

Wisconsin Conservation Congress

BEAR COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	Dec. 6, 2014	9:30 AM	Mead Education Center
--------------------------	---------------------	----------------	------------------------------

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Chairman Mike Rogers at 9:31 AM
-----------------------------------	---------------------------------

B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Dale Detample, Jeffrey Thums, Mike Pfankuch, Dave Mabie, Gary Mabie, Bruce Prentice, Arlen Heistad, Mike Murphy, Russell Hitz, Kelly Crotty, Connie Kadubek, Terry Olson, David Lois, Rob Kaminskis, Chris Wegner, Eugene Muensch, Dennis Jones, Ralph Fritsch, Mike Rogers, Al Lobner
EXCUSED	Nate Stahl, Scott Strook, Randy Voegeli
UNEXCUSED	Jeremy Burton, Daniel Vacho
GUESTS	Larry Flyte, Alan Wegner, Larry Osegard, Matt Sedelbauer, Adam Lindsey

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	None
ACTION	None

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	Mike Rogers read current Mission Statement
ACTION	Motion by Al Lobner 2 nd by Mike Murphy to approve as currently written. Motion passed.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	None
ACTION	None

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. RESOLUTION 700314 BEAR HUNTING WITH DOGS IN ZONE C

LARRY FLYTE

DISCUSSION	Discussion included problems with hunting with hounds and advantages to hunting with hounds in Zone C and if hound hunting should be included in all of Zone C. Potential law enforcement issues in Zone C are currently issues in Zones where hound hunting is now allowed.	
ACTION	Motion to forward as amended with permission of Author Larry Flyte by Mike Murphy and 2 nd by Russ Hitz. Question to read as follows: Currently bear hunting with dogs is allowed in Zones A, B, and D. Would you support bear hunting with dogs in Zone C consistent with the rest of the state, north of Highway 21, in Zone C with a 3 year sunset clause.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

Author was present at meeting	
-------------------------------	--

**B. RESOLUTION 100114, 270114, 720314,
EARLIER BEAR HUNT IN ZONE C**

MATT SEDELBAUER

DISCUSSION	Discussion included whether this issue would effect tribal treaties and the ability to start first every year and would the season be longer only in Zone C.	
ACTION	Motion to forward as amended by Al Lobner and 2 nd by Mike Murphy. Motion passed on a roll call vote with all present in favor and Bruce Prentice abstaining. Question to read: Would you support an early opening for Zone C Bear Harvest Season starting on September 1. Harvest season closure for Zone C would be consistent with other closures as in the past.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

**C. RESOLUTION 260314 INCREASE FINES/POST AREAS
WITH BAIT NEAR ROADS.**

AUTHOR NOT PRESENT

DISCUSSION	Discussion included whether this was a problem statewide or just a local problem. Law enforcement did not feel that this is an issue everywhere and probably can be handled at the local level.	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Mike Murphy and 2 nd by Dave Mabie. Motion passed.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

**D. RESOLUTION 350114 RESIDENT PREFERENCE FOR
FOR BEAR HARVEST PERMITS**

AUTHOR NOT PRESENT

DISCUSSION INCLUDED WHAT THE CURRENT LEVEL IS FOR RESIDENT VS NONRESIDENT LICENSE AND APPLICATIONS ARE AND CURRENTLY NONRESIDENTS ARE ABOUT 3% OF THE TOTAL APPLICATION AND LICENSE SALES. MOST NONRESIDENTS ARE FROM NEIGHBORING STATES AND THE CONCENSUS IS THAT THESE ARE FORMER RESIDENTS OR CHILDREN OF RESIDENTS OF WISCONSIN. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SOME FROM A FEW OTHER STATES IT DOES NOT SEEM TO BE A PROBLEM.

MOTION TO REJECT BY Al Lobner and 2nd by Mike Murphy. Motion passed.

Dave MacFarland gave a presentation and the topics dicussed included: harvest rates, tetracycline study, application fees for resident and nonresident bear hunting application, the current preference system, upcoming Bear Management Plan, spring bear hunt possibilities, permit levels, Aphis complaints and shooting permits issued along with trapping of nuisance bears.

Following this discussion a motion was made by Mike Murphy and seconded by Russ Hitz to go over proposed Harvest Quotas and Permit levels for each BMU separately. All zone harvest quotas and permit levels were supported by the committee with no opposition.

Kelly Crotty DNR Law Enforcement gave a report on current law enforcement issues and also how people should react when confronted with any trespass issues both as a landowner and as a bear hunter. Dragging of roads was also included in the discussion and if roads are dragged and the township does not allow this you could be responsible for the monetary value to fix the roads which would include the cost of materials and up to 3 times for the labor. Learn to Bear Hunt and how individuals are selected was also discussed.

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	Mike Pfankuch thanked Dave MacFarland for all of his help and the presentation that he gave for members of the Committee. Electronic call-in for registration for bears was also discussed and how it will be implemented. Some of the concerns are how will the research items (teeth and ribs) be turned in. The purchase of multiple years of preference points was also discussed. Al Lobner requested that all present make it a point to attend the public hearings in January and February and voice their opinions on the proposed Wolf Management Plan and the effect of wolves on our hunting seasons including the effect that wolves have on bears, bear hunting and bear trailing hounds.
ACTION	None

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	12:50 PM
SUBMITTED BY	Al Lobner
DATE	Dec. 9, 2014