

Wisconsin Conservation Congress

Fur Harvest Study Committee

Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	August 8, 2015	9:00 AM	Mead Wildlife Area Visitor Center
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Committee Chairman Ed Harvey at 9:00 AM
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Tom Avis, Todd Edinger, Dave Werner, Kerry Kramer, Will Netzer, Hugh Hatch, Randy Symicek, Daniel Carroll, Mike Nicholson, Scott McAuley, Scott Zimmermann, James Binder, John Hedtke, Daniel Cichantek, Jeffrey Stoeckigt, Ed Harvey, Miles Narveson, Wayne Stietz, Troy Klessinger, John Olson, Nathan Roberts, and Nate Kroeplin
EXCUSED	Dave Louis, Duane Butler, Mark Loka, Richard Clark, Kelly Tollefson, Donald Bongle, and Kris Kavelaris
UNEXCUSED	
GUESTS	Douglas Bohn, Art Baseber, Robert LaBuda, Brett Helmbrecht, Donald Roberts, Chris Manninen, Justin Coettre, Geri Ann Albers, Dan Hircheat, Jean Hedtke, and Ralph Fritsch

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Motion by Cichantek, 2nd by Hedtke to approve as published. Motion carried by voice vote.

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Motion by Symicek 2nd by Stietz to approve as published. Motion carried by voice vote.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	No public comments.

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A.1 CITIZEN RESOLUTION 200415, 240115, & 710115

DOUGLAS BOHN AND ART BASEBER

DISCUSSION	This resolution proposes a special muskrat season framework for Rush Lake. Discussion suggested that lake by lake regulation is not desirable. The proposal is contrary to rule simplification. Rush Lake cattails are high bred cattails. Muskrats are less effective in managing highbred cattails.	
ACTION	Motion by Nicholson 2nd by Narveson to advance. Motion by Hedtke, 2nd by Symicek to amend to include all trapping in the special season. Motion to amend passed by voice vote. Original motion as amended fails by voice vote. Motion by Cichantek 2nd by Carroll to reject. Motion passes by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

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A.2 CITIZEN RESOLUTION 132015

AUTHOR ABSENT

DISCUSSION	This resolution proposes to protect beavers as a state treasure. Discussion suggested that they are currently protected, and are currently a state treasure. Research is needed to determine what the effects of additional protection would be on other resources.	
ACTION	Motion by Carroll, 2nd by Binder to reject. Motion carried by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

A.3 CITIZEN RESOLUTION 500315

DICK HORN

DISCUSSION	This resolution proposes a single dry land trapping opener for all species. It would not affect hunting season dates for the same species.	
ACTION	Motion by Nicholson 2nd by Binder to advance. Motion carried by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

A.4 CITIZEN RESOLUTION 132115I

AUTHOR ABSENT

DISCUSSION	This resolution proposes that all predator harvest be ended.	
ACTION	Motion by Carroll, 2nd by Zimmermann to reject. Motion carried by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

A.5 CITIZEN RESOLUTION 160215

DON ROBERTS

DISCUSSION	This resolution proposes to Wisconsin residents, and landowners receive preference for bear, and bobcat permits.	
ACTION	Motion by Carroll 2nd by Symicek to reject. Motion carried by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

A.6 CITIZEN RESOLUTION 040115

AUTHOR ABSENT

DISCUSSION	This resolution proposes to change trap checking regulations when trapping for wolves.	
ACTION	Motion by Cichantek 2nd by Carroll to reject. motion carried by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

B. RULE SIMPLIFICATION COMMITTEE SUGESTION

SCOTT ZIMMERMANN

DISCUSSION	The rule simplification committee is proposing that all furbearer seasons open on November 1. they will also propose to eliminate trap checking hours, and that cubbies on ice be legalized.	
ACTION	Motion by Nicholson 2nd by Symicek that the committee support an opening for all furbearer seasons of the last Saturday in October. Motion carried by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

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C. BEAVER MANAGEMENT PLAN**OLSON AND ALBERS**

DISCUSSION	Plan is expected to go to the Natural Resources Board in September. Plan supports increases in beaver populations in both northern zones. Binder pointed out the importance of continued research.	
ACTION	Motion by Binder, 2nd by Netzer that the committee support plan with an additional focus on continued research.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

D. FISHER AND MARTEN RESEARCH**JONATHAN GILBERT**

DISCUSSION	Uncertain populations of Marten, and declining fisher populations across the north may be linked to competition for food, and increased bob cat numbers. Results of recent research suggests that continued research is warranted.	
ACTION	Motion by Chichantek, 2nd by Stoeckigt that the committee support continued fisher and marten research. Motion carried by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

E. APHIS WILDLIFE SERVICES UPDATE**DAN HIRCHERT**

DISCUSSION	Dan Hirschert, the new state director of APHIS Wildlife Services introduced himself to the committee, and reported recent agency activities.	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

F. DEPARTMENT INFORMATION ITEMS AND UPDATES

DISCUSSION	Olson, Albers, Roberts, and Kroeplin updated the committee on: The status of BMP's, 2014-15 furbearer survey results, Bobcat fisher and otter recommendations, Bobcat research, Department rule proposals, Trapper Ed, and 2014-15 trap incidents.	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	It was noted that long time committee member Elmer Miller passed away last month, at the age of 95. also discussed was hunter harassment training, and artic fox trapping.	
ACTION		

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	3:30 PM	
SUBMITTED BY	Scott McAuley	
DATE	October 17, 2015	