

# Wisconsin Conservation Congress

## Rules and Resolutions Study Committee

### MEETING MINUTES



<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	<b>October 13, 2012</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Econolodge Inn & Suites, 5110 Main Street, Stevens Point, WI
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#### I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

##### A. CALL TO ORDER

<b>MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY</b>	Dale Maas Chairman at 9:30 AM
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##### B. ROLL CALL

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	RAYMOND SMITH, MICHAEL GULLICKSON, FRANK REITH, RICHARD KOERNER, DALE MAAS RICHARD BAUDHUIN, DENNIS ROSENBAUM, JAYNE MEYER and MARK KRMPOTICH
<b>EXCUSED</b>	
<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	Larry Vanderhoef did not call the Chair or Secretary or his District Councilor, but he did call Kari; pending clarification.
<b>GUESTS</b>	Kari Lee Zimmermann, Robert Bohmann, Michael Fuge

##### C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	None
<b>ACTION</b>	

##### D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The mission of the Rules and Resolutions Committee is to review the “Code of Procedure” doctrine that governs the Congress in order to ensure its relevance. This Committee will also provide a conduit for citizen resolutions allowing the exchange of ideas and information between individuals or groups and the Congress by reviewing and assigning voter approved resolutions to Conservation Congress Study Committees. It is our purpose to support the noble concept that all citizens have a voice in regards to Wisconsin’s Natural Resources. We will review the Rules governing the Conservation Congress when asked by the Executive Council or Executive Committee and will provide possible changes for their review. We will regularly review and assign citizen-approved resolutions to Study Committees for action on said resolutions. We value citizen involvement, to ensure the prosperity of our Natural Resources, full and proper use of our Natural Resources, now and for future generations.
<b>ACTION</b>	No action taken as the committee felt that the mission statement was appropriate.

##### E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	None
<b>ACTION</b>	
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	
<b>ACTION</b>	

#### II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

**A. NO CHANGES TO ORIGINAL RESOLUTION (500112)**

**MICHAEL FUGE**

DISCUSSION	<p><b>Problem: Currently the Wisconsin Conservation Congress has the power to change the implied intent of resolutions without notifying the author or those who voted for the resolution of the change.</b></p> <p>Currently the Wisconsin Conservation Congress uses its "code of conduct" to change the meaning of resolutions without notifying the author or the people who voted in favor of the resolution. This could amount to a gross abuse of power and circumvents the one of the main reasons we have the citizen appointed advisory body.</p> <p>For instance if a citizen's resolution stated that a fisherman age 65 or older is allowed to use an electric trolling motor to navigate waters where no motors are allowed and the WCC changed the statement to say age 50 or older, the resolution would have to go back to the original author and be resubmitted next year.</p> <p>The changing of 65 to 50 has great impact on the resolution and changes implied intent of the resolution.</p> <p><b>BE IT RESOLVED</b> that at its meeting held in Portage County on April 9, 2012 that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress change the way that resolutions are amended during the approval process. No changes may be made to any resolution passed at the county level that would change the implied intent of the resolution. If the Wisconsin Conservation Congress feels that the wording must be changed the resolution must be returned to the original author to be presented again and voted on in the county where the original vote was taken. In the event that this happens the original author will still be allowed to present 2 resolutions for discussion and vote for the current year.</p> <p><b>Michael A. Fuge 1665 South Ponderosa Drive Stevens Point, WI 54482 Portage County 715-344-8796</b></p> <p>In his resolution the author meant to say, "present 3 resolutions" instead of "2" in the second to last line. Author indicated that changes made to resolutions after they were voted on were no longer representative of what the original vote was on. The committee discussed that sometimes issues come up or Congress positions warrant changes to be made to the question. Congress delegates are elected to represent their area on conservation issues and they need to have some latitude when discussing topics.</p>	
ACTION	Moved by Baudhuin to reject. 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Dennis Rosenbaum. Carried	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		
DEADLINE		

**B. OBJECTIVE, UNBIASED LANGUAGE FOR HEARING QUESTIONS (680312)**

68 0312

WDNR-Wisconsin Conservation Congress Alliance 2012 Resolutions Proposals

RESOLUTION FOR CLEAR OBJECTIVE LANGUAGE IN RESOLUTIONS / HEARING QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Resolutions are introduced every year at the Wisconsin Conservation Congress annual meetings. Many of the resolutions and questions are confusing, long-winded and deceptive in nature in order to push an agenda. The language of such resolutions and questions posed for review is intentional in creating confusion. Resolutions should be uniform across all counties.

DISCUSSION

Part I: It is proposed that resolutions submitted and hearing questions be required to use objective and unbiased clear language. Simple sentences are recommended. Language must be used so as not to intentionally cause deception or confusion. Language / questions must be straight-forward and to the point.

Part II: Resolutions should be available for distribution statewide, if submitted before the annual meeting, rather than on an individual county alone while in attendance during the meeting.

Part III: All resolutions should be entered in the permanent record for review as necessary for future reference.

GK already included standard

Part IV: Personal street addresses / phone numbers should be optional for posting, but proof of residency (i.e. showing of license) may be required to the delegates.

This resolution proposes the above changes be implemented as policy for the next available meetings.

G. Klein  
P.O. Box 152  
Greendale, WI 53129

ACTION	Moved to reject by Baudhuin. 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Mark D. Carried	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

C. PROHIBIT CHANGES TO RESOLUTIONS AFTER PASS OUT OF STUDY COMMITTEE (440212)

BEN LOMA

440212


**Title: The Process is Flawed**

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) has a major problem with processing resolutions for the Annual Spring County Conservation Meetings. A resolution that is posted at the county spring hearing and passes, goes to the Annual WCC meeting in May for their approval of its assigned committee. This committee will then review the resolution for its merit. The resolution can be passed with modifications by this committee, and then forwarded to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee debates the resolution to make sure that it is qualified to be placed on the WCC Spring Hearing questionnaire.

**The Problem:**

Changes are being made by the Congress/DNR liaison after a resolution is passed out of its assigned committee and before it goes to the Executive Committee. Nowhere in the WCC – Code of Procedure does it give a liaison the authority to make changes in a resolution. I have seen resolutions altered by a liaison in which it changes the authors' and/or assigned committees' original intention and/or objective.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Oneida County on April 09, 2012, recommends that the Conservation Congress follow the Code of Procedure and prevent the Congress/DNR liaison from making any resolution alterations, which are not approved by the full committee.

**Authors:** Ben Loma   
**Organization:** Delegate to Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
**Address:** 4526 Bayview Drive  
 Rhinelander, WI 54501  
**County:** Oneida  
**Telephone:** (715) 360-0008

(216 words)

DISCUSSION

ACTION

Ben felt that this was an internal discussion for the congress and did not need to be on the spring questionnaire.

Moved to reject by Baudhuin. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Meyer. Carried

The committee recognized a common thread in the 3 resolutions presented which resulted in the following change to the WCC Code of procedure. **"Change (to an approved resolution need to involve the author, as well as the chair and secretary of the committee that forwarded the resolution to Executive Counsel. It is expected that the committee will furnish a question that is accurate, clearly written, and ready to be presented to the public"**. Motion by Baudhuin 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marc Carried unanimously. This should be inserted as paragraph e page 12 also insert as paragraph 5G page 11.

"If the Executive Council changes a question that was forwarded to them the committee(s) involved shall be notified of its disposition: i.e. accepted, rejected, tabled, or modified along with the reason(s)." Motioned by Baudhuin. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Krmpotich. Carried

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Committee Chair	Next executive council meeting

DISCUSSION	Rejected resolutions
ACTION	Motion and second for the secretary to draft the standard letter to Resolution writers of status of their resolution. Motion carried
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Frank Reith	12/1/12

**D. EDUCATION FOR WCC MEMBERS IN LEADERSHIP ROLES**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Standardized training on COP, Robert's Rules, etc. for committee officers, county chairs, Executive Councilors, etc. WCC needs to design a program that will put everyone on the same page. You tube/power point? Rob Bohmann said that all of this is in the packet for district meetings. He also stated that some large committees should shrink and some small committees should grow and we need more balance on committees	
<b>ACTION</b>	none	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**E. CHECKS AND BALANCES FOR FAILING TO FOLLOW GUIDELINES IN COP**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Baudhuin pointed out that there isn't we can outside the Code of small Procedure. See page 16 XIII. A	
<b>ACTION</b>	none	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**III. MEMBERS MATTERS**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Baudhuin: Big violator in Marinette County is a federal case. State wardens are looking for testimony to assure maximum penalty.</li> <li>2. Delegate responsibilities need to be in the quota procedure. (Will look at next time).</li> <li>3. People need to know what WCC is and what WCC does.</li> <li>4. Check out Youth expo.</li> <li>5. County alliances should be looked into state wide.</li> </ol>
<b>ACTION</b>	No action taken (informational only)

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	Motioned by Dick Koerner 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Marc Krnptich, 1445 hours
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	Respectfully submitted by Frank Reith Secretary Rules and Resolutions committee
<b>DATE</b>	13 October 2012