

August 13, 2011
Schmeeckle Reserve Visitor Center
Stevens Point WI

Wisconsin Conservation Congress Rules and Resolutions Committee Meeting

1-A

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tony Blattler at 9:34 AM.

1-B

Roll Call:

Tony Blattler Chairman, Dale Maas Secretary, Adam Schmidt, Richard Baudhuin, David Pagel, Raymond Smith, David Larson, Kenneth Anderson, James Houck, Richard Koerner delegates, Scott Loomans DNR Liaison, Tom Van Haren DNR Liaison present.
Jim Young was absent and unexcused.

Special guests were Larry Bonde Vice chair Conservation Congress and Kari Lee Zimmermann Conservation Congress Liaison.

Chairman Blattler then welcomed the new members, department personnel, and the following guests: Dennis Johnson, Frank Reith, Al Lobner, Mike Arrowood, Kendal Durham, and Joan Baudhuin

1-C

Review of Mission Statement:

The chair then read the mission statement to the committee and asked if there were any concerns that changes need to be made. There being no changes requested the mission statement will stay the same.

Chairman Blattler then stated that presenters of resolutions will be given 5 min. to present to committee and then delegates will have the ability to ask questions.

1-D Public Comments

The following are comments from authors and committee prior to committee action on the assigned resolutions:

Res 37-01-11

Al Lobner presented information in opposition of this resolution. This included a written statement (read to committee), a research paper and a copy of a letter from a successful handicapped hunter to support his position. He also claimed that the resolution writer did not appear at other committee meetings to speak in favor of the resolution.

The delegates asked a number of questions and comments: (Anderson, Baudhuin, Houck and Pagel)

- Are you afraid this should go to state vote?
Answer: He felt that the general public is not knowledgeable enough about the subject to make an informed decision.
- This is not based on a scientific fact.
- Is this study based on a hunting pressure situation?

Answer: Yes see in the report.

Dennis Johnson spoke in support for his resolution. He stated that he was in attendance at other committee meetings and disagreed on previous comments by Mr. Lobner.

He stated that "you can't train dogs to not cross property lines" and wants a state vote to see what sportsmen really want. "Please put it out for a state vote to see what land owners and people that are out there hunting have to say".

Res10-04-11

Frank Reith spoke in support of his resolution. He would like to see people be able to vote on line if you have a DNR customer number. He asked the committee to "please do what ever you can do to allow people to express their concerns if they can not get to the hearing". The author requested a State Wide Vote.

Res 20-02-11

Mike Arrowood spoke in support of his resolution. He said that committee chairs should have limited terms there are chairs of committees that are not doing their job. Some have been in their position for many years and are using that position to have an agenda. We should have revolving chairs this should be a change in COP.

Res 20-03-11

Selecting chairs of com. This should be a change of COP. Chairs that have an agenda need to be replaced to get a fair treatment to resolutions.

Res 65-01-11

Three time rule for advancement 80%

James Houck If it goes three years in a row the ex council must advance to hearing. Wants this to go to state question as a resolution this should be close to the same question for three years. Could agree to a COP change and three or more counties requirement would be acceptable. Questions from- Baudhuin, Maas, Schmidt, Koerner and Anderson—would agree to Similar/Multiple Counties

Res 65-02-11

Houck spoke on resolution for author Martin Sands author of shot gun resolution. Wants to ask for COP to add totals for pass or fail in all multiple county resolutions. (I.e. if five counties offer the resolution there should be one total of yea's or nays for the subject resolution.)

End of Public / Author comments

Letter from Congress Chair Robert Bohmann was read to committee referencing a letter from Governor Walkers request for streamlining regulations and removing obstacles in the regulatory process.

A brief discussion on act 21 and the possible impact on how the Conservation Congress does business were shared with the committee. An executive Council meeting has been called to review the ramifications of this legislation for September 2, 2011.

2-A

Committee action on the following resolutions:

Res 10-04-11

Discussion: Motion to advance to council for COP change motion dies for lack of second.

Motion to reject: Smith Sec. Anderson.

Discussion: Smith, Attendance at spring hearing would be reduced and we need that interaction in getting people at the hearing.

Schmidt; if people want to vote they need to hear and ask questions to better understand the issues before voting.

Pagle: the new electronic possibilities allow for many opportunities to get skewed votes.

Blattler; is this what we want to do (motion to reject) if this is allowing better participation? Who is paying to monitor for problems?

Baudhun: We need to handle these questions based on how we feel about the question not just if this passed in one county.

Larson: I think this opens it to bad outcomes.

Baudhuin: called question
Motion to reject passed Unanimous

Res 65-01-11

Discussion:

Anderson Motion to advance to ex council for COP change Sec. Smith

Baudhuin: motion to amend change to three or more counties for two consecutive years

Second Anderson Discussion: Schmidt what happens with shot gun resolutions?

Koerner: How does this make it simple?

Yes 5 No 4

Motion Maas second Larson to amend to at least the same three counties for two consecutive years

MC on amendment

Vote called on motion as amended

MC Unanimous

Res 37-01-11

Discussion:

Motion Baudhuin / sec Smith to reject

Baudhuin: The two user groups are at odds, training of dogs is an issue that people are not knowledgeable about. People are training dogs for other species now and are confused on how this question will be interpreted by the general public.

Kari: The background information prior to the vote is what is needed to develop the question.

Bonde: If these questions keep coming in it is our duty to put these resolution on the questionnaire.

Anderson: We need to get the resolutions on the questionnaire.

Motion Failed

Motion Anderson / Second by Houck to advance to Ex. Council for consideration of a state wide vote.

Question:

Would you support rule changes allowing the training of dogs for the use of Bear hunting only in zones that allow the use of dogs for bear hunting?

Motion carried 2 No

Break for lunch 12:07 PM

Back in session 12:30 PM

Res 65-02-11

Discussion:

Motion: Anderson recommends a COP change that amends the COP to the following: "same or like resolutions introduced in multiple counties be treated as one resolution for voting purposes thus combining all county votes of the same or like resolutions to determine pass or fail."

Sec: Baudhuin Discussion; None

M/C Unanimous

Res 20-03-11

Motion made by Anderson for COP to modify Method of selection to Comm. Second Houck Discussion: Anderson, Blattler * Motion by Anderson withdrawn

Motion to reject Hauck / Sec Smith

Discussion: If it's not broke don't fix it; the majority of chairs are doing a good job if we have a problem the leadership/membership must step up and fix the problem.

Discussion: Blattler, Houck,
We have moved for change on this in the past and we need to find a balance. There is new leadership in Exec. Comm. We need to work with new ideas and give it a chance. Individuals need to step up and bring problems to the attention of Exec. Committee and Executive Council.
M/C Unanimous

Res 20-02-11

Discussion:

Motion: Anderson to change COP to allow the members of said committee to elect the chair of that committee. Sec: Hauck

Blattler: How do you set an agenda for a future meeting?

Hauck: The chair completes the term and then turns over the reigns.

Koerner: Conversation should be with Exec. Committee

Pagel: Not aware of a problem with current system

Houck: 2 or 3 years?

Anderson: Let the Sec run the committee

Maas: is this not the same discussion we had on Res 20-03-11?

Motion and second withdrawn

Motion to reject Houck SEC Smith

Discussion: Let the Leadership work within the structure of the congress to correct past problems and deal with these issues and establish a policy that will address the issues.

Maas: Exec. Comm. needs to replace ineffective Comm. Chairs

M/C Unanimous

2-B

Larry Bonde V Chair of the Congress discussed how the congress leadership envisions the congress to operate.

Act 21 will add additional work load to this committee and the need for this committee's leadership to assist in helping work through the process.

The Ex. Committee wants the Ex. Councilors will take a lead roll in assigning delegates to study committee's.

Ex Committee will direct the number from each district that the will be allowed from each district.

Motion: Anderson to add two at large positions to the ex committee from areas of the state not represented by the Chair, V Chair and Secretary.

Sec Hauck

These would be elected by the Ex. Council from the remaining ex council members.

Discussion:

Blattler: Why only Exec. Council why not the Congress as a whole?

Bonde: Was there question on the Ex. Committee not representing the other regions?

No.

Maas: Do we want to limit electing the best person for the job rather than by location.

M/C 1 no

2-C

Proxy Voting:

There is a question on absentee balloting for district meetings if another district member could not attend a meeting.

Motion: Schmitt that this action be added under duties of executive councilors, "We allow Proxy voting at a committee meeting with the approval of both district councilors in the event that a committee delegate can not attend the committee meeting. A district councilor must contact the chair of the committee affected and congress liaison."

It is at the discretion of the district councilor's weather a proxy would be allowed on a case by case basis.

Sec Baudhuin

M/C Unanimous

2-D&E

Protocol for congress committee meetings:

Motion: Schmitt second Larson to send a recommendation that the Ex. Council develop a plan for additional training of all delegates this is to include but not limited to:

- Ex Councilors
- Committee chairs/ Vice Chairs
- Com Secretaries
- County Chairs
- Committee delegates
- Kari to provide copy to Executive Council

M/C Unanimous

2-F

Officer Positions for Committees

Motion: Maas second Pagel to have the Ex. Council establish the positions of Chair/Co Chair or, Vice Chair and Secretary for each committee. M/C 1 No

3

Members Matters:

Larson: Deer Tagging Could we simplify and color code?

Anderson: Increase hunter numbers ages 10-16 under cross bows.

There is a problem with congress members invoking their Conservation Congress title at hearings and meetings, they are mentioning congress affiliation but then saying they are representing themselves he feels this is wrong.

Pagel: No October doe hunt for disabled during the 4 day antlerless.

Kari: The department has the same charge for simplification as the congress and is willing to work with them.

Van Haren: If people are asking questions on concealed carry law, there are answers on the state DNR web site.

Koerner: OK with streamlining but concerned that we not hurt the resource.

Schmitt: Simplification, how will we notify people on changes?

Can an email be sent for agenda changes?

Discussion: You can get an auto update via the DNR Website.

Closing comments from Chairman Blattler.

April 23, 2012 is a TERNATIVE NEXT MEETING DATE

Motion: To adjourn Pagel second Larson

Meeting adjourned 3:05 PM

Respectfully submitted

Dale C. Maas

Secretary