

November 20-21, 2014

**ITEM 165-2001-R1114**

**Authorization to Confer the Title of Professor Emeritus Wildlife Specialist upon James E. Knight**

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**THAT**

Upon the occasion of the retirement of Dr. James E. Knight from the faculty of Montana State University, the Board of Regents wishes to express its appreciation for his service to the University, the Montana University System and the people of the state of Montana.

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**EXPLANATION**

Jim Knight received his B.S. (1973) and M.S. (1975) degrees from Michigan State University in Wildlife Management and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in Natural Resource Management in 1980. Dr. Knight worked for 10 years as a Wildlife Research Biologist in northern Michigan working with multiple-use/wildlife concerns. Prior to his arrival in Montana, Jim had been Extension Wildlife Specialist at New Mexico State University for 13 years. Dr. Knight joined the faculty at Montana State University in 1994 to address the growing concerns associated with livestock and wildlife. In 1998 Dr. Knight was appointed Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Leader for MSU Extension and served in that position until 2001. In 2006 Dr. Knight was hired as Associate Director of Extension until his retirement in 2010 when he returned to the Animal and Range Sciences Department on a half-time post-retirement contract as Extension Wildlife Specialist.

For over 40 years Dr. Knight has worked on various aspects of multiple-use/wildlife concerns. Dr. Knight has written hundreds of articles and publications related to wildlife management including a book published in 2008, "Manage Your Land for Wildlife". Dr. Knight developed programs addressing problems and opportunities associated with multi-interest involvement on wildlife management decisions. Dr. Knight worked with private landowners, public land managers, and the general public on wildlife management issues. He addressed wildlife/livestock grazing issues, strategies to improve hunter/rancher relationships, wildlife damage control programs and education programs to improve understanding and cooperation related to wildlife and natural resource issues.

Jim was an active participant in professional societies related to wildlife management. Dr. Knight served as President of the Wildlife Society in New Mexico and was an active member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group of the Wildlife Society for over 20 years. Knight has chaired committees for international, national and state conferences. He has worked on program planning committees for conferences, advisory committees for agencies, and review boards for grant proposals. As a faculty member at Montana State University, Jim was very active in departmental, college, extension and university committees. He served on Faculty Senate, University Grievance, and University, College and Department Promotion & Tenure Committees.

Jim Knight has published 2 books, 8 book chapters, 11 referred, 48 reviewed, 61 technical and over 200 popular press and newspaper publications during his career. In addition, Jim developed videos, web pages, television programs, radio programs and web conferences. Jim also worked on international projects in Mexico and Croatia and was a Fulbright Specialist.

Jim's contributions have been recognized through many awards including the National Extension Natural

Resources Award, the Wildlife Society's Professional of the Year Award, the New Mexico Distinguished Extension Award, the Epsilon Sigma Phi Distinguished Service Award and the MSU Extension Directors Contribution Award.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

None.