

# Wisconsin Conservation Congress

## BEAR COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes



<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	<b>Dec. 9, 2017</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Mead Ed. Center</b>
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#### I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

##### A. CALL TO ORDER

<b>MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY</b>	Chairman Mike Rogers at 9:02
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##### B. ROLL CALL

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Al Lobner, Mike Murphy, Dave Mabie, Gary Mabie, Bob Knorr, Jeff Thums, Arlen Heistad, Denny Jones, Rick Desotell, Bruce Prentice, Jeff Johnson, Kelly Crotty, Bernard Newman, Rob Kaminskis, Jim Thompson, Chris Wegner, Jeff Pritzl, Scott Plocar, Tom Muensch, Ralph Fritsch, Mike Rogers, Terri Roehrig.
<b>EXCUSED</b>	Dan Vacho, Chandra Stafford, Connie Kadubek, Kieran Kramer, Mike Pfankuch, Nathan Roberts.
<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	Scott Strook, Scott Lettman.
<b>GUESTS</b>	Alan Wegner, Diane Cain, Carmen Heard, Kevin Com, Arlyn Splitt, Ron Kwasny, Ernie Becker, Jim Kln. Tom Wooley, Matt Lallemon, Larry Bonde.

##### C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	none
<b>ACTION</b>	none

##### D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Mission Statement was read.
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion to approve as read by Mike Murphy 2nd by Denny Jones

##### E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	none
<b>ACTION</b>	none

#### II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

##### A. RES. 020117 CHANGE BEAR HUNTING DATES SUBMITTED BY JOE KALMON

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Mike Rogers read the Resolution at which time Mr. Kalmon explained his resolution and his thoughts. His thoughts were that the current situation will lead to confrontations that could be avoided. He also felt that this should only be done for Wisconsin residents. Warden Crotty did not feel it would be any harder to enforce the situation in any way.
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<b>ACTION</b>	Motion by Bruce Prentice 2nd by Jeff Thums to forward. Amendment by Mike Murphy 2nd by Bob Kaminskis to include a 4 year sunset. Motion and Amendment passed.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**B. RES. 020217 ALLOW TAG TRANSFERS TO SENIOR HUNTERS 70 YEARS AND OLDER SUBMITTED BY RON KWASNY**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Mr. Kwasny explained his resolution and the reasons why he felt the change was needed. Generally speaking many hunters over 70 years old and older may not get another chance to harvest a bear.	
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion by Mike Murphy 2nd by Arlen Heistad. Motion passed.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**C. RES. 050217 MAX 3 BAITES PER CLASS A HUNTER**

**JEREMY PARISH**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Some committee members felt that it would reduce the amount of bait and problem bears. Others felt that they didn't want DNR or other persons to know where their baits are. There were also those that if the bait is being hit by sows with cubs they would quit baiting it and it would reduce the opportunity to harvest a bear. Several committee members also believe the amount of bait on the landscape was no where near what some people think.	
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion to Reject by Mike Murphy 2nd by Dave Mabie. Resolution rejected	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**D. RES. 270217 LIMIT BEAR BAITING TO 30 DAYS BEFORE SEASON WITH A TOTAL OF 3 BAITES PER BAITER SUBMITTED BY DIANE CAIN**

The presenter explained the reasons for her resolution on this subject. She also gave the committee a recap of what is done in other states as well. Diane also felt that baiting exacerbates the problem with wolves on baits and wolves killing dogs.

There was a motion to reject by Al Lobner and 2nd by Mike Murphy. Resolution rejected.

**E. RES. 300117 SHORTEN THE TRAINING SEASON FOR HOUNDS SUBMITTED BY JON LINDQUIST**

The writer of the resolution was not present, to discuss his resolution, however the committee reviewed the resolution and discussed its merits.

Motion to reject by Dave Mabie 2nd by Bob Kaminskis. Resolution rejected.

**F. RES. 720117 DOUBLE BEAR HARVEST PERMITS SUBMITTED BY JIM WINKLER**

The writer of the resolution was not present. The committee did discuss the merits of the resolution, however, the committee felt that it would be detrimental to the resource.

There was a motion to reject by Ralph Fritsch and 2nd by Mike Murphy. Resolution rejected.

**DEPARTMENT INFO AND UPDATES**

**PRESENTED BY JEFF PRITZL**

Jeff gave a review of some of the reports developed by USDA-APHIS, he also gave us some developments regarding the research of Nathan Roberts due to Nathan being on medical leave. There did appear to be a significant increase of cubs this year and that was attributed to the the condition of sows before they go into the den.

At this time the harvest quota recommendations for 2018 that were developed by the DNR Bear Committee 10 days prior were presented to the committee:

	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D
2018 Harvest Quota	1250	800	1200	1300
2018 Available permits	2130	1195	7330	2315
2017 Available Permits	1925	1275	7050	2600

There was a motion to support the recommendation for Zone A by Mike Murphy and 2nd by Arlen Hiestad. Motion carried with Bruce Prentice abstaining.

Zone B recommendations were also supported with a motion to support by Denny Jones 2nd by Mike Murphy. Motion carried with Ralph Fritsch abstaining.

The motion to support the Zone C recommendations was made by Mike Murphy 2nd by Rick Desotell. Motion carried.

Zone D recommendations were also supported with a motion to support by Mike Murphy 2nd by Jeff Thums. Motion carried with Bruce Prentice abstaining.

Warden Kelly Crotty then gave his report and as usual there were some citations issued but he felt things were about normal as compared to other years. He also thought it might be a good thing to have the ability to purchase a preference point up until March 31. It would require a Statute change but it might be a welcomed change for those that forget the DEC 10 deadline.

### III. MEMBERS MATTERS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Dave Mabie spoke some on the opportunity with learn to hunts and disabilities tags. Mike Rogers advised committee members that they may have to have another meeting or so to go over the Bear Management Plan. Lowell Wright spoke on behalf of his son who was awarded a Bear tag and let the members know how thankful he was to have the opportunity.
<b>ACTION</b>	none

### IV. ADJOURNMENT

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	<b>Motion to adjourn by Mike Murphy 2nd by Gary Mabie. Approved</b>
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	<b>Al Lobner</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>Dec. 9, 2017</b>