

**Wisconsin Conservation Congress
Hunting With Dogs Committee Meeting Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Conservation Congress, Hunting With Dogs Committee was held on Friday, August 15, 2008 at the Country Springs Hotel, Stevens Point, Wis.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by chairman David Puhl.

Committee members present: David Puhl, George Bartels, David Mabie, Mark Loka, Ken Risley, Mike Gould, Harold Petsch, and Brian Heins.

Committee members excused: Marc Ince.

Committee members not excused: Richard Baudhuin, Edward Johnson, Larry Nelson.

DNR Staff present: Pat Quaintance committee liaison, John Olson, Scott Loomans.

Others present: Al Lobner, Rich. Kirchmeyer, Corky Meyer, Scott McAuley, Sue McAuley, Dan Carrol.

Discussion and approval of the Mission Statement.

Mike Gould made motion to approve; Ken Risley seconded as written. Motion Passed.

MISSION STATEMENT

Hunting With Dogs Committee

The committee will review all matters that are related to the seasons and laws involving game animals and game birds that are pursued by dogs, as well as any matters assigned by the Executive Committee or the Executive Council. The committee will also work jointly with other Conservation Congress committees, the Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Board.

All meeting minutes will be provided to Conservation Congress Liaison or Assistant.

Informational: John Olson, DNR Furbearer Specialist; presented and slide show on bobcats. 11,360 people applied for a permit. 1,030 permits were issued and the total kill was 477 bobcats. John stated that there is a good population of bobcats in the state. Information on the hair snare program was presented. This is a two year program.

Informational: Scott Loomans distributed information on dog training license appeal process, which developed a process to appeal a denial of a training license. Much discussion on the leash law as it applies to private land.

Hound training enclosure's licensing is being handled well at this time. A revised Wisconsin Hound Dog Training Enclosure Regulations was distributed. Pub-WM-477.

Disposition of 2008 proposals:

Question 57: Bobcat Season Structure. This question is still being worked on. What ever is decided on must be supported by the Department of Natural Resources. A new question may be introduced for the 2009 questionnaire.

A motion by Ken Risley seconded by Mike Gould to reaffirm support for question 57 and send to the Executive Council for discussion at their January meeting. Motion passed.

Question 59: Protect private property on public land: This question will go to the Wolf Committee. DNR will consider during Wolf Management Plan update in the fall of 2008.

Resolutions:

Resolution 370108: Training dogs in Zone C. Mark Loka made a motion to reject; George Bartels seconded. Motion passed. This issue has come up the third year in a row. This is a local issue. Person submitting resolution did not attend the Spring Hearing. A Masters study done by Jack Massapusst of U.W. Stevens Point showed that there is no sound science to back up the idea that Bear are run off bait and don't return. The study showed that Bear come back within a day.

Liaison Updates:

DNR Liaison: Warden Pat Quaintance discussed problems with the Bear Learn to Hunt program. Some of his suggestions were. Have a special drawing for novice learn to hunt people. Have special days and a weekend for the hunt. Some statues may need to be changed. Also some Department personnel are backing out of supervision for these hunts. More tags are needed for novice hunters and they should be good for the regular season.

Ken Risley made a motion to review the learn to hunt program by the Executive Council and the DNR. Mike Gould seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Member matters: Mike Gould made the motion Ken Risley seconded for a letter to be sent to State Wildlife Manager; supporting the Upland Game Committee's suggestion that the DNR maintain the present level of support for the Game Farm. Motion passed.

Next years meeting will be on a Friday in August.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: George Bartels