

From: Porter, Louis [Louis.Porter@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2016 10:37 AM
To: Gingras, Jessica
Subject: Re: response

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Thank you.

Lp

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 26, 2016, at 10:26 AM, Gingras, Jessica <Jessica.Gingras@vermont.gov> wrote:

Re: response

Hi Walter,

Thank you for reaching out again. The Fish and Wildlife Board, and it's 13 appointees (one from each county), works with the Department specifically on implementing legal hunting and trapping activities, per direction of the Legislature. The role of the Board is not to consider whether hunting or trapping *should be legal*, but rather implementing rules around what the Legislature *deems are legal activities*. The Fish and Wildlife Board does not decide public policy – that is the role of the Legislature, and that distinction is important. The Board also works with the professionals at the Department; their scientists, biologists, ecologists, and botanists to make informed decisions. There are really three types of Boards/Commissions in my opinion – those that are advisory, those that have more authority to carry out rule-making, and whose function is to implement the laws made by the legislature, and those whose function is to research and report. The FW&B falls under the second category.

Off the top of my head the other Boards that have rule making and implementation authority are Boards like the Access Board (they have legislative authority to hear and grant variances from particular provisions of Vermont rules in regards to public building access), the Accountancy Board (a 5 member Governor appointed Board that has the ability to set standards, adopt administrative rules, investigate complaints and take disciplinary action against licensees when necessary), the Board of Dental Examiners (nine-member board appointed by the Governor to administer the laws for the dental profession in the state. They also have the ability to make decisions, rule-making and to take disciplinary action), and the Green Mountain Care Board (they are responsible for all the major factors influencing the cost of health care. This includes monitoring hospital budgets, health insurance rates, benefit decisions and major expenses,

rates paid by insurance companies and Medicaid, and plans to ensure Vermont has enough of the right health professionals and uses health technology to decrease costs.)

There are several examples. I would not characterize the FW&B as “unique”.

-jg

Best,

Jessica Gingras

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From: Walter Medwid [<mailto:wmedwid@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2016 8:38 AM
To: Gingras, Jessica <Jessica.Gingras@vermont.gov>
Subject: question on Vermont boards

Good morning Jessica.

Could you tell me if there are similar governance boards to the Fish and Wildlife Board in Vermont....specifically where lay citizens are chosen by the governor to establish public policy?

I understand that there are professional boards where professionals within that discipline establish policy..i.e. dentists and accountants perhaps others but it clear that the FWB is a different kind of governance body.

Thank you for any assistance you can offer. Walter