



Wisconsin Conservation Congress 2012 Spring District Meeting Agenda

1. **Organizational Matters** ~ 7:00 PM
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call

2. **Informational Items & Program Updates**
 - A. Review Wildlife Spring Advisory Questions, Local Wildlife Staff & WCC District Councilors
 - B. Review Fisheries Spring Advisory Questions, Local Fisheries Staff & WCC District Councilors
 - C. DNR Staff Updates (*Regional or Statewide Issues of Interest*)
 - D. Review Conservation Congress Advisory Questions, WCC District Councilors
 - E. Review Conservation Congress Town Hall Meeting logistics & guidance (**see attachment**)

3. **Conservation Congress Annual County Meeting and DNR Spring Informational Hearing Logistics**
 - A. Review the Information Provided in the *Spring Hearing Logistics Memo*
 - **NEW THIS YEAR – The Congress will hold town-hall meetings after the advisory questions are done.** County delegates should run this portion of the meeting and should ask attendees for their input and ideas on the Governor's charge for rule simplification and the elimination of barriers to participation in hunting, fishing, and trapping.
 - Delegate Election
 1. Review the County Seats up for Election in 2012
 2. Review Election Protocol – review protocol for run-off elections
 - Review Hearing Officer Roles and Responsibilities
 - Review WCC County Chair's Roles and Responsibilities
 - B. Personal Data Questionnaires
 - PDQ's will again be available online in the form of a survey. It will be a much more efficient way to capture the required data. Please review the memo for directions and if you have access to the internet, give it a try.
 - C. Local Spring Hearing Press Release
 - Please decide who within your county will be responsible for taking this press release to local media outlets.

4. **Other Congress Business**
 - A) Proposed Code of Procedure Changes
 - This is your opportunity to review and discuss the two Code of Procedure changes that were advanced by the Exec. Council. These proposed amendments to the Congress operating procedures will be voted on by the entire delegation at the 2012 Annual Convention.

B) WCC Strategic Planning Committee – Nominations

- At the January 6th WCC Executive Council Meeting in Stevens Point the Outreach Committee proposed that the WCC consider developing a long-term Strategic Plan that would provide for a full review of the WCC's organizational structure and operations. A member of the Outreach Committee recommended we contact Art Lersch, a Community Resource Development Educator with the UW-Extension, to provide some background for what the planning process would entail. Resulting discussions and a motion were supportive of the recommendation to develop a Strategic Plan for the WCC, pending a review of how the WCC would approach financing the planning process. **At this juncture we are asking for nominations of councilors and delegates to serve on the WCC Strategic Planning Committee.** Attached is a brief summary and information on what the process will be like should you be interested in applying or nominating someone.

C) WCC Learn-to-Bear-Hunt Tag

- The Congress received one tag for the 2012 LTBH event. It will be awarded to a novice hunter. An application for a novice hunter will appear in the February *Conservation Chronicle* and is due **April 20, 2012**. Please share the application with prospective bear hunters and encourage them to submit the form and essay. The winner will be selected at the Annual Convention. Anyone who is interested in mentoring a Learn to Bear Hunt participant or donating/transferring a bear tag to a new hunter should contact Rich Kirchmeyer at 715-428-2321.

D) Expo Travel Grant

- The Congress will provide travel grants to school districts who wish to attend the Wisconsin Outdoor Expo in Beaver Dam. Applications are due **April 13, 2012** and can be found in the February issue of the *Conservation Chronicle*. Please let your local schools know about this opportunity. Enclosed is a press release that can be distributed to local media.

5. Member Matters

6. Adjourn

2012 Proposed Wisconsin Code of Procedure Changes

1) Issue: Advancing resolutions that pass multiple times in multiple counties.

Section X. D. 2. is amended to read:

2. If the resolution has a passing vote at the County level, the resolution will be referred to the Congress Rules and Resolutions committee of the Congress. **Any same or like resolution that has passed in at least the same three counties for two consecutive years shall be automatically forwarded for a statewide vote.**

2) Issue: Adding two at-large positions to the Executive Committee

Section VII.D. is amended to read:

D. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee consists of the Conservation Congress Chair, Vice-Chair, ~~and~~ Secretary, **and two at-large positions from Districts not already represented by the Chair, Vice-Chair, or Secretary.** They are elected by the Executive Council to represent the interests of the Conservation Congress on a statewide level. The Executive Committee is responsible for making advisory committee assignments following the May Executive Council meeting. They collectively or singly appear at various state functions to protect the views and put forth the ideas of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, and most importantly, represent citizen and stakeholder interests on a statewide level.

NEW THIS YEAR - 2012 Town Hall Meeting Logistics & Guidance

This year the Congress will hold town hall meetings after the advisory questions are done. County chairs and vice-chairs are responsible for conducting the Town Hall portion of the meeting. DNR Informational Hearing Officers and Staff Experts will be present to assist if needed, but the expectation is that this portion of the meeting is to be run by the Conservation Congress. County delegates should ask attendees for their ideas on the Governor's charge for (1) rule simplification and (2) the elimination of barriers to participation in hunting, fishing, and trapping.

A prepared script will be included in your 2012 Spring Hearing Logistics Memo. Please review this script and use it the night of the Town Hall Meeting.

The evening's discussion must focus on the two topics as outlined in the Governor's Letter. These topics will also be laid out on **two separate forms at the back of the Spring Hearing booklet.** Please note that **this portion of the meeting is different than the Citizen Resolution process** and we will not be accepting additional resolution-type submissions. The goal is not to have a debate, but to have a discussion in order to generate specific ideas for ways we can simplify hunting, fishing and trapping regulations, and ways we can eliminate barriers to participation in these activities.

Attendees should be directed to the last three pages of their Spring Hearing booklet for the Town Hall Meeting portion of the evening. Attendees wishing to comment but unable to stay for the Town Hall Meeting should be instructed to write in their comments on the Town Hall forms, tear these forms off the back of the questionnaire, and turn in to a Conservation Congress delegate present at the meeting.

Similar to all advisory questions, all attendees will be given an opportunity to make or submit statements or ask questions for clarification. **NOTE:** Verbal comments will NOT be recorded by the Conservation Congress, and all attendees should be strongly encouraged to hand write their comments on the forms provided. Attendees should be asked to submit written comments on the forms at the back of the spring hearing booklet. **Completed forms should be submitted to the Conservation Congress delegates present at the meeting.**

Collected Town Hall forms should be assigned/numbered appropriately. Comment forms can be numbered in a similar fashion to Citizen Resolutions (see below).

##	##	##
County Code	Town Hall Form Number	Year
<u>Example:</u> TH-010112 (Adams County, Form Number 1, 2012)		

Once assigned/numbered, the Conservation Congress county delegation is responsible for compiling and summarizing the results of their Town Hall Meeting. Results for each of the 2 sections (1-rule simplification and 2-barriers to participation) of the Town Hall Meeting should be summarized separately. **Summary sheets will be provided and the county delegation is expected to spend some time after the hearings (preferably on a different day) summarizing the written comments to the best of their abilities.** County chairs will then submit their county results to the DNR Conservation Congress Coordinator, Sharon Fandel, at the WCC Annual May Convention (at the registration table). The Executive Committee will form two ad-hoc committees to assist in compiling the county summaries and developing recommendations in response to the letter from Governor Walker. Recommendations will be presented to the Executive Council which will be responsible for developing final recommendations and a response to the Governor's letter.

<p>IF AFTER YOUR DISTRICT MEETING YOU ARE STILL UNCLEAR AS TO YOUR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THIS YEAR'S TOWN HALL MEETINGS, PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (ROB, LARRY, OR LEE) OR THE CONSERVATION CONGRESS COORDINATOR (SHARON FANDEL) FOR CLARIFICATION.</p>
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2012 WCC Strategic Planning Process

BACKGROUND

At the January 6th WCC Executive Council Meeting in Stevens Point the Outreach Committee proposed that the WCC consider developing a long-term Strategic Plan that would provide for a full review of the WCC's organizational structure and operations. A member of the Outreach Committee suggested we contact Art Lersch, a Community Resource Development Educator with the UW-Extension, to provide some background for what the planning process would entail. Resulting discussions and a motion were supportive of the recommendation to develop a Strategic Plan for the WCC, pending a review of how the WCC would approach financing the planning process.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PLANNING PROCESS

A Strategic Planning Committee of 10-15 people would be involved with and committed to the entire planning process. The WCC Strategic Plan process would take place over the next year, lasting approximately 8-12 months. Between six (6) and eight (8) meetings would be held, preferably in a central location, and would last approximately 6 hours each. Meetings would primarily occur during the week; however, there is some flexibility to hold a few weekend meetings. Art Lersch's "time" would be at no additional cost to the WCC or Department; only reimbursement for his materials and meals/mileage would be required. Please note that this is a *significant* cost savings to the WCC, as hiring an outside contractor would have been cost prohibitive.

SEEKING NOMINATIONS!

At this juncture we are looking for volunteers and/or nominations for WCC councilors or delegates to commit to this strategic planning process. In order to make sure this process is well worth our while, we need folks who are both committed and interested in playing a role in this important planning effort. We need folks who can commit to attending each and every planning meeting (including taking time off of work for meetings on weekdays) and are willing and capable of taking on the responsibility of communicating the progress of the planning process with his or her fellow delegates and constituents. The Strategic Planning Committee will ideally be composed of a combination of District Councilors and County Delegates. The Executive Committee will make the final recommendations for nomination to the Strategic Planning Committee. Please keep in mind that everyone nominated will not necessarily be selected for the Strategic Planning Committee. Our goal is to assemble the best group of Congress representatives to be a part of this important process. Likewise, representation on the planning team may not be equally distributed across all Districts.

If you are interested and feel you can commit to the charge above, please consider applying for a position on the planning committee. Likewise, if you can think of someone within the Congress delegation that you believe would be a valuable asset to the strategic planning committee, please nominate them on the attached form.

All application/nomination forms should be filled out at your District Meeting and turned in to your County Chair. County Chairs should mail all forms to the Executive Committee.

2012 WCC Strategic Planning Process - Nomination Form

WCC Delegate/Councilor Name: _____

Is he/she a District Councilor? (circle one) YES NO

If this is a self-application, please let us know if you feel you can commit to the entire planning process – including attending ALL planning meetings.

YES NO

Why do you believe he/she should be a part of the WCC Strategic Planning Team?

2012 WCC Strategic Planning Process - Nomination Form

WCC Delegate/Councilor Name: _____

Is he/she a District Councilor? (circle one) YES NO

If this is a self-application, please let us know if you feel you can commit to the entire planning process – including attending ALL planning meetings.

YES NO

Why do you believe he/she should be a part of the WCC Strategic Planning Team?

2012 WCC Strategic Planning Process - Nomination Form

WCC Delegate/Councilor Name: _____

Is he/she a District Councilor? (circle one) YES NO

If this is a self-application, please let us know if you feel you can commit to the entire planning process – including attending ALL planning meetings.

YES NO

Why do you believe he/she should be a part of the WCC Strategic Planning Team?