



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2005-06

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on Natural Resources and Transportation...

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
(**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
(**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**



JIM DOYLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTMENT

NAME: Jane Wiley
MAILING ADDRESS: 2400 Park Road
Wausau, WI 54401

E-MAIL ADDRESS: wileydives@aol.com

RESIDES IN: Wausau, WI

TELEPHONE: (715) 359-2475 (w)
(715) 359-2475 (h)

APPOINTED TO: Natural Resources Board
northern area representative

TERM: A term to expire May 1, 2009

SUCCEEDS: Stephen Willett

SENATE CONFIRMATION: Yes

DATE OF APPOINTMENT: July 8, 2004

DATE OF NOMINATION: July 7, 2004

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Wiley, Jane, of Wausau, as a member of the Natural Resources Board, to serve for the term ending May 1, 2009.

July 14, 2004

Referred to Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Dan Johnson
Committee Clerk





JIM DOYLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

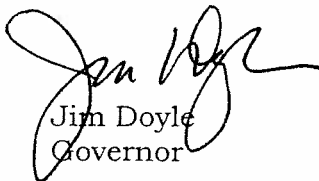
July 8, 2004

To the Honorable, the Senate:

I am pleased to nominate and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint Jane Wiley to be a northern area representative of the Natural Resources Board to serve a term expiring May 1, 2009.

Ms. Wiley will be available to the Senate for hearings and my staff will assist in any way they can.

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Doyle
Governor

JED:AW



JIM DOYLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

July 8, 2004

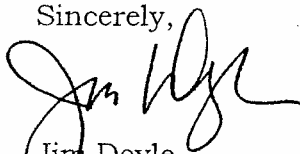
Ms. Jane Wiley
2400 Park Road
Wausau, WI 54401

Dear Ms. Wiley:

I am pleased to appoint you to the Natural Resources Board, effective July 8, 2004. Your experience, knowledge, and dedication will be a true asset to my administration and a great benefit to the people of Wisconsin.

I look forward to working with you to find creative ways of delivering services and implementing positive change for the citizens of our state.

Sincerely,



Jim Doyle
Governor

JED:AW

Jane Wiley
2400 Park Road
Wausau, WI 54401
715-359-2475
wileydives@AOL.com

Resident

- Town of Rib Mountain, Marathon County

Education

- Monmouth College, IL B.A. Biology
- Tufts University, MA M.S. Zoology
- University of Wisconsin, Madison M.A. Guidance and Counseling

Elected Positions

- Alderman, City of Madison 1970-73
 Introduced original bicycle path legislation
 Led opposition to DoT proposal to condemn part of UW Arboretum for Beltline expansion
- County Board Marathon County 1976-1986
 Relevant Committee:
 Soil and Water Conservation
 Committee 1976-1986

Relevant Appointments

- Rustic Roads Board 1974-1977
 Appointed by Secretary of DoT
- Governor's Bicentennial Bicycle Council 1976-1981
 Vice-Chairman
 Appointed by Governor Lucey
 The task force began the process of the statewide bicycle trail system
- DNR Stewardship Advisory Council 1994-2001
 First Chairman of the Council 1994-1996
 Both appointments by Secretary George Meyer

- Marathon County Civic Corporation 1998-2000
Entity that oversees the working relationship between Rib Mountain State Park, Marathon County and the private ski hill operator. I resigned when the Corporation endorsed the operator's proposal to use Park land to develop private ski hill rental housing.

Relevant Organizations/Membership

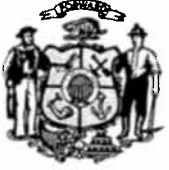
- Friends of Rib Mountain State Park 1993-present
First President 1993-1996
Fund-raiser 1993 to present
- Gathering Waters Land Trust 1999-present
Board member 1995-1998
- North Central Conservancy Trust 1999-present
- Wausau Ringnecks Hunting Club 1987-1994
1998-present

Relevant Recognition

- Madison Orchids and Onions Award late 1970's
Award for successfully opposing beltline expansion through Arboretum
- Wausau YMCA Woman of the Year 1998
Award for activities at Rib Mountain State Park and recognition for professional work with low income, minority and disabled college-bound students

Jane Wiley
DNR Board Appointment





STATE OF WISCONSIN
ETHICS BOARD

James R. Morgan
Chairman
Paul M. Holzem
David L. McRoberts
Dorothy C. Johnson
Richard Warch

On the capitol square at:
44 EAST MIFFLIN STREET, STE 601
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703-2800
phone: 608/266-8123
fax: 608/264-9319
ethics@ethics.state.wi.us
<http://ethics.state.wi.us>

Roth Judd
Director

Senate Committee Members:

The attached Statement of Economic Interests is provided with regard to the individual's nomination to a State Public Office by Governor Jim Doyle.

Sincerely,
STATE OF WISCONSIN ETHICS BOARD

Nominee: Jane Wiley
Date: 7/13/04

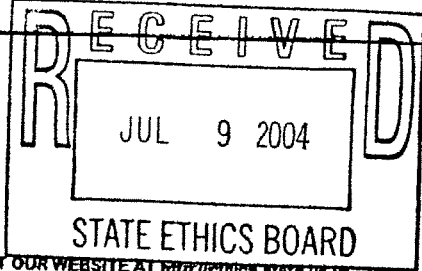
Mail or fax to: Wisconsin Ethics Board, 44 E. Mifflin St., Suite 601, Madison, WI 53703-2800; Fax: (608) 264-9319

Statement of Economic Interests

Filed in 2004 for calendar year 2003

Name: Wiley Jane
(last name, first name & initial)

State position: DNR Board
(held or sought) (include agency, division, branch or district, if applicable)



FOR EXPLANATIONS, EXAMPLES AND EXCEPTIONS SEE THE INSTRUCTIONS OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.ethics.state.wi.us; otherwise leave a detailed message at (608) 266-8115. Attach additional pages as needed.

Part A

As of December 31, 2003

1. List STOCKS, BONDS, limited partnerships, Wisconsin governmental securities, and mutual and money market funds you or your family held (minimum \$5,000).

Name of security	Type of security - "✓" one					Amount - "✓" one	
	stock/option/futures	bond	limited partnership	Wisconsin governmental security	mutual or money mkt fund	\$50,000 or less	More than \$50,000
Held by Wayne Hummer Investments Wis. FIF Deferred Compensation <i>- see attached</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓

2. List BUSINESSES and INCOME-PRODUCING REAL ESTATE in which you or your family had a 10% or greater ownership interest.

Name of business (if any) or business activity, or address of real estate	Municipality	State	If real estate, list County	Describe nature of business
None				

a) For each general partnership or non-Wisconsin entity you listed in Item #2, list the GENERAL PARTNERS or the OFFICERS and DIRECTORS.

Business	Partners, or officers and directors	City	State
NA			

b) For each enterprise you listed in Item #2 that is an unincorporated business, a subchapter S corporation, a service corporation (SC), a limited liability company (LLC), a partnership, or income-producing real estate, list BUSINESSES, ORGANIZATIONS, and any LOBBYISTS that were CUSTOMERS, CLIENTS, or TENANTS that paid the enterprise \$1,000 or more in calendar year 2003.

Businesses, organizations, lobbyists that were customers, clients, or tenants	City	State
NA		

3. List the specific location of WISCONSIN REAL ESTATE in which you or your family had an interest (except your principal residence and real estate whose location you listed in item 2).

LOCATION OF PROPERTY			NATURE OF INTEREST (own, lease, option, easement, land contract)
Street address or fire number	Municipality	County	
NA			

4. List ORGANIZATIONS of which you or a family member was an OFFICER or DIRECTOR.

Business or organization	City	State	Position
Friends of Rib Mountain	Wausau	WI	President
Gathering Waters	Madison	WI	Board
Wausau Ringnecks Htg club	Wausau	WI	Board

5. List ORGANIZATIONS THAT AUTHORIZED YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER TO REPRESENT THEM in their dealings with others as an attorney-at-law, agent, spokesperson, or representative (unless listed in item 4 or 7).

Business or organization	City	State
None		

6. List CREDITORS to which you or your family owed \$5,000 or more.

Creditor	City	State	" or " one	
			\$50,000 or less	More than \$50,000
None				

Part B

For calendar year 2003

7. List your and your family's EMPLOYERS (\$1,000 or more of income) in 2003.

Name of employer (If State of Wisconsin, identify agency or institution)	City	State	Nature of employer's business
Granite Peak Ski Corp	Wausau		

8. List OTHER SOURCES from which you or your family received INCOME of \$1,000 or more in 2003.

Source of income	City	State
Wayne Hummer Investments	Chicago	IL
WIS. ETE- Retirement Pension	Madison	WI
Social Security		

9. List individuals and organizations that provided you with ENTERTAINMENT or GIFTS (more than \$50) in 2003.

Name of provider	City	State
None		

10. List, for 2003, sources of HONORARIA and payment of EXPENSES related to your state government duties (more than \$50) not previously reported to the Ethics Board.

Payer	Approximate value of expenses	Amount of honorarium	Circumstances of receipt
None			

I have read the accompanying instructions and certify that the information contained in this Statement of Economic Interests is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. If any part has been left blank, I have done so intentionally because there is nothing to report.

Signature of person filing: me Wilf Daytime phone #: 715-359-2475
 Date: 7-8-04 E-mail address: wileydive@aol.com

The information sought in this form is required by §§19.43 and 19.44, Wisconsin Statutes. Failure to file a completed form may result in a forfeiture of up to \$500. Statements of Economic Interests are open for public inspection. The Ethics Board will notify you of the identity of any person who examines your Statement. In accordance with §15.04(1)(m), Wisconsin Statutes, the Ethics Board states that no personally identifiable information is likely to be used for purposes other than those for which it is collected.

**JANE WILEY
FINANCIAL HOLDINGS AS OF JULY 12, 2004.**

Brokerage Account, Wayne Hummer Investments, Chicago, IL

<u>Name of Security</u>	<u>Type of Security</u>	<u>\$50,00 or less</u>	<u>More than \$50,000</u>
Washington Mutual Investors Fund A	Mutual Fund	X	
Bell South	Stock		X
Chevron Texaco Corp	Stock	X	
Gillette Co	Stock	X	
NCR Corp	Stock	X	
SBC Communications	Stock		X
Verizon Communications	Stock		X
Wayne Hummer Core Portfolio Fund	Mutual Fund	X	
Bristol Myers Squibb	Stock	X	
Campbell Soup Co	Stock	X	
Procter & Gamble Co	Stock	X	
Davis NY Venture Fund B	Mutual Fund	X	
Franklin Templeton Fund Small Mid Cap Growth A	Mutual Fund	X	
Munder Funds NetNet Fund B	Mutual Fund	X	
Putnam Health Sciences Trust B	Mutual Fund	X	

Wisconsin Deferred Compensation Account

<u>Name of Security</u>	<u>Type of Security</u>	<u>\$50,000 or less</u>	<u>More than \$50,000</u>
T. Rowe Price International Stock Fund	Mutual Fund	X	
Fidelity Contrafund	Mutual Fund	X	
Federal US Government Securities Fund 2-5 yrs.	Mutual Fund	X	





February 9, 2006

The Honorable Neil Kedzie
State Capitol Room 313 South
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Kedzie and committee members:

As President of the Friends of Wisconsin State Parks, I am writing to urge you to meet and vote on **Jane Wiley's confirmation** to serve as a member of the Natural Resources Board before the Senate adjourns for the year. We believe that Ms. Wiley and the rest of the state's citizens deserve the courtesy and respect of acting on her nomination to this very important natural resource post.

Over a year and a half has passed since Ms. Wiley's July 8, 2004 nomination to the post. During that time Jane has spent considerable personal funds, time and energy attending all of the NRB meetings as a silent participant while other seats on the Board have since been vacated and re-filled. Those other people have been able to fully participate because the outgoing member did not, unlike in Ms. Wiley's situation, refuse to step down even though their term had expired. Your official action would end that unfortunate scenario and would exercise your legal responsibility to act on the nominee to this important policy position.

We are pleased to know that you recently invited Ms. Wiley to a hearing in front of the Committee, but unfortunately she had a major scheduling conflict (something planned over a year prior) that prevented her from attending at the offered time. Given the extraordinary circumstances and her patience in this matter, please extend another invitation to Ms. Wiley as soon as possible so this matter can be resolved this year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to state our support for Ms. Wiley's appointment. We believe she has a unique set of skills and interests, being one of the few people that would sit on the board possessing a strong hunting/fishing background, unmatched State Park and Trails support, and a balanced conservationist approach with an admirable history supporting outdoor education.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

William G. Lunney
President
Friends of Wisconsin State Parks

Cc: Senator Stepp
Senator Kapanke
Senator Wirch
Senator Breske
Governor Doyle

Bill Lunney, President
Madison

Mary Buits
Sheboygan

Henry Klapproth
Grafton

Susan O'Leary
Superior

John Waring
Wausau

Staff
David Machotka
David.machotka@dnr.state.wi.us

Jack Travis, Vice President
Ellison Bay

Leslie Ann Howard
Madison

John Lupo
New Berlin

Mike Raymaker
Green Bay

Mike Willman
Merrill

Ex-Officio
Bill Morrissey
Bill.morrissey@dnr.state.wi.us

Tim Lovett, Secretary
Oconomowoc

John Hutchinson
Sun Prairie

Todd Montgomery
Milwaukee

Roger Putnam
Madison

Ex-Officio
Peter Biermeier
Peter.biermeier@dnr.state.wi.us

Staff
Kate Zurlo-Cuva
kate.zurlo-cuva@dnr.state.wi.us

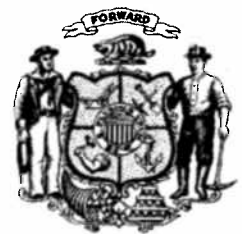
Waldo Peterson, Treasurer
Baraboo

George Morrison
Milwaukee

Tracey Schwalbe
New Glarus



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



*Edward F. & Jennie K. Thompson
3455 Swan Creek
Delavan, WI 53115*

February 24, 2006

sen.kedzie@legis.state.wi.us and U.S. Mail

Hon. Neal J. Kedzie
State Senator
11th Senate District
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Re: Senate Natural Resources Committee

Dear Neal:

I hope to get an opportunity to meet with you face-to-face when the Wisconsin Supreme Court Justices come down to Walworth County March 1st through 2nd relating to their Wisconsin Supreme Court's "Justice on Wheels" Program. However, just in case we do not have an opportunity to confer with each other directly, I am writing this letter to you.

My wife and I are very familiar with Jane Wiley of Wausau, Wisconsin. I understand that Jane was appointed by the governor to a position on the State of Wisconsin Natural Resources & Transportation Committee. I know that a public hearing has been scheduled for March 1, 2006 at noon. Jennie and I would urge you to approve Jane Wiley to serve on the committee. Jane Wiley is an extremely energetic person who is imminently qualified to serve the citizens of the State of Wisconsin in a capacity on the Natural Resources & Transportation Committee. I know that Jane has attended the Natural Resources Board meetings since July of 2004, at her own expense. She has attended 15 of the 17 Natural Resources Board meetings, on her own, at considerable expense, so that she would be fully up to speed when she was seated.

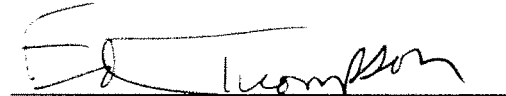
As you can see by the enclosed resume, Jane Wiley has the education and the background to serve on the Natural Resources & Transportation Committee. She has expressed to me a great understanding of the issues relating to our state's natural resources, and Jennie and I, as your constituents, certainly believe it is important to get the matter of Jane Wiley's appointment to the committee that you chair, finalized. I know that she is ready, willing and able to serve.

Jane Wiley has diverse expertise, community presence and a strong desire to serve the citizens of the State of Wisconsin.

We recognize that the appointment requires the advice and consent of the Wisconsin State Senate. We hope that your committee will find the qualifications, education, credentials and Jane's extreme desire to serve are of such a nature to recommend her appointment to the full Senate.

We thank you in advance for any consideration that you can provide in this matter.

Sincerely,

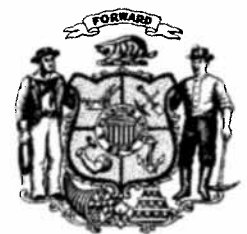


Edward F. Thompson

EFT/jk
Enc.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

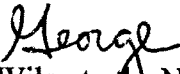


GEORGE E. MEYER

201 Randolph Dr.
Madison, WI 53717

(608) 662-9374
georgemeyer@tds.net

February 26, 2006

To: Senator Neal Kedzie, Chair, Senate Natural Resources Committee
Senator Cathy Stepp, Senator Dan Kapanke, Senator Roger Breske
Senator Bob Wirch
From : George Meyer 
Subject: Nomination of Jane Wiley to the Natural Resources Board---March 1 Hearing

Chairman Kedzie and members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee. I am writing this letter as a private citizen in support of Jane Wiley to the Wisconsin Natural Resources. She is very qualified to handle the broad responsibilities of the position and has the correct thoughtful temperament to serve on the Board.

I have known Jane for approximately a dozen years. She has served as President of the Rib Mountain State Park Friends group which has provided a very substantial amount of financial and volunteer services to that park. Jane well understands the important role of citizen and local conservation group assistance and input into natural resources issues.

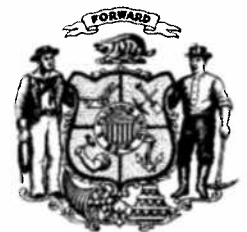
When I was DNR Secretary, I appointed Jane to chair a Stewardship Advisory Council. The committee was made up of stakeholders who had a substantial interest in the sound implementation of the Stewardship Fund. The committee, under Jane's skilled leadership came up with a sound set of recommendations during their multi-year existence on how the Fund should be administered in a way that met the legislative objective of ease of administration and a desire for strong and broad use and support for the fund. Jane was able to work well with the very broad range of interests that had a stake in the fund and its uses. She is an individual who works well with other committee members and has great respect for the input of average citizens. These skills are critically important for Natural Resources Board members.

From working with Jane over the years, I know of her avid interest in hunting and fishing. It will be a great benefit to add another member to the Board that understands the complex issues related to fish and wildlife management in addition to having a good understanding of land management, land acquisition and recreational use management. Her degrees in biology and zoology will bring a wealth of background knowledge to the position.

An added bonus is that with Jane on the Board, Wisconsin will have two highly visible women on the Board who engage in hunting and fishing. This will send a strong message to women of all ages about getting involved in these excellent outdoor recreational pursuits. This is especially important as we face the potential of declining numbers of hunters and anglers in Wisconsin. Thank you for reviewing these thoughts.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Moritzens, 2005 Kellar Drive, Merrill WI 54452

Voice: 715 536-8520

Fax: 715 539-0696

February 27, 2006

Neal Kedzie
Chair-Senate Natural Resources/
Transportation Committee
Room 313 South State Capitol
PO Box 7882
Madison WI 53707 7882

Senator Kedzie:

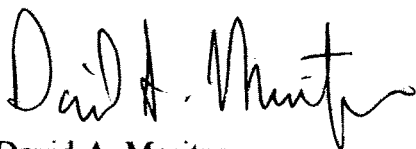
We strongly support the appointment of Jane Wiley to the Natural Resources Board, representing northern Wisconsin.

Jane has hunted, fished and camped throughout Wisconsin for more than 30 years. She is a certified ski instructor, and teaches youth on Rib Mountain. The enthusiasm she has for Wisconsin, the outdoors, nature, and the environment is second to none. She encourages all she meets to become outdoor participants. Education in biology and zoology enhances her qualifications.

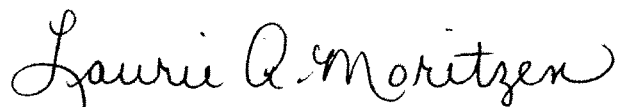
One of her great strengths is her ability to listen to different views and make an informed decision. She is open-minded and easily converses with people from all walks of life. Her thirst for knowledge unquenchable.

When taking on a venture, Jane puts her heart and soul into doing the absolute best job possible. She delights in the outdoors, avidly pursues new adventures and embraces life. Her constant on-the-go schedule makes one tired.

By appointing Jane Wiley, you would have a most dedicated member on the Natural Resources Board.



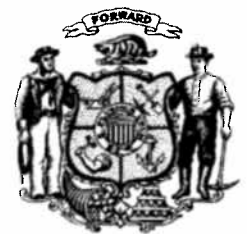
David A. Moritzen



Laurie A. Moritzen



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Jane Wiley
2400 Park Road
Wausau, WI 54401
715-359-2475
wileydives@AOL.com

Resident

- Town of Rib Mountain, Marathon County

Education

- Monmouth College, IL B.A. Biology
- Tufts University, MA M.S. Zoology
- University of Wisconsin, Madison M.A. Guidance and Counseling

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First President of organization 1993-1996
Fund-raiser 1993-2004
- **Gathering Waters Conservancy** 1995-present
- **Board Member** 1995-1998
- **North Central conservancy Trust** 1999-present
- **Wausau Ringnecks Hunting Club** 1987-1994
- 1998-present
- **Board Member** 2003-present
- **Wausau Skeet and Trap Club** 2001-present

Relevant Recognition

- **Madison Orchids and Onions Awards** late 1970's
"Orchid" for successfully opposing Beltline expansion through edge of Arboretum.
- **Wausau YWCA Woman of the Year** 1998

Award for activities at Rib Mountain State Park and for professional work with low-income, minority, disabled and non-traditional college-bound students.

Other Interests and Activities

- I am a hunter and angler and have held Wisconsin hunting and fishing licenses for over 30 years.
- **PSIA Certified Ski Instructor**
- **PADI Certified Scuba Divemaster**
I especially enjoy underwater photography



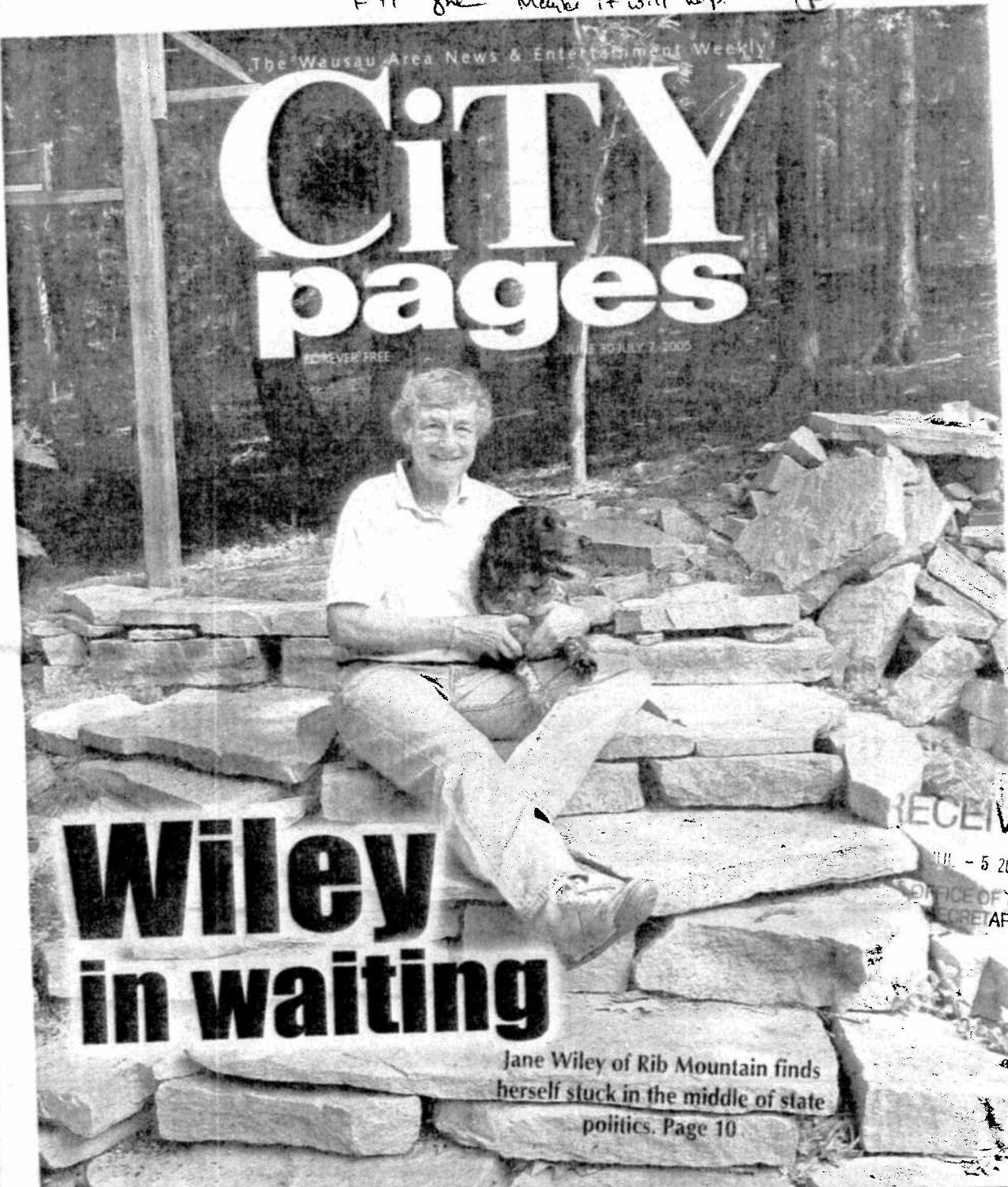
FYI Jane Mauer it will help. (NK) ✓

The Wausau Area News & Entertainment Weekly

CITY pages

ALWAYS FREE

JUNE 30 - JULY 7, 2005



Wiley in waiting

Jane Wiley of Rib Mountain finds herself stuck in the middle of state politics. Page 10

RECEIVED

JUL - 5 2005

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

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CITY pages

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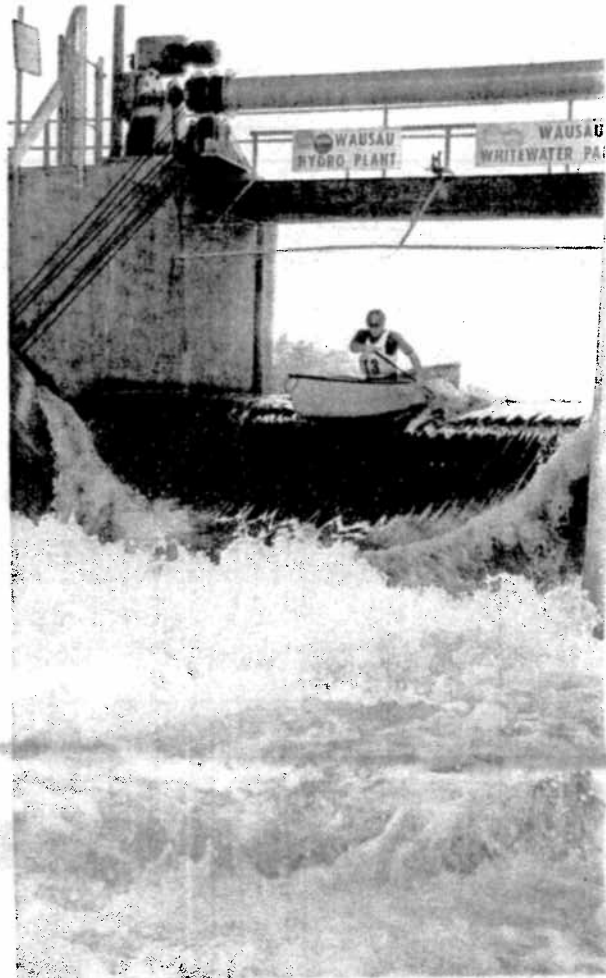
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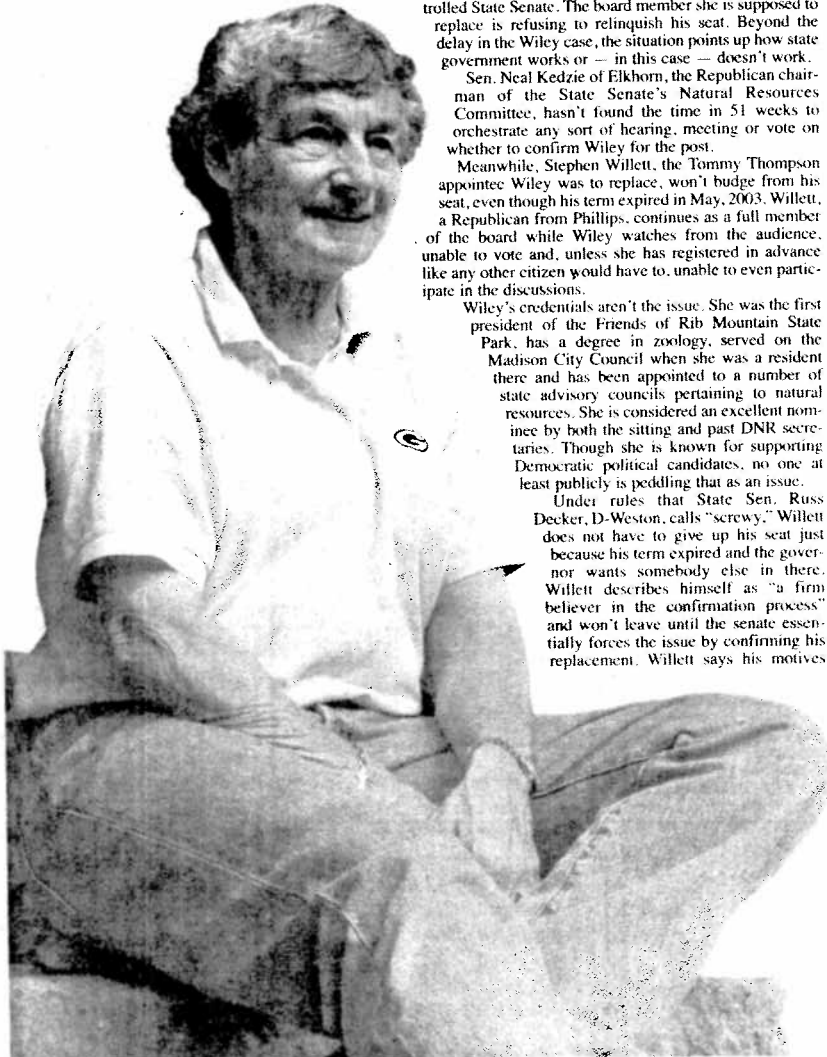
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Wiley in waiting

As a Natural Resources Board member awaiting confirmation from the Republican-controlled State Senate, Jane Wiley of Rib Mountain finds herself stuck in the middle of state politics



A year ago — July 8, 2004 to be exact — Gov. Jim Doyle nominated Jane Wiley of Rib Mountain to serve on the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board. It's a prestigious appointment. The ostensibly nonpartisan, seven-member panel sets policy for the Department of Natural Resources and of late has tackled such high-profile questions as how to handle chronic wasting disease found in some deer populations.

Wiley has been traveling back and forth to Madison, logging nearly 5,000 miles on her vehicle and spending \$900 of her own money on other expenses to attend meetings in which she has yet to cast a single vote.

It's all on her dime, because after nearly a full year, Wiley has yet to be confirmed by the Republican-controlled State Senate. The board member she is supposed to replace is refusing to relinquish his seat. Beyond the delay in the Wiley case, the situation points up how state government works or — in this case — doesn't work.

Sen. Neal Kedzie of Elkhorn, the Republican chairman of the State Senate's Natural Resources Committee, hasn't found the time in 51 weeks to orchestrate any sort of hearing, meeting or vote on whether to confirm Wiley for the post.

Meanwhile, Stephen Willett, the Tommy Thompson appointee Wiley was to replace, won't budge from his seat, even though his term expired in May, 2003. Willett, a Republican from Phillips, continues as a full member of the board while Wiley watches from the audience, unable to vote and, unless she has registered in advance like any other citizen would have to, unable to even participate in the discussions.

Wiley's credentials aren't the issue. She was the first president of the Friends of Rib Mountain State Park, has a degree in zoology, served on the Madison City Council when she was a resident there and has been appointed to a number of state advisory councils pertaining to natural resources. She is considered an excellent nominee by both the sitting and past DNR secretaries. Though she is known for supporting Democratic political candidates, no one at least publicly is peddling that as an issue.

Under rules that State Sen. Russ Decker, D-Weston, calls "screwy," Willett does not have to give up his seat just because his term expired and the governor wants somebody else in there. Willett describes himself as "a firm believer in the confirmation process" and won't leave until the senate essentially forces the issue by confirming his replacement. Willett says his motives

are not political — no Republican leader has urged him to continue past his appointed term.

But if Wiley is confirmed, Doyle appointees would become the majority on the Natural Resources Board (NRB). Though governors nominate them, board members are supposed to function as nonpartisan representatives once they're seated.

From her observations in the past year, Wiley says NRB members really do leave party allegiances behind, so it's puzzling why the Republicans might want to retain a majority from their party on the NRB.

Since her July 8, 2004, appointment, she has attended all 10 meetings of the NRB around the state. She also attended nine other meetings or events and is in the process of visiting any state park she hasn't previously seen. She put 4,856 miles on her car and spent around \$900 on meals and lodging, with little or no expectation that she'll be reimbursed retroactively if the political/bureaucratic wheels ever start turning.

During the same time period, Willett was absent for two meetings, was absent for a conference call meeting, was 90 minutes late for one meeting and 50 minutes late for another. Members of the NRB are not paid for coming to meetings, but Willett was eligible for reimbursement for his mileage and other expenses related to attending meetings.

Wiley doesn't necessarily have the worst of it. Doyle nominated one his childhood friends, Jonathan Ela of Madison, to the NRB in January of 2003. Ela's appointment also is being held up, yet he has taken a seat on the board. How? Because, there was literally an empty chair.

At the time he was appointed, the NRB had a vacant position, so he was seated. The *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* reported on Ela's situation in January, finding that Ela, who used to work in the Madison office of the Sierra Club, is considered by some to be "too green" for the NRB.

Ela's fortunes continue to falter. In the spring of 2003, the Senate Natural Resources Committee voted against his confirmation 2-3 on party lines. Because he was seated, though, and Doyle is unlikely to send over another appointee, Ela continues to serve.

In May of this year, the Republican caucus picked up the matter again and sent Ela's nomination back to Doyle and asked him to find somebody "more balanced." Ela, who lives in Madison, says, "The presumption is that I can continue to serve until I either annoy the governor or annoy the senate."

Though Willett won't give up his seat to Wiley, he has been gracious enough, Wiley says. He just tells her he doesn't think it would be right for him to leave his post until the Senate approves her confirmation. In fact, Willett helped Wiley have some sort of voice on the board. He served as a conduit for a rules suggestion Wiley made concerning who ought to pay for a DNR study. The Legislature told the DNR to study the question of allowing bass tournament anglers to sort through fish they've already caught and throw back the smaller catches later in the day. Wiley's suggestion that tournament sponsors pay for the study went before the Conservation Congress hearings and passed.

With that as an exception, Wiley is on the outside looking in. "There are lots of occasions when I have opinions I'd like to express." She doesn't say, however, that her vote would have resulted in different decisions handed down by the NRB.

An appointment to the NRB is prestigious. When a high-profile issue surfaces such as how to combat chronic wasting disease in deer, it is the NRB that decides if all the deer in the area should be mowed down or if there should be a moratorium on hunting them at all. The NRB acts on an quality issue, and determines whether a bear hunter ought to be reimbursed by the state if a wolf kills the hunter's dog.

Though his continuing presence is an obvious impediment, Willett says, "Jane Wiley deserves to serve and I think the Senate believes that. I don't think it's politics."

He says it might take until after passage of the state budget, but the senate ought to make a decision on Wiley. "I strongly believe in the policy of Senate confirmation. It's not a pleasant thing to go through, but it does a lot of vetting."

George Meyer has a different take. Now the director of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, Meyer was DNR secretary from 1993 to 2001 under the Thompson administration. "Games are being played," he says of the senate's holdup on Wiley's nomination.

Gubernatorial nominations were dealt with more quickly in the past. Meyer says the Democrats aren't innocent when it comes to holding up appointments — Sen. Chuck Chvala threw up some roadblocks six years ago. Meyer wants a requirement that a confirmation vote take place within six months of a nomination. "It's just rude and offensive. This isn't a paying job for god's sake. Give them the courtesy of a decision."

Meyer knows Wiley and calls her an excellent candidate. He appointed her to a stewardship committee years ago and remembers the committee solving a lot of problems. "Let's say this is payback (for Chvala's stalling). Okay, it's paid back and let's get on with it."

Decker would like to help move things along, but his party is in the minority these days. "The Republicans have adopted a strategy about nominees, regardless of qualifications — and I think she is very qualified. They won't move on them." He would support a law specifying what seems obvious — that when your term is up, your term is up.

The Republican Thompson appointee Wiley was to replace, won't budge from his seat, even though his term expired in May of 2003

Dan Johnson, Sen. Kedzie's chief of staff, says the practice is that members of the NRB or a similar body continue to serve until formally replaced. "If you're a sitting member, you can only be replaced if you withdraw yourself, the governor would remove that person or the Senate would remove that person." Speaking specifically about Willett, Johnson says Willett is "serving under the pleasure of Gov. Thompson" who left office in 2001.

It should be remembered, Johnson says, that a hearing was held for Wausau resident Alan Grischke, an earlier Doyle nominee, but Grischke withdrew from consideration. Also, Christine Thomas, now the head of the College of Natural Resources at Stevens Point, was nominated in March of 2004 and was confirmed unanimously.

He also points to John "Duke" Welter's situation as proof Wiley's wait is not extraordinary. Doyle nominated Welter, an Eau Claire attorney, to the NRB in May of 2004 — two months pre-Wiley. He hasn't been confirmed either, though like Ela, he was seated because there was a vacancy.

Still, the fact of the matter remains that Wiley's presence would tip the balance of the NRB in favor of Doyle-appointed members.

Johnson argues that Kedzie's senate committee really has had only five months to weigh the Wiley nomination, because it came at the end of a legislative session and before biennial budget considerations.

Johnson says it behooves the senate to be careful when it comes to nominations. The NRB is the most influential body other

than the Legislature when it comes to natural resource issues. "It's an extremely powerful committee."

"We have no intention of delaying anything or hanging people out to dry," Johnson says he can't predict when the committee will act on Wiley's nomination, but says, "We're going to get an up or down vote."

By many accounts Wiley will be a positive addition to the NRB. She herself says her interest in parks and trails is stronger than that of any sitting member. Her resume backs her up, starting with a master's degree in zoology. She served on the Madison City Council from 1970 to 1973 before she and her husband moved to Wausau. In Marathon County she was elected five times to the County Board.

Previous state appointments have been to the Rustic Roads Board, the Governor's Bicentennial Bicycle Council and the DNR Stewardship Advisory Council, which she served as chairperson. Locally she was a member of the Marathon County Civic Corporation, but resigned during a dispute over use of Rib Mountain State Park land for ski hill rental housing.

She is a hunter and fisher and was the first president of the Friends of Rib Mountain State Park. She's on the board of the Gathering Waters Land Trust and is a member of the North Central Conservancy Trust.

Personally, Wiley has hesitated to make travel plans for nearly a year now for fear

she'd be gone when Kedzie's committee decided to sit down with her. "It's certainly frustrating for everybody. I've put my personal life somewhat on hold."

She has faxed resumes and letters to state senators and visited with many of them in order to "unstick" the confirmation process. She describes herself as "frustrated and puzzled. I think I have done everything I can." On the bright side, she says if she's eventually confirmed, she'll be the best-prepared new member ever.

"I think I have the credentials and the background. I think it's political," Wiley says.

Scott Hassett, the current secretary of the DNR, agrees this is all about political party swagger. "Process is the problem. To me, this is more playing games than good government." He says if somebody in the Senate objects to Wiley, that person should come out and say so.

Hassett says there's not much he can do about the situation other than hope that public awareness of the delays will pressure Republicans who control the Natural Resources Committee.

Melanie Fonder, a spokeswoman for Doyle, describes the governor as "very disappointed" and says the delay is unusually long. Doyle was unavailable for an interview, but provided a written statement. "The appointments process is obviously broken if a person who was appointed in July 2004 still has not been able to take her seat because Senate Republican leadership is allowing someone whose term expired in May 2003 to sit there. Wiley has yet to even have a hearing let alone a vote on the full Senate floor. Senate leaders owe me the professional courtesy to hold a public hearing and floor vote. It's time Senate leaders move beyond partisan games, get to work, and finish business."

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End: Thu 11/10/2005 12:00 PM
Recurrence: (none)

West WASH.

Christine Thomas

NRB: Appointments

① Willette

JANE ceiling-bearing
24 yrs
11 MONTHS

Dec. Hearing

- Jan elect new officer to NRB

② Duke Welter?

*3. Hub never confirmed → veterinarian replace

*4. Gary O'Brien, refused → stay until JAN '06 * Jim Olson

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- Hurting Elk ~~herd~~ ^{herd} → killed crossing roads, rivers.

2 wks 1/4 gun season & deering gun no bait

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Snowmobiles

56 checked DNR (After 58 checked (DNR does not like)

- alcohol limit of drivers license?? Just talk, Minn.
- 50 or 55 mph @ night OK.
- DNR check pts → just talk

(2) Bills:

① Trail Wardens - DNR OK!

② (AB 609) Indemnifying landfills for (w) dec/Save 1/2 mil/yr

Invasives: transport of aquatic plants
fish

Boat handings, \$

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