

Wisconsin Conservation Congress Executive Committee Conference Call Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	04/06/15	7:30 pm.	Conference Call
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Rob Bohmann at 7:30 p.m.
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ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Bohmann, Bonde, Weiss, Suchla, Meyer, Lee-Zimmermann
EXCUSED	
UNEXCUSED	
GUESTS	Mark Aquino, Jack Sullivan, Tim Eisele, Paul Smith

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	none
ACTION	Motion to approve by Bonde. Second by Suchla. Motion carries

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	N/A
ACTION	N/A

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	N/A
ACTION	N/A

I. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

Approval of February Minutes

BOHMANN

DISCUSSION	none	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

Clarification on position relating to proposed state budget

BOHMANN

DISCUSSION	<p>Bohmann- we will give the Dept. the opportunity to address their concerns with the proposed budget and their plan of action.</p> <p>Aquino- review of budget proposal. Proposed reduction of 18.4 positions in science and services bureau (out of 59 authorized) leaves us with 41 positions remaining. Early in process. Haven't begun to work through process to see how much flexibility we have. Too premature to list specifics. Thinking of different options. Built around goals to continue with sound science in our decision making. Science used on day to day basis with managers now in</p>
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various bureaus. Looking at partnering with other organizations.

Meyer- concerned with loss of unbiased research. DOA requires maintaining some vacancies. Will result in more than the 18.4 cut. What is the future of the science bureau?

Aquino- day to day decisions made now are using established science. Will continue like it always has. Question is what kind of research is out there. Must distinguish between what science we have available day to day in our program management vs what research capability will be out there to expand knowledge. Look at ways to do research both inside and outside the agency. As to DOA reductions, they should speak on that issue. Agency has latitude on how they manage vacancies. DOA assumes about a three percent rate. Affects our funding. Regarding options, integrate research into programs they work closely with. Too premature to share before staff is consulted.

Bonde- regardless of cuts, do you believe adequate research can still be gathered through various bureaus.

Aquino- question is how can we maximize our research- integrating is an option.

Weiss- 41 positions still exist. Concern with shutting down science bureau totally.

Aquino- will prioritize projects.

Sullivan- science bureau is about 60 full time. Impact difficult to tell. Unknown where or what positions will be taken. Research is about ½ of the bureau.

Suchla- when will info on decisions be made

Aquino- depends on legislative process. We will have to know the impact on the whole Dept. possibly in June we will know more.

Meyer- questions validity of information if researchers are folded into various bureaus. Also UW can be expensive, lots of overhead. Will cost more. Questions money sources (federal, segregated funds etc.)

Aquino- how do walk fine line between needs of various bureaus and research required. Must keep an eye on that. Regarding overhead costs, we have overhead too. Built in to charges that Dept. levies when work done. Relating to money, grants funds would go back into grants. We wouldn't lose them. Money could be funneled into other work.

Meyer- can you talk about educators?

Aquino- that's outside the area we've been working on. Couldn't give accurate info on that.

Meyer- discussion on education cuts. (Meade, Horicon, Crex meadows). Crex position is funded by "the friends of Crex Meadows". Our motion passed regarding opposition to these cuts.

Aquino- the Dept would have some discretion on that.

Bonde- we currently have a position on this taken last meeting

Weiss- can we make motion to reconsider?

Bohmann- only can be made by someone who previously supported the motion

Weiss- makes a motion to reconsider our position due to the addition of more information today.

Suchla- seconds the motion.

Meyer- point of order. Motion to reconsider may not be voted on at the same meeting it is made.

Bonde- don't believe that is correct but will check. (consults Roberts Rules).

Bohmann- this is up for debate. We need more discussion.

Weiss- we were not all present at the previous meeting and this is too important not to have full participation.

Meyer- concerned with the fact that we don't support it

Weiss- not saying we don't support it. We need more discussion. Don't necessarily think it's a good idea for the 5 of us to voice an opinion for the entire body of the congress on a political decision.

Bonde- soon we will hear from many people with resolutions at the spring hearings. Also on the floor of the congress at the convention in May. From congress perspective, we must be concerned with the authority of the NRB and our own authority. We are being premature to take a position now. We will have the council and our 6,000 plus constituency to poll shortly. Cuts in govt. are not unusual. They happen all the time. Plenty of time to look at citizens resolutions and council input.

Suchla- agree with Joe. Have had numerous delegates complain that executive committee makes decisions without prior input from delegates.

Meyer- when things go bad, I don't want to say I told you so. I think our deference to Sec. Stepp is misplaced.

Bohmann- motion and a second to reconsider. All those in favor signal by saying aye.

Meyer- would like roll call vote

roll call- Weiss (aye) Suchla (aye) Bonde (aye) Meyer (Nay) motion carries.

	<p>Bohmann- asks Mark for more info for the congress by our convention in May</p> <p>Aquino- depends on legislative process but will present what we have at that time.</p> <p>Bohmann- do you feel your dept can operate sufficiently with the proposed cuts?</p> <p>Aquino- we'd have to take a broader look, partnerships, funding, and reallocation to maintain adequate research on our top projects.</p> <p>Bohmann- Jack, do you still plan to present at the convention?</p> <p>Sullivan- yes</p>	
RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

[Description of Topic]		[PRESENTER]
DISCUSSION		
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

II. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	<p>Bonde- last meeting I didn't vote so the vote should have been recorded is 2-1 in the minutes.</p> <p>Weiss- replays tape indicating a 3-1 vote.</p> <p>Meyer- none</p> <p>Suchla- go Badgers!</p> <p>Weiss- questions Kaz amendment to the antler-less tag process allowing archers to obtain a free antler-less tag good statewide in any county with an established quota.</p> <p>Bohmann- that will take effect in 2016. not applicable this year.</p> <p>Motion to adjourn by Weiss. Second by Bonde. Motion carries</p>
ACTION	

III. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	8:28 pm.
SUBMITTED BY	Joe Weiss- Secretary
DATE	04/09/15