SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS

Hearing Officer: David Kalb, Supervising Wildlife Biologist

RIDEM Staff Present: Phillip Edwards, Chief of Fish and Wildlife
Christine Dudley, Deputy Chief – Freshwater Fisheries
Dylan Ferreira, Senior Wildlife Biologist
Morgan Lucot, Furbearer Specialist
Charles Tappero, Hunter Education Coordinator
Sarah Riley, Chief Implementation Aide
Melissa Curry, Administrative Assistant
Ashley Schipritt, Fiscal Management Officer

The public hearing for the RI Falconry Regulations was held on May 15, 2024 at 5:30PM at 235 Promenade Street (Room 300), Providence, RI 02908. Nine (9) people from the public attended the hearing.

The hearing was called to order at 6:07 PM by Supervising Wildlife Biologist David Kalb.

D. Kalb – Supervising Wildlife Biologist, (DK): **DK** introduced himself and announced he was there to officiate on behalf of Terrence Gray, Acting Director of DEM.

This hearing is being conducted as to the RI Falconry Regulations under the authority of Chapters 42-17.1-2, 42-17.6 and sections 20-1-4, 20-1-12; and 20-1-13 and pursuant to the procedural requirements of Chapter 42-35, "Administrative Procedures" of the General Laws of Rhode Island of 1956, as amended.

In accordance with the above referenced requirements, a public notice of this hearing was posted on the Secretary of State and DEM computer websites on April 25, 2024, with a copy of the notarized affidavit of such posting attached to the record of this proceeding as **Exhibit #1** for this hearing.

For this regulatory proceeding, pursuant to the requirements of Section 42-35-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, DEM has made the following determinations. DEM has complied with the requirements of Section § 42-35.1-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws. The DEM has provided prior notice to the Governor's Office, DOA, and the Office of Regulatory Reform of the proposed promulgation of these Rules & Regulations and none of these offices has notified DEM that it has identified any of these proposed regulations as one that may have a significant adverse impact on small businesses. Despite the above, DEM specifically requests comments on the proposals as to how the proposed regulations can be changed so that the adverse economic impact*(s)* can be minimized or eliminated.

The procedure for the public comment hearing is as follows:

1. Person who wish to speak will register at the table at the rear of the auditorium
2. Speakers will be called in the order of registration.
3. Five (5) minutes was allowed for a presentation unless the number of speakers allowed for additional time.

4. When your name is called come to the front of the room and identify yourself by name and affiliation, if any. I would add any time you speak you should identify yourself by name for the purpose of the recording.
5. Make your presentation and then provide a written copy of your statement for the written record if one is available.
6. After all persons wishing to speak have had the opportunity to comment, the hearing will be closed.

The Public Hearing comment period for the RI Falconry Regulations will close of business (4pm) on May 27, 2024.

After the time has elapsed for the submission of written commentary has been closed the Department has three (3) options:

1. File the rules and regulations with the Secretary of State as is;
2. File the rules and regulations with minor changes;
3. Make additional amendments to the rules and regulations and hold a new public hearing.

If filed, the amended rules and regulations become effective twenty (20) days after filing and have the effect of law.

D. Kalb asks if anyone wishes to comment. No one would like to comment in regard to Falconry Rules and Regulations.

Oral portion of the RI Falconry Regulations closed at 6:11pm.

DK states we will now enumerate all exhibits and received comments for the public record.

Exhibit 1: Affidavit of Public Posting, Public Notice.

Exhibit 2: copy of Proposed RI Falconry Regulations

Public Hearing closed at 6:12pm.

Transcribed by Ashley M. B. Schipritt