

Wisconsin Conservation Congress Executive Council  
Minutes  
May 27, 2008  
Milwaukee

Meeting was called to order by Chr. Edgar Harvey at 1:00 P.m. Roll call was taken with there being 21 councilors present-Rich Kirchmeyer, Joe Weiss, Al Brown, Mike Riggle, Roger Sabota, Wade Jeske, Mark Noll, Marc Schultz, Frank Reith, Dave Puhl, Richard Koerner, John Edelblute, Edgar Harvey, Larrie Hazen, Mike Rogers, Ken Risley, Al Phelan, Al Shook, Rob Bohmann, JoAnne Kuharske, James Wrolstad. Excused were Dale Maas, Ray Smith and Arold Ninneman. D.N.R. present were Tim Andryk, Bill Vander Zouwen, Scott Loomans, Kurt Theide, and Kari Zimmerman. Also present was Paul Smith from the Milwaukee Journal.

Chairman Harvey asked for everyone to introduce themselves, he also asked that the 4 new councilors give some background information on themselves.

The big news was that around 10:30 that morning Gov. DOYLE SIGNED THE Great Lakes Compact where a few councilors were present.

Discussion was then dealing with the resolutions that were to be discussed by the Ex. Council

Res. # 200408 D.N.R. Unfunded mandates.

Motion by Koerner to accept

2<sup>nd</sup> by Reith

Koerner said that if the D.N.R. wants the reg. they should pay for it

Shook talked about the Vernon Marsh area.

Motion failed.

Res. # 490108 Big game reimbursement.

Motion by Shook to accept.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Kuharske

Weiss asked where does this money come from.

Vander Zouwen said it comes from lisc. Fees around 600,000 animals are registered every year

Koerner stated that some reg. stations put on more help to handle the extra load which costs more to the owner

Jeske asked when it was last raised

Vander Zouwen 7 years ago

Sabota asked if we could register deer some easier way

Vander Zouwen stated that we need all the data possible especially on deer because of peoples belief in the departments numbers

Noll If implemented before legis. in session would the monies come from elsewhere in the budget

Shook at a 10-15 cent raise that would equal to between 60 and 90,000 dollars

Vander Zouwen said that the money could maybe come from the land fund

Noll is it possible to put in next years budget

Motion to amend the original motion by Noll 2<sup>nd</sup> by Schutz to become effective during the next budget

Weiss asked if we could increase the wildlife budget and not take monies out of the general account

Jeske stated that he wouldn't support unless the department could show that we would lose registration stations

Vander Zouwen said we could do this without legislation

Motion to amend passed

Motion to accept defeated

Res. #580108 Alt. funding sales tax

Shook made a motion to accept

2<sup>nd</sup> by Reith

Motion carried

Res. #710108 Hunt wild turkey with dogs

Koerner made a motion to accept

2<sup>nd</sup> by Reith

Eddelblute stated that dogs can't catch turkeys

Puhl the season now is good until 2009 does the DNR have any stats that it is a problem

Noll would this possibly make it so people would not receive permits

Shok This would just put more restrictions on people while hunting other game if they also held a turkey tag

Kuharske how much equipment are you going to take into the woods (dog bag)

Koerner author had same res. Last year and is an avid turkey hunter

Rogers stated that in the turkey comm. it passed by 1 vote author would also like it to go past the Ex. Council

Edelblute why not wait and see if there are any problems with turkey/dog hunting

Rogers very few people participate

Puhl passed in hunting with dogs comm..

Weiss people want opportunities

Risely ask the people what they really want

Motion carried

Kurt explained that all authors will be notified on whether their resolution were passed or failed by Comm. chairs or sec. this includes the Ex. Council. The turkey/dog question will be rewritten and come back to the Ex. Council in Jan. Author will be notified to attend Ex. Council meeting.

Resolution assignments;

Puhl wants to be able to discuss any res that relates to his comm..

Harvey explained that all comm. should work together. Some people think that if their res. goes to a different comm. it may have a better chance of going forward.

Weis wants all res. That deal with warm water.

Harvey Any comm. member can ask to discuss any res. even though it wasn't assigned to that comm. We will still try to assign res. to only one comm.

Jeske There is a lot of thought going into assigning res. to comm.

Kurt says only a policy not in code says only one comm.

Hazen Comm. could meet jointly

Noll same res. given to a comm. for a couple of years then why all of a sudden given to a different comm.

Harvey Some people think strongly about a particular subject they will keep bringing it back to the spring hearing it is our obligation to follow through with the job we were elected to do.

Noll Should a res. go out to hearing year after year when it continually gets voted down.

Sabota People get disgusted with the Congress and then go other routes. (legis)

Kurt 2 comm. can work on a res. prior to Jan. Ex. Council meeting

Motion by Puhl A res. will be assigned to one comm. The Ex. Comm. can assign the res. to another comm. There will be only one question coming from both comm. to be approved by the Ex. Council.

Shook 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Motion carried.

Kurt informed us that the Oshkosh Area Conservation Foundation has \$1319.14 in an account that was donated to us to produce a video promoting the congress. This was never done.

Kirchmeyer has talked with the donors and they would like it to go towards the Learn to hunt bear program being it came from the Bear Hunters Ass.

Jeske thought maybe the Wis. Bowhunters might have donated also. He will check into that.

Shook made a motion to transfer the monies into the congress's account.

Edelblute 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Kurt discussed the monies raised by the raffles. It will be used in 2009 for the youth expo.

CWD Comm.

The committee would like to be a standing committee instead of an Ad-Hoc comm. (a standing comm. is appointed every year—an ad-hoc comm. can be done away with by the Ex. Comm.)

Noll motion to make it a standing comm.

Puhl 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Noll didn't need a standing comm. just to complain

Puhl what is the advantage to being a standing comm. vs. ad-hoc comm.

Harvey no difference they have the same power

Hazen would rather see a disease comm.

Shook how many other comm. will need to have to handle all the diseases

Kuharske would like to see an animal health comm. People are always scared of diseases.

Motion failed.

Kuharske made a motion to establish a Fish and Wildlife health ad-hoc comm.

Wrolstad 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Riggle some res. may be split up even more with such a comm. (multiple comm.)

Jeske this possibly could dilute the CWD comm.

Brown this is a people problem not a deer problem

Motion failed.

Farm Bill.

Bill Vander Zouwen gave an update on the new farm bill. The bill would increase the budget by 7.9 million dollars. Authorizes 32 million acres to be enrolled in the program between 2010-2012. Wis will be losing 1/3 of its CRP lands due to such high corn prices fro ethanol

purposes. There may be a possibility to be able to access private lands by paying landowners for the use of their lands. Herb Kohl really helped get the farm bill passed.

Requests for 2009 convention

75<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Invite past members

Highlight congress successes (have a display on a wall)

Will probably stay with the format of the past 2 years

Asking for years of service by members

Member matters,

Harvey audit asked for by a legis. Everything looks okay 2<sup>nd</sup> legis has now asked for another audit

Shook stated that he wants res. to go through the Con. Not the Legis.

Puhl comm. List in book (can't do this comm. not appointed yet)

Training of dogs in zone c

Mission statements of comm. who writes them? Chair of comm. unless

It is a new comm. then the Ex. Council will write it

Asked that the Ex comm. serve on all comm..

Brown how to get on a comm. Take along time to get on some comm.

Phelan what about habitat work on private lands What is the DNR doing about invasive species on their lands

Risley make sure there is a representative on the CWD comm. from every county that has CWD.

Noll how many Ex. Councilors can be on a comm.?

Sabota gave recognition to Chair. Harvey for the past year efforts

Hazen asked about sunset rules when dealing with neighboring states

Rogers alternate funding what is happening We need help from other outdoor groups

Jeske why cant the extra turkey tags go to the youth first Could we have a buffer zone around the turkey management zones for hunting

Koerner Mute swans Did the dept get caught shooting them by non-hunters

Bohmann comm. chairs try to schedule Sat meetings (no overnight stay) this would reduce expenses

Motion to adjourn made by Puhl 2<sup>nd</sup>. By Shook 3:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Richard Kirchmeyer Sec.