

Wisconsin Conservation Congress

District 5

Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	3 March 2022	1835-2030 hrs.	Virtual
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1. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	T. Roehrig, at 1835 hours
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Buffalo--Domine, Noll, Roehrig, Bruce, Dunn—Gullickson, Marotz, Schwoch, Pearl Holman Eau Claire—Vanden Bloomen, Zielke, Klett, Hanks Lacrosse—D. Heidel, R. Heidel, Smaby, Pepin—Yingst, M. Hurlburt, P. Hurlburt, Pierce—Brazzale, Hatch, Ogden, Koller, Loberg Trempealeau—Budworth, Engeliien, Ryder, Vernon—Leis, Morgan, Wagner, West
EXCUSED	Buffalo – Ruff Dunn- Briggs La Crosse – Eisenbacher Pepin – Wayne Pierce – Boley Pierce - Hatch Trempealeau—Suchla
UNEXCUSED	La Crosse – Schulz Trempealeau – Symicek Vernon - West
GUESTS	DNR Personnel: Dan Baumann, Kari Lee Zimmerman

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	No changes to agenda.
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2. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS & PROGRAM UPDATES

A. DNR SECRETARY’S UPDATES

DISCUSSION	None
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B. DNR UPDATES

DISCUSSION	DNR program updates will be provided via a link to pre-recorded presentations that delegates can view at their leisure. Additional questions or locally specific questions can be directed to local staff.
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DISCUSSION	None
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3. CONSERVATION CONGRESS ANNUAL COUNTY MEETING AND DNR SPRING HEARING LOGISTICS

DISCUSSION	
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A. REVIEW OF INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE SPRING HEARING LOGISTICS MEMO

DISCUSSION	Spring hearings 2022 at 7pm on 11 April and will remain open for 72 hours. Resolutions can be submitted via survey tool through 11 March. Length is 2000 characters.
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B. DELEGATE SEATS

DISCUSSION	<p>Delegate terms will be extended by another year, as was done last year. If you weren't planning to run again, or wish to vacate your seat, please let Kari Lee-Zimmermann, your County Chair, and your District Councilors know.</p> <p>People can apply to be a delegate online through 11 March 2022. County chairs have the ability to fill vacant seats by appointing people to fill the remainder of the term. (COP X.D.2: If a vacancy occurs, the county chair or vice-chair (in the absence of the chair) may appoint someone to fill the vacancy.)</p> <p>Delegate profiles will be available online in the form of a survey. Delegates have until Friday, April 6, 2022, to complete their delegate profile online. If a delegate does not have email, a hardcopy will be sent in the mail to be completed and sent back. Newly appointed delegates with email will receive the informational email a few days after Kari Lee-Zimmermann is notified of their appointment.</p>
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C. LOCAL SPRING HEARING PRESS

DISCUSSION	We will be sending the press release electronically to those delegates with email. Please decide who within your county will be responsible for taking this press release to local media outlets. We offer this press release to media for their use in order to get the word out about the Spring Hearings, but we do not have the funding to pay to have this published in local papers. If you would like a hardcopy of this press release to distribute, please contact Kari Lee-Zimmermann at (608) 219-9134.
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4. OTHER CONGRESS BUSINESS

DISCUSSION	<p>--See Agenda for more detailed information on Items A, B, C, E.</p> <p>--A – Committee Appointments – Terri will create a survey to send out to delegate for 4 choices of committee preferences. Kevin discussed the resolutions coming through about establishing term limits on committee members and discussion around that topic. Most delegates agree that terms limits is not a good idea due to the fact as it takes several years to learn what is going on in the committees.</p> <p>-- D. Shooting Sports Range Update (from Committee Chair Harold Drake) The WCC Shooting Committee is once again requesting your assistance in updating the Statewide Shooting Range Inventory listing. The committee would like each district to do a preliminary review of the list at their district meetings. We are asking county chairs to review the list as it applies to their specific County. We are interested in making corrections to the list that reflect the current status of each listed range. Please take the time to investigate any listed range that you may have questions about. Forward any changes to Emily Iehl: emily.iehl@Wisconsin.gov. If you have no changes, please respond by indicating your specific county and that no changes are needed. Things we are looking for: 1) Any range that is not on the range inventory. (New or existing) 2) Any range that is on the Inventory that is no longer active. 3) Ranges that no longer offer a listed venue. (Shut down Rile Range Etc.) 4) Ranges that added a venue.</p> <p>--E. Award nominations due March 31.</p> <p>--F. WCC Learn-to-Bear-Hunt Tag. We are holding the essay contest for the Learn to Hunt Bear tag at this time and due April 27th. It's a 400-word essay. Usually there are only four (4) to twelve (12) applications. Encourage new hunters to apply.</p> <p>--G.--2022 Annual Convention 12-14 May—Wisconsin Dells. Survey of district delegates to see who plans on attending in person. Need a quorum to conduct business. Need raffle items from delegats/counties.</p>
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5. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	<p>-- Trempealeau—boat landing issues by Lock and Dam #6.</p> <p>-- Pierce - the Conservation Congress is becoming less relevant. Natural Resource issues seem to be very political. The Natural Resources Board and the WCC are representatives of the sporting community. DNR Cole ignored NRB, WCC Value, relevancy of WCC, WCC is irrelevant by sportsmen's, Governor and Secretary same thing. Tony as well. Deer and Elk Chair - too political and not to get involved. If we don't stand up, we won't be around long. Cole - no follow up with Jeff Smith in Durand several years ago. WCC Leadership needs get more active and proactive. Rights of NRB being trampled on.</p> <p>-- Pierce - Petenwell High School - 57 teams, If you have someone on a fishing team - will be a scholarship this year. WIFA and will be on there. Lakes to host the 2023 state home. 600-1000 kids</p> <p>-- Pepin – Echo what was said from Pierce County about the WCC, DNR, NRB</p> <p>-- Eau Claire, Dunn Buffalo, Pepin, Trempealeau Counties—CWD is not going away. The plan put forward by the Chippewa Valley Committee called for aggressive testing of deer. CWD Committee in our area is nonexistent. Info to get out about deer registration. And the about 90% accurate as the old way. DNR said they had hands tied up from COVID and not enough staff. Hoping to rekindle and 2 years in a row and tried to get aggressive plans and shot down twice by NRB. People can play games to mess with the system to mess up the systems the CDACs have to work with</p> <p>--Eau Claire County, CDAC issues. The NRB did not support the recommendations of more aggressive</p>
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testing options of the regional CDAC committee. We need to let the legislators and NRB know that we are viable

--**La Crosse** County migratory bird seasons, Duty of the congress is to represent the public not to rubber stamp everything. The Congress is in trouble, Bill Murphy stood up for the Congress and we are not seeing that for a decade now from the WCC leadership. As a district we entrust that the wishes of district to the DLC and the EC and in line with the Dept. Need have the backbone to stand up to the Secretary and the DNR sometimes. Need to listen better to the public in our counties.

--**Dunn** - Youth shooting programs in jeopardy due to lack of ammo and more expensive. Go back to organizations to collect ammo or put money towards.

--**Buffalo** - Hearing Question #5—minnow issue to be voted on, only a 14-year quest to get this issue resolved. Thanks to the DNR for putting it on their question list. Wish Conservation practices are not so political - current Gov. back on record to put Secretary appt to the NRB. We don't have the swing we used to years ago, Echo and support was stated with Pierce County. Why hasn't anything been published about the 2021 Award winners? Very disappointing that the people are not getting the recognition they deserved! Award winners don't even have their awards yet and we are talking about 2022 awards. That is just not right.

Committee attendance per COP - you are required to attend or not so Chair knows if they will have a quorum. Talk up the Spring Hearings, talk to the sportsmen out there and make them want to participate, enforce the fact that voices.

Discussions around resolutions and ensuring we are representing the public and taking our bias and opinions out of It when it comes to committee. Let's let the public weigh in.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	MB: M. Noll SB: T.Burce to adjourn 2035 hours
SUBMITTED BY	Dennis Vanden Bloomen, Eau Claire County, Acting Secretary
DATE	3 March 2022