



2015



**Spring Fish & Wildlife Hearings/
WCC County Meetings**

April 13, 2015

WCC Delegate Training

2015 Spring Fish & Wildlife Hearings & WCC Meetings



Monday, April 13, 2015

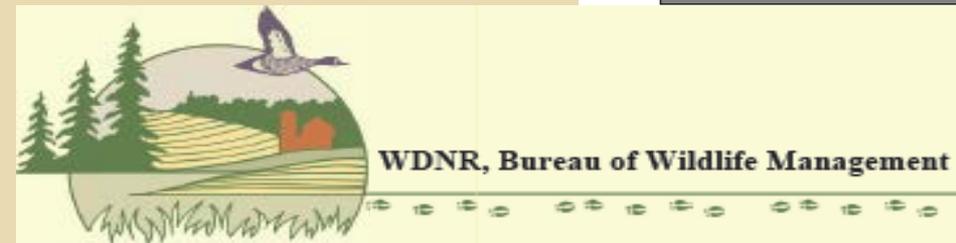
7:00 PM

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Everyone will be given an opportunity to comment on the questions, but you will be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes for each question that you wish to discuss. If comments become repetitive, the hearing officer may limit comments to issues not previously presented. No argument or rebuttal will be allowed and testimony must remain respectful. Written comments on all DNR proposed rule changes will be accepted until April 13, 2015.

The results of the 2015 Spring Hearings will be available online as soon as they are available.

The results can be found at dnr.wi.gov – search for “Spring Hearings”



Prior to the Hearings...

Hearing Officers and county delegates should discuss the logistics specific to their venue



- How will the registration are be set up
- Who will be doing what
- Where will the resolutions be posted
- Do you need to bring any additional materials (markers, stamps, tape, boxes, etc)
- How will you accommodate any special needs

Prior to the Hearings...

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

State of Wisconsin

DATE: February 13, 2015

TO: DNR Spring Hearing Officers, Hearing Experts, and Conservation Congress Delegates

CC: LE Supervisors, Wildlife Supervisors, Fisheries Supervisors

FROM: Kari Lee-Zimmermann, Conservation Congress Liaison

SUBJECT: **2015 SPRING HEARING LOGISTICS MEMO** – DNR and WCC Annual Spring Hearing and County Conservation Meeting Procedures & Logistics

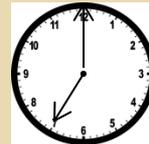
The purpose of this memo is to outline the responsibilities of DNR hearing officers, wildlife/fisheries hearing experts, and Conservation Congress delegates at the Annual Spring Hearing/County Conservation Meeting. Please take time to review this material at the Spring Conservation Congress District Meetings in March and again prior to the April Spring Hearings. The below are guidelines to follow so we can deliver statewide consistency at these public hearings, provide a product the public can have confidence in, and ensure the public has a safe environment for the respectful exchange of ideas. However, each hearing location, set up, and attendance are different. The assigned hearing officers and county delegates for each county should confer prior to the hearings and determine who will be doing what, where, when, and how at the hearings, and if any additional items need to be provided.

Review your logistics memo...



Logistics and Information

- **6:00 pm** DNR Hearing Officers and WCC delegates please report to the hearing location
- **6:15 pm** DNR Wildlife and Fisheries Experts please report to the hearing location
- **6:30 pm** doors open and registration begins
- **7:00 pm** hearings begin on time



** the above schedule is applicable for the majority of Wisconsin counties, however those counties with exceptionally high attendance will need to adjust accordingly and open doors earlier and allow for registration before 7:00 pm.*

Logistics and Information



To ensure the public has a safe environment for the respectful exchange of ideas and to deliver a consistent product to the citizens:

- Citizens will have the opportunity to vocally express their views on the presented issues when recognized
- Any literature and/or displays pertaining to the hearing not issued by the DNR or WCC **may not** be distributed or displayed in the building or portion of the building where the hearing is being held



Logistics and Information



To ensure the public has a safe environment for the civil exchange of ideas and to deliver a consistent product to the citizens:

- Citizens who display disrespectful, disruptive, or threatening behavior should not be recognized by the Hearing Officer or the County Chair
- If that behavior continues, those people should be removed from the hearing.





What's your role during the hearing?

- Department experts (WM, FH, LE) should use professional objectivity and factual information to answer questions. Your primary role is to answer questions and get feedback from the public.
- Hearing Officers & County Chairs should keep to the agenda and keep the attendees focused on the issues at hand (i.e. questions being asked). Your primary role is to keep it civil and keep it moving.
- WCC County Delegates should help facilitate the meeting, listen to the discussion, and gather input from the citizens in your county. You're welcome to provide your personal opinions on issues from the floor.

Registering Attendees

- WCC delegates & DNR staff should assist with handing out ballots and questionnaires
- Spring Hearing ballots should not be given out until the attendee has signed the attendance sheet
- WCC delegates are responsible for verifying voter residency requirements for delegate elections
- WCC delegates & DNR staff need to ensure the ballots are secure once the hearing begins



Voting Requirements:

- There is **NO** age requirement for voting on DNR or WCC hearing questions
- There is **NO** residency requirement for voting on DNR or WCC questions
- There is **NO** residency or age requirements for introducing or voting on resolutions
- Age and residency requirements are **ONLY** for delegate elections





Citizen Resolutions

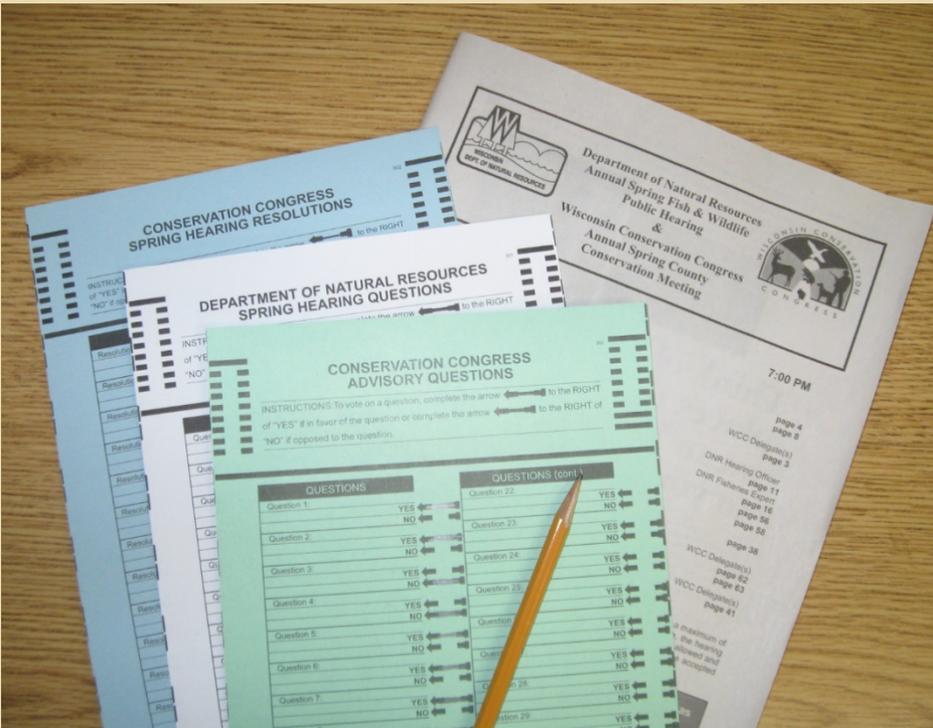
County Chairs are responsible for:

- receiving and accepting citizen resolutions
- reviewing format
- posting in accessible area



- Only those resolutions written in accordance with the WCC Code of Procedures should be accepted

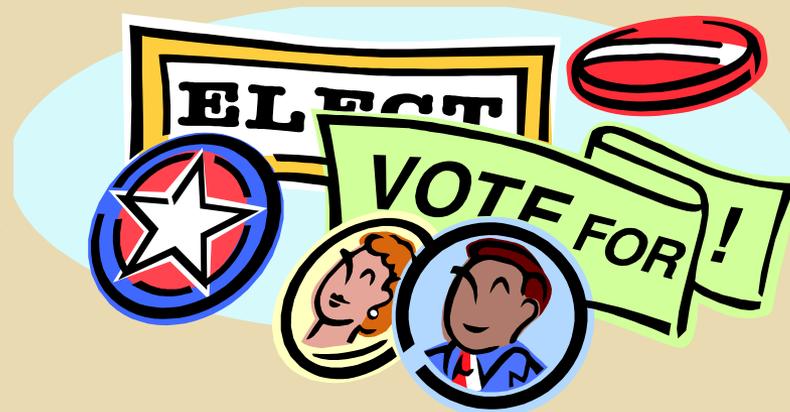
Beginning the Hearing



- Hearing officer will call the hearing to order
- WCC Chair **final call for citizen resolutions & posting resolutions**
- Hearings will begin with the **delegate elections**

Delegate Elections

- Next, the WCC County Chair will run the **WCC Delegate elections**
 - Must be 18 years old and a resident of that county to vote or run
 - There are no requirements for persons making nominations
 - Nominees have up to 3 minutes to communicate their interest in participating as a WCC delegate
 - Delegates must be elected by a majority vote (50% +1)
 - Those delegates not up for election should facilitate the elections
 - Election ballots should be given to hearing officer to retain for 30 days



Hearing Officer



- Following the WCC delegate election, the **DNR Hearing Officer** will begin the DNR hearing by reading the guideline script included in your “Logistics Memo.”
- The WHITE 2-column ballot should be used to record the DNR & NRB Spring Hearing results.



Hearing

- 9 statewide wildlife questions and 1 local (Outagamie)



- Following the wildlife questions, while Fisheries staff is getting set-up for their presentation, the WCC CDAC Chair has a brief statement to read.



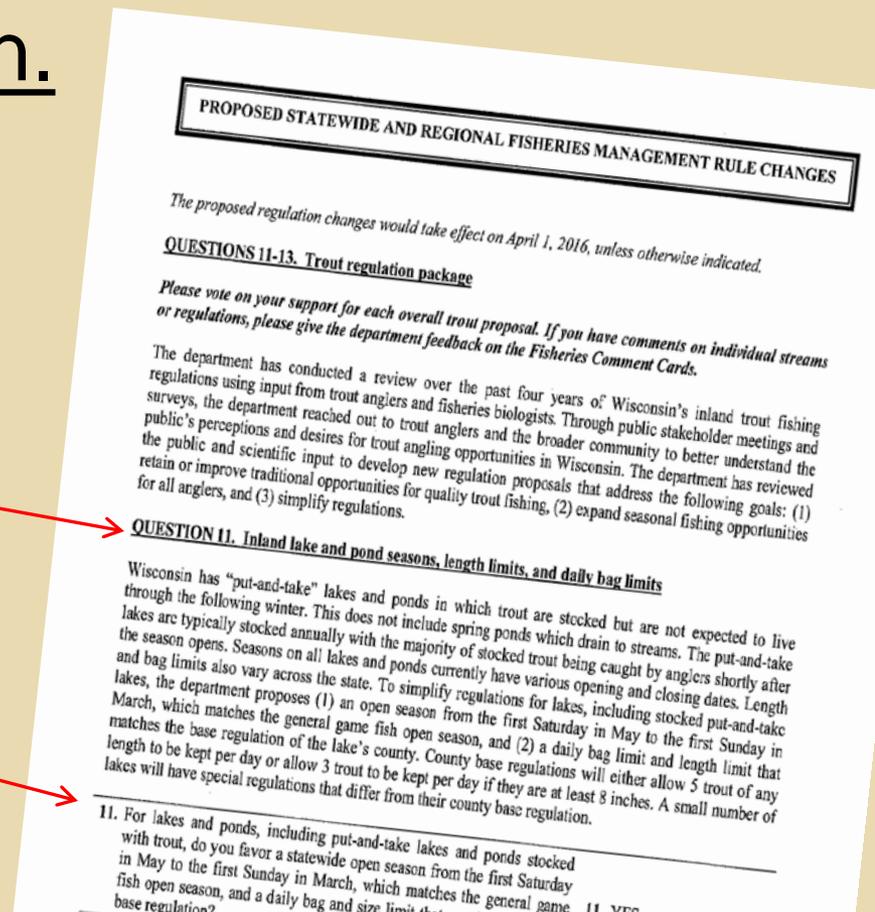
- Fisheries staff will then do their presentation and then the Hearing Officer will continue with the 10 statewide fisheries questions.



Hearing Officer



- **DNR Hearing Officer** will continue the DNR hearing by reading the heading and then the actual question.
- To save time, you do not need to read the background or questions not applicable to your county unless requested to do so by an attendee





Hearing Officer

- Once the DNR portion of the hearing is complete, please thank the audience for their participation and mention that the DNR hearing is now closed but comments may be submitted through the end of the day.

AT THIS POINT, THE MEETING SHOULD BE
TURNED OVER TO THE 
WCC COUNTY CHAIR OR VICE CHAIR





WCC:

Resolutions & Advisory Questions

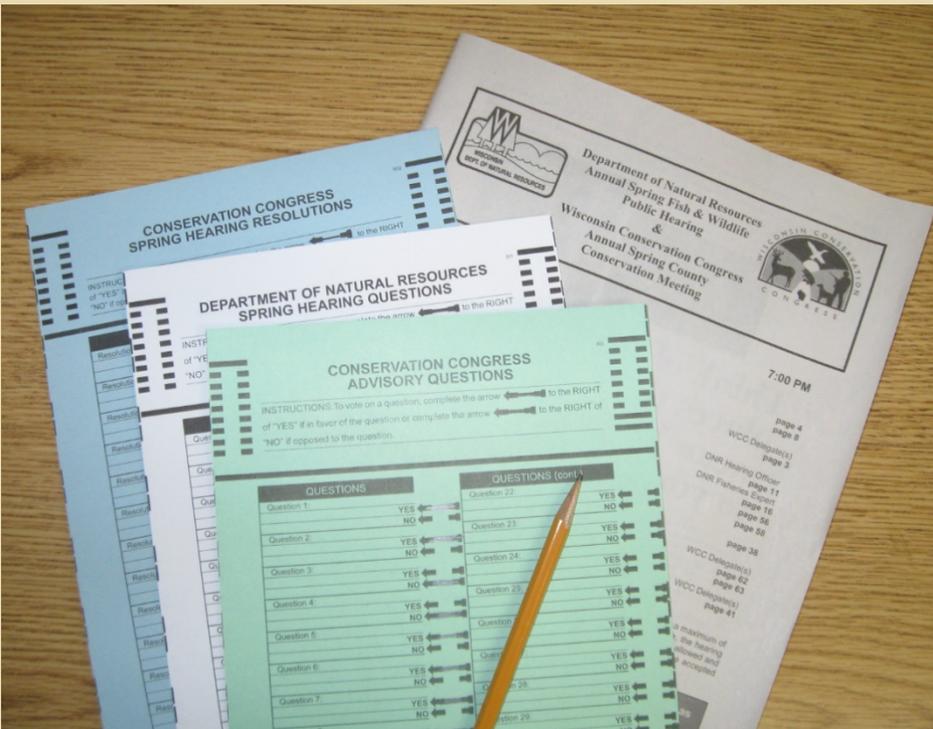
- **WCC Chair or Vice-Chair** will next call the WCC portion of the meeting to order by reading the guideline script included in the “Logistics Memo.”
- **Citizen Resolutions** – read, discuss & vote
- **WCC Advisory Questions** – same process as DNR questions

***** It is important that the WCC Delegation run their portion of the meeting *****

WCC:



Resolutions & Advisory Questions



- Resolution votes should be recorded on the **blue 2-column ballot**
- WCC advisory question votes should be recorded on the **green 2 column ballot** (Note: numbering begins again at 1)

DNR Law Enforcement, Wildlife and Fish Expert Role:



- Department experts should use the **background information** provided by their bureau to answer questions relating to Department questions.
- Experts can use the background info given to answer questions relating to the Conservation Congress advisory questions...*however*...
- The Department does **not** have an official position on WCC questions.



WCC Delegate End-of-Meeting Responsibilities:

- Conduct a county officer election to determine who will be the county chair and vice-chair
- Be sure your county CDAC seats are filled
- Be sure the Election Returns sheet is legibly completed
- Be sure the Election Record is completed
- Compile any hard copies of delegate profiles for Hearing Officer
- Check resolutions for proper numbering
- Make sure Hearing Officer has the election ballots



QUESTIONS?

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