

Wisconsin Conservation Congress
Executive Committee
Minutes
Feb. 08, 2010
Lake Geneva

Meeting was called to order by Chr. Edgar Harvey at 10:00 A.M. Those in attendance were Chr. Ed Harvey, V. Chair. Rob Bohmann, and Sec. Richard Kirchmeyer. Present from the DNR were Kari lee Zimmerman and Sue Meyer. Later in the meeting we had a conference call which included Mike Rogers, when the agenda item dealing with proposed turkey legislation was to be discussed.

We met and discussed with the hotel staff the upcoming annual convention. There were some concerns on how the hotel was going to accommodate some of our needs but I think they were all worked out in the end.

At approximately 11:45 we held a conference call to discuss the proposed turkey legislation that Sen. Decker has proposed. The reason for the conference call was to allow Mike Rogers who is the Chr. of the Congress's turkey committee to update the Ex. Committee on the proposed turkey legislation and so the Congress could take an official position on the bill. According to our code of procedures the Congress can form an official position at a meeting of the Ex. Comm. and the Chair of the appropriate committee.

Mike stated that Sen. Decker wants Rep. Hraychuck to hold a hearing on the proposed bill and have her committee vote on it. One of the reasons the Congress should oppose the bill is the fact that these issues should have first gone through the spring hearing process. The WWTF has, reportedly, not gone to their individual chapters or their membership to see if they would support such changes in the turkey season. Under this bill you would only have the chance to receive only one permit which would be good state wide, there would be one opener, the permit would be good for the whole 6 week season, and permits would be sold over the counter, not by drawing as we do now. Mike stated that from his point of view and the many contacts that he has had with fellow turkey hunters there is no support for such a change in turkey seasons. Some of the reasons for not supporting such legislation would be the safety factor, quality of the hunt, a lot of pressure on public lands at once, private land owners not letting outsiders on their property because some relative might hunt at a later date in the season,. There have been other proposals discussed by the turkey committee but there hasn't been one that would open the turkey hunting seasons at one time and with no applications

Chr. Harvey said it probably would help the legislators make a better decision on the turkey bill if the question had gone through the Congress's spring hearing process.

Bohmann made a motion to vehemently oppose those portions of the turkey bill which include, over the counter sales of permits, and one opener. 2nd was made by Kirchmeyer. MOTION WAS CARRIED BY A ROLL CALL VOTE. Those voting in support of the

motion were Bohmann, Kirchmeyer, Rogers, and Harvey. This made for a unanimous vote in favor.

A motion was made by Bohmann, and a 2nd by Kirchmeyer to recess for lunch at 12:25 PM. MOTION CARRIED

Reconvened at 1:40 PM

2010 Statewide

Guest speakers: invited to speak are the Governor, 2010 governor candidates, NRB Chr. John Ella, Sen. Holperin, and Rep. Hraychuck.

Chr. Harvey will contact Carol Edelblute to play the piano for the song America the Beautiful.

A motion was made by Bohmann 2nd by Kirchmeyer to present special recognition awards to DNR employees from law enforcement, fisheries, wildlife and also a congress delegate of the year as per discussed. MOTION CARRIED

We will also be giving out 4 mentor awards to the delegates who donated time and effort in taking out 3 youths on bear hunts. There will also be 2 appreciation awards given to the donors of bear harvest permits that were donated to 2 youths.

Bohmann will take care of getting 4 guns for the gun board.

John Edelblute will represent the congress on the warden recruit interview panel.

Kari is going to look into the possibility of ordering clothing with our logo on them. We also are going to have a pin made this year stating the year and the location of the annual convention. We will sell these at the convention.

Deer 2000 Review Ad Hoc Comm. Future Charges

Rob would like the comm. be able to review the 2010 deer season structures when they are available from the DNR.

Harvey said that the big game comm. will be doing this.

Bohmann stated that he would like L. Bonde to be involved and he is not a member of the big game comm. Rob is also concerned that being as the NRB is not taking the lead in this discussion that the legislators are going to do what they want with the deer seasons without input from hunters and sportsmen groups. The big game comm. meets March 20th.

Harvey said Sec Frank does not really think that they have a real good handle on estimating the deer populations in all management zones. He has told Ed that he is inclined to conservative when setting frameworks for the 2010 season. However, he has

not closed the door on a herd reduction program is a unit by unit examination of population estimates proves that such measures are locally called for.

Kirchmeyer asked when the herd status meetings are going to be held this year because he hasn't heard of anything being scheduled so far.

Harvey thought that the legislators probably wouldn't take up any deer issues being as it is an election year and they adjourn in April which doesn't give much time to come up with legitimate legislation to deal with the 2010 deer seasons.

Out reach future efforts

Representatives on comm. are Rob Bohmann, Dale Mass, Larry Bonde, Dusty Grant, and Lee Farney. This committee should meet again after the convention.

Bohmann wondered if the chairman of the Congress could put updates on face book these could be updates on what is happening within the Congress or something that is happening in the legislative world, among other pertinent outdoor happenings.

Zimmermann replied that this would take quite a commitment and a lot of time for the Chr. to do and the there may be some logistical hurdles.

Kirchmeyer stated that in Dist. No. 1 he has an email list of almost all delegates so anytime I receive information I forward that to the delegates. Maybe if more district councilors did this we would have more informed delegates.

Kari thought that the WCC webpages could put out a Chairman's report periodically.

August 2010 news letter

Kari will help set it up. Chr. Harvey will talk to Farney to see how involved he wants to be with the Chronicle, maybe as the editor of sorts. We do need someone to replace what Kurt had done in the past.

Staffing and finding the WCC's trailer for the upcoming Deer and Turkey Expo was discussed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Kirchmeyer 2nd By Bohmann at 4:20 PM MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted By

Richard Kirchmeyer Sec.