to report damage to property and IDNR will send information to the Illinois Department of Agriculture, which will have the regulatory authority.

7 Report from the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission

Ms. Kelly Neal presented an oral report and a written memorandum from the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission. Mr. Schietzelt asked what percentage of Nature Preserves was being maintained. Ms. Neal stated that the situation was better for sites in northeastern Illinois. In response to a question from Dr. Capparella she reported that Pilcher Park in Joliet had been treated with Bt this year to control gypsy moths.

8 Report from the Chair of the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board

Chair Hofmann reported on her activities since the 177th meeting date. The main activity was preparing the Board's 2016-2018 Biennial Report. Her written report to the Board is attached.

9 Update on the Review of Listed Plant Species

Dr. Coons and Dr. Fant reported that the Botanical ESTAC will meet on May 25, 2018 to review plants of central and western Illinois, and meetings of the ESTAC for the other regions are being arranged.

10 Approval of 2016-2018 Biennial Report

Chair Hofmann distributed a draft of the Biennial Report regarding the Board's activities from July 2016 through June 2018 prior to the meeting. Dr. Evans had reviewed the report and Dr. Capparella had made some editorial comments. Chair Hofmann said that she thought it would be a good idea to add the number of hours Board members had donated to the State. The other Board members concurred. The report, with the addition of information on donated time and list changes approved at the current meeting, was approved by unanimous vote upon a motion to approve by Mr. Ross-Shannon, seconded by Dr. Evans.

11 Preliminary Approval of a Petition to Remove the Iowa Darter (*Etheostoma exile*) from the Illinois List of Endangered and Threatened Species

The Board discussed granting preliminary approval for removing the Iowa Darter from the Illinois List. Jeremy Tiemann of the Illinois Natural History Survey gave a presentation to support the petition for de-listing. Dr. Capparella made a motion for approval, which was seconded by Mr. Scheitzelt and unanimously approved.

12 Preliminary Approval of a Petition to Remove the Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) from the Illinois List of Endangered and Threatened Species

The Board discussed granting preliminary approval for removing the Mississippi Kite from the Illinois List. Dr. Mike Ward of the University of Illinois and Dr. Angelo Capparella of Illinois State University filed the petition and Dr. Capparella presented the petition to the Board for review. Mr. Scheitzelt made a motion for approval, which was seconded by Dr. Fant and unanimously approved.

13 Preliminary Approval of Nomenclature Changes for Species on the Illinois List of Endangered and Threatened Species

Chair Hofmann presented a proposal for preliminary approval of changes in the nomenclature of certain species on the Illinois List of Endangered and Threatened Species, as follows:

Mammals

No changes

Birds

Circus cyaneus to *Circus hudsonius* (Northern Harrier)

Caprimulgus carolinensis to *Antrostomus carolinensis* (Chuck-will's-widow)

Dendroica cerulea to *Setophaga cerulea* (Cerulean Warbler)

Reptiles

Masticophis flagellum to *Coluber flagellum* (Coachwhip)

Amphibians

No changes

Fish

No changes

Invertebrates

Prostoia completa to *Prostoia ozarkensis* (Central Forestfly)

Epioblasma torolosa rangiana to *Epioblasma rangiana* (Northern Riffleshell)

Cumberlandia monodonta to *Margaritifera monodonta* (Spectaclecase)

Fusconia ebena to *Reginaia ebenus* (Eboyshell)

Quadrula cylindrica to *Theliderma cylindrica* (Rabbitsfoot)

Toxolasma lividus to *Toxolasma lividum* (Purple Lilliput)

Orconectes indianensis to *Faxonius indianensis* (Indiana Crayfish)

Orconectes kentuckiensis to *Faxonius kentuckiensis* (Kentucky Crayfish)

Orconectes lancifer to *Faxonius lancifer* (Shrimp Crayfish)

Orconectes placidus to *Faxonius placidus* (Bigclaw Crayfish)

Following a motion for preliminary approval made by Dr. Capparella and seconded by Dr. Fant, the motion was unanimously approved. Chair Hofmann will ask experts for the citations for the nomenclature changes and forward them to Illinois Natural Heritage Database staff.

14 Public Comment Period (3 minutes per person)

There were no public comments.

15 Other Business

Chair Hofmann noted that the Board may want to consider a revision of its policy manual at some point.

16 Next Meeting Information

The next meeting will be at 10 A.M. on August 17, 2018 at Midewin.

17 Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Hofmann adjourned the meeting at 12:23 P.M.



ILLINOIS ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTION BOARD

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Report from the Chair, 18 May 2018

Joyce Hofmann

Activities for the period between the 177th and 178th Board meetings

- performed follow-up for 177th meeting – arranged for the final agenda of the 177th meeting and the approved minutes of the 176th meeting to be posted on the Board's website
- monitored the Board's email account – responded to some messages, forwarded others to appropriate personnel at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
- prepared a report for the 229th meeting of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission (8 May 2018)
- attended the 229th meeting of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission in Galena (8 May 2018)
- performed administrative review of a petition to remove the Iowa Darter (*Etheostoma exile*) from the Illinois List and a revised petition to remove the Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) from the List
- prepared a draft of the Board's 2016 – 2018 Biennial Report for Board approval
- assisted with arrangements for the first meeting of the Botanical ESTAC
- distributed three draft Incidental Take Authorizations (ITAs), three Conservation Plan (CP), and one Conservation Guidance document to Board members for individual review and comment
- consulted taxonomic experts and compiled a list of nomenclature changes for animal species on the Illinois List to be incorporated into the revised List
- sent a list of recommendations from the zoological ESTACs to IDNR (Office of Resource Conservation Director Young and Endangered Species Program Manager Kath)
- prepared for the 178th Board meeting – developed an agenda; had the draft agenda posted at the IDNR building, at the Midewin Visitor Center, and on the Board's website; distributed materials for the meeting to Board members