

Wisconsin Conservation Congress Legislative Study Committee Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	Saturday, August 10, 2013	9:00 AM	Plaza Hotel & Suites, 201 N. 17th Ave, Wausau, WI
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Alan Suchla (Chair) at 9:00 AM
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Michael Hamm, Roger Wilson, Brook Wallen, Ben Loma (Secretary), Richard Krawze Sr., Lowell Suring, Chuck Boley, John Jones, George Bartels, Harold Drake, James Thomas, Claude Bohn, David Miller (Vice Chair), William Howe, David Breunig, Martin Sands, Tom Van Haren (DNR Liaison), Matt O'Brien (DNR Liaison), Mike Bruhn (DNR Liaison)
EXCUSED	Paul Shaurette, Jayne Meyer, Mark Krmpotich
UNEXCUSED	
GUESTS	Jean Voss, Carol Schmidt, Colleen Malmen, Carole Vande Walle, Robert Haase, Brad Hasheider, Gerald W. Clark, John Hoeffs, Barb Eisenberg, Miles Narveson, Ken Risley

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	If possible take Citizen Resolutions in order of guest resolutions authors which were present at this meeting
ACTION	Agreed

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	The mission of the Legislative Committee of the Conservation Congress is to advise the legislature of the official positions of the Congress and to testify to such at legislative hearings and meetings: to review resolutions and legislation in order to advise and recommend positions to the members and leadership of the congress: and to work with the department of natural resources in the development and implementation of wildlife, habitat and conservation legislation and administrative rules
ACTION	Drake moved approval as presented, seconded by Thomas, motion carried by voice approval

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	(No public comments were given)
ACTION	NA

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. (II., A. 1) ABOLISH HUNTING AND TRAPPING IN STATE PARKS 130213

JEAN VOSS - AUTHOR

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair. Voss spoke on behalf of her authored resolution. A motion to reject by Drake and 2 nd by Miller. Discussion by Drake, Wilson, Howe, Hamm, Boley, Waalen, Thomas, Van Haren and Bruhn
ACTION	Motion to REJECT was approved by voice approval

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
No Action – Author was present for discussion	NA

B. (II., A. 11) RETURN TO PRE-ACT 168 LEVELS OF HUNTING, TRAPPING, FISHING IN STATE PARKS (150313)

[AUTHORS - CAROL SCHMIDT, COLLEN MALMEN, CAROLE VANDE WALLE]

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair, Carole Vande Walle spoke on behalf of their resolutions, A motion to reject by Thomas and 2 nd by Miller. Discussion by Wilson, Breunig, Loma, Thomas, Waalen Boley.
ACTION	Motion to REJECT was approved by voice approval
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
No Action – Authors were present for discussion	NA

C. (II., A. 2) ESTABLISH A SENIOR RESIDENT CONSERVATION PATRON LICENSE (200113)

ROBERT HAASE – HAD LEFT MEETING

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair, Motion to Approve by Wilson and 2 nd by Miller. Discussion by Howe, Bohn, Miller and Drake
ACTION	Motion to APPROVE was passed by voice approval
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Chair, Alan Suchla will contact Author about approval	Chair will write question for Spring Hearing Questionnaire and forward to Kari Lee-Zimmermann by October 1 st to get on January Agenda for Exec Council agenda

D. (II. A. 4.) GIVE AUTHORITY TO WARDENS TO ENFORCE TRESPASS LAWS (NR RELATED INCIDENTS) (570113)

BRAD HASHEIDER - AUTHOR

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair, Hasheider spoke on behalf of his authored resolution. Motion to Approve by Thomas and 2 nd by Miller. Discussion by Thomas, Miller, Drake, Krawze, Loma, Waalen, Boley
ACTION	Motion to APPROVE was passed by voice approval
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
No Action – Authors were present for discussion	Chair will write question for Spring Hearing Questionnaire and forward to Kari Lee-Zimmermann by October 1 st to get on January Agenda for Exec Council agenda

E. (II. A. 3.) FAIR PAY, FAIR TAKE POLICY - WILDLIFE PROTECTION LICENSES (130413)

NO PERSON CAME FOURTH TO MAKE A PRESENTATON

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair, Motion to Reject by Hamm and 2 nd by Bohn. Discussion by Miller, Drake, Suring
ACTION	Motion to REJECT was passed by voice approval
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Chair, Alan Suchla will contact Author about Rejection of Resolution	Chair will provide notice to Author by August 31, 2013

F. (II. A. 5.) INCREASE FINES FOR DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE (710213)

AUTHOR – GERALD W. CLARK

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair, Clark spoke on behalf of his authored resolution. Motion to Reject by Howe & Krawzee. Discussion by Wilson, Hamm, Miller, Bohn, Thomas, Drake, Public – Carol Schmidt, Wilson, Waalen, Krawze, Boley
ACTION	Motion to Reject – FAILS by hand vote 5 –12, Motion to accept by Suring and 2 nd by Wilson, Motion to ACCEPT passed by hand vote 12 - 6
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

No Action – Authors were present for discussion	Chair will write question for Spring Hearing Questionnaire and forward to Kari Lee-Zimmermann by October 1 st to get on January Agenda for Exec Council agenda
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G. (II. A. 6.) INCREASE LICENSE FEE TO FUND MACKENZIE CENTER (110413)

NO PERSON CAME FOURTH TO MAKE A PRESENTATON

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair, Motion to Accept by Miller and 2 nd by Howe. Discussion by Miller, Howe, Bruhn, Waalen.	
ACTION	Miller with draws his motion to Accept and was passed by voice approval. Motion to REJECT make by Wilson and 2 nd by Miller. Motion to REJECT passed by voice approval.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE
Chair, Alan Suchla will contact Author about Rejection of Resolution		Chair will provide notice to Author by August 31, 2013

H. (II. A. 7.)LAWS FOR UNCASSED FIREARMS/BOW IN MOTORIZED VEHICLE DURING OPEN SEASON (590213)

JOHN HOEFFS - AUTHOR

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair, Hoeffs spoke on behalf of his authored resolution. Motion to Reject by Krawzee and 2 nd by Thomas. Discussion by Miller, Breuning, Wilson, Hamm, Thomas, Loma	
ACTION	Motion to REJECT passed by voice approval	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE
No Action – Authors were present for discussion		NA

I. (II. A. 9.) REPEAL THE WOLF HUNT – ACT 169 (410313)

BARB EISENBERG – AUTHOR HANDOUT PROVIDED (SEE ATTACHED)

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair, Eisenberg spoke on behalf her authored resolution. Motion to Reject by Bohn and 2 nd by Thomas. Discussion by Wilson, Miller, Boley, Loma, Krawze, Thomas, Waalen, Wilson, Bohn, Suring,	
ACTION	Motion to REJECT passed by voice approval	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE
No Action – Authors were present for discussion		NA

J. (II. A. 8.) RAISING NON-RESIDENT FISHING LICENSE FEES (710113)

NO PERSON CAME FOURTH TO MAKE A PRESENTATON

DISCUSSION	Resolution read by Chair, Motion to Pass by Bruing and 2 nd by Bartels. Discussion by Krawze, Loma, Miller, Bohn, Howe, Breuning, Boley, Hamm, Bartels,	
ACTION	Motion to PASSED by a hand vote 9-7	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE
Chair, Alan Suchla will contact Author about Passing of Resolution		Chair will write question for Spring Hearing Questionnaire and forward to Kari Lee-Zimmermann by October 1 st to get on January Agenda for Exec Council agenda

K. (II. A. 10.) RETRIEVAL OF HUNTING DOGS FROM PROPERTY WITHOUT LANDOWNER PRMISSION (230113, 250113, 330113, 540313)

MILES NARVESON AND KEN RISLEY - AUTHORS

DISCUSSION	Resolutions read by Chair, Narveson spoke on behalf thier authored resolution. Motion to Accept by Bruing and 2 nd by Drake. Presentation by Risley & Narueson. Discussion by Wilson, Krawze, Boley, Loma, Bohn, Suring, Thomas, Miller	
ACTION	Motion to ACCEPT passed by voice approval	

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Chair, Alan Suchla will contact Authors that were not present about Passing of Resolution.	Chair will write question for Spring Hearing Questionnaire and forward to Kari Lee-Zimmermann by October 1 st to get on January Agenda for Exec Council agenda

L. (II. A. 12.) TREAT MINOR CHILDREN OF MILITARY PERSONNEL AS RESIDENTS (470213)

NO PERSON CAME FOURTH TO MAKE A PRESENTATION

DISCUSSION	Resolutions read by Chair, Motion to Accept by Suring and 2 nd by Hamm. Discussion by Thomas, Van Haren, Loma, Sands, Wilson
ACTION	Motion to ACCEPT passed by voice approval
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Chair, Alan Suchla will contact Author about Passing of Resolution	Chair will write question for Spring Hearing Questionnaire and forward to Kari Lee-Zimmermann by October 1 st to get on January Agenda for Exec Council agenda

**M. (II. B.) 1. 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE
2. PRIORITIES FOR 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

MIKE BRUHN - DNR

DISCUSSION	Fish hatchery update, New Walleye hatchery program update, Elk update,
ACTION	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	Most committee delegates & DNR Liaisons had no comments. Suchla (chair) addressed the ammo, situation to the delegates & to the DNR about our inability to purchase .22 rim fire or hunting ammo, on how this could effect hunting license purchases. If you can not buy hunting ammunition, how can we manage our wildlife population or take our youth to the shooting range to practice
ACTION	None

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	Motion to Adjourn make by Wilson and 2nd by Wilson at 2:30 PM
SUBMITTED BY	Ben Loma
DATE	August 10, 2013

Attachment – handout / present read by Barb Eisenberg in her presentation

Legislative Committee Meeting August 10, 2013---Public Comment

I am here to urge the Legislative Committee to accept and forward Resolution 410313 - Repeal the Wolf Hunt- Act 169. I came from Milwaukee today because of the importance of this issue and because the majority of Wisconsin residents are unable to attend or unaware of the meeting. I spoke at the Natural Resources Board meeting in July 2012 where there was standing room only. I have seen the high level of interest in this issue in which Wisconsin is the center of attention and is leading the discussion on how we want to manage our wolf population.

Act 169, the legislation that made a wolf hunt mandatory in Wisconsin moved through the legislature quickly with very little time for public input. There is no biological reason for a wolf hunt. I know of no research that shows that a wolf season has ANY effect on depredation and it may, in fact increase the likelihood of depredation by leaving young wolves without the adult supervision in learning how to hunt and how to avoid conflicts with humans.

Why is the data being disregarded on previously employed non-lethal methods of reducing depredation on livestock and other animals? How many farmers have learned techniques such as hazing, the use of herding dogs, motion sensitive lights and protective enclosures for their livestock? How effective have those techniques been? How many hunters have been educated on the social structure of wolf packs and the changes in behavior that occur during the year depending on the life stage of the pups and the parents?

Depredation is and has always been addressed through removal of *specific, individual* wolves found to be a threat to livestock, and by educating farmers and hunters on how to prevent depredation. Professor Treves, a wolf management and public policy researcher here in Wisconsin, has developed a risk map that predicted 92% of future livestock depredations, but it seems so far his research has not been used to shape wolf management policy. Why isn't this information being used to take specific actions to prevent these depredations?

I have a degree in Biological Aspects of Conservation, so I understand the importance of large predators, such as wolves, in ecosystems. I urge you to examine the science carefully. We have proven methods of dealing with depredation. There are numerous other hunting opportunities and there is no research to suggest that a hunt will prevent depredation.

Most importantly, it has been years since the question of a wolf hunt has been posed at the Spring Hearing. The majority of Wisconsin voters have not been fully informed of the implications of this issue on our wildlife resources.

To live in a state where an essential predator, the wolf, that has been admired and respected for so long in Wisconsin, is made a target such a short time after it is taken off the threatened species list leaves in question our role and status in conservation. I urge you to accept and forward Resolution 410313 for a statewide vote at the annual meeting.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Barb Eisenberg, 1246 E. Chambers Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212, 414-372-5785