

Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
Forestry Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting  
August 22, 2009

The regular meeting of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Forestry Parks and Recreation Committee was held on Saturday August 22, 2009 at the Greenbush Group Camp-Indoor Shelter Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Severson at 10:00 a.m. and was adjourned at 12:35 p.m. A tour of the forest was then taken by interested members.

Committee members present; Chairman Gary Severson, Secretary Dan Cobb, Dean Bowe d, Bob Ellingson, Robert Erdman, Roger Greenwood, Kirk Konichek, Dale Mayo, Craig Olson, Keith Propson, Louis Rudolph, Doug Seidl, Richard Warosh, and Dale Zaug.

Committee members excused; Dave Ferris and Robert Haddick.

Committee members absent, Tom Stuart.

Guests Present: Ed Harvey WCC Chairman, Jim Cobb, Kathy Nelson and Tim Beyer of the DNR, James R. Nichols and wife author Resolution #430209, Michael Witlciewicz author Resolution #520309.

The mission of the Forestry Parks and Recreation Study Committee of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress is to provide citizen input in the use and management of Wisconsin's forests, parks and trails on behalf of all those who utilize these resources. We accomplish this through monitoring of the issues that affect the health, diversity and use of our forests, parks and trails. In doing this we want to: 1) promote diverse healthy forest communities; 2) support control of invasive species that threaten our forests; 3) promote environmentally sound sustainable harvest; and 4) encourage the compatible use of our public/private lands for the diverse interests of those who recreate in our state.

Motion by Mayo to accept 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ellingson motion passed by voice vote, no objections.

Amendment to agenda: Motion by Seidl, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ellingson to discuss and move #2, B concerning results and disposition of 2009 Forestry Parks Committee Advisory Question 70, tree stands on State lands to front of the agenda before discussion of Resolution #430209. DNR representative was not present to inform the committee for the reasons for the addition to the agenda.

Discussion of policy clarification of state owned and managed lands, motion by Greenwood 2<sup>nd</sup> by Zaug to move Question 70 forward for state deeded lands only, private MFL lands not included, motion passed by voice vote.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution 43-02-09** pertaining to use of blinds on State owned and managed lands (also assigned to Outdoor Heritage and Education Study Committee). Author James Nichols and his wife were present.

Motion to accept by Greenwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Konichek

Discussion: In favor; same principals as tree stands on state lands; safety, elderly cannot carry equipment in and out. Against; privatizes use of state or public lands does not invite public to use that spot.

Motion to amend by Bowe d, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayo  
Passed by voice vote, voting no Cobb

Discussion on blind size requirements, suggested 6x6 feet then changed to 10x10 feet size.

Motion to set blind size to 10x10 feet by Craig Olson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ellingson

Discussion motion to amend blind size to 100 square feet and allow blinds to be put up the day before and taken down the day after any legal hunting season on State of Wisconsin Titled lands only. Motion to accept by Olson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ellingson.

Discussion

Motion passed by voice vote, voting no Cobb

RESOLUTION ADVANCED WITH THE AMENDED CONDITIONS of 100 square feet, 24 hours before and after any legal hunting season on State titled lands only.

**Resolution 52-03-09** Managed Forest Law Landowner Support Proposal, the author Michael Witlciewicz was present.

Author Witlciewicz gave a short presentation. Many questions were asked of the author.

Motion to reject by Erdman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Greenwood.

Discussion, material and resources already exist to address concerns.

Motion passed by voice vote.

Resolution REJECTED. Resolution NOT advanced.

Emerald Ash Borer update by Tim Beyer, DNR: Ash borer is spreading and the quarantine on moving wood is expanding.

Update by Kathy Nelson, DNR Forestry:

DNR Forestry Program: There is a hiring freeze in forestry with jobs being eliminated. The forestry program has a 10% cut across the board in funding. There is a 3% reduction in salary and furlough. Forest grant program cut by \$520,000.00.

DNR Parks and Recreation Program: Cuts in services with jobs, camp grounds and facilities being downsized and eliminated due to lack of funding.

**Member Matters:**

Discussion: Purchasing out of state hunting license over the internet, county forest certification, stewardship funding, and NRB.

Chairman Severson presented and informed the committee of additional forestry publications provided by the state.

Motion to adjourn by Geenwood, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bowe d, motion passed by voice vote.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan C. Cobb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dan C. Cobb, Secretary Forestry, Parks and Recreation Study Committee.