

# Wisconsin Conservation Congress

## District 7 Spring Meeting

### Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	3/7/2017	7:00 P.M.	Winocconie
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#### I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

##### A. CALL TO ORDER

ARLYN SPLITT	A at 7:00 P.M.
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##### B. ROLL CALL

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Scott Zimmerman, Harold Drake, Scott Strook, Otto Bowe, Robert Haase, James Kramer, David LaPine, Mike Arrowood, Paul Gettelman, Pat Seaman, Harry Bowey Jr, Meade Grimm, Douglas Parrot, Larry Gohlke, Karen Wallenburg, Fred Wallenburg, Douglas Seidl, Greg Geurts, Matthew Schleis, Dave Ninneman, Steven Ninneman, James Binder, John Hedtke, Arlyn Splitt, Scott Bestul, Robert Knorr, John Piechowski, Genie Metoyer, Jim Johnson, Curt Reimer, Eric Booker, Michael Pfankuch, Clarence Kock, Douglas Nelson, Wright Allen
<b>EXCUSED</b>	Dale Maas, Todd Cook, Dick Koerner
<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	Nancy Katzbeck
<b>GUESTS</b>	D.N.R. personal in attendance: Jeff Pritzl, Chris Shea, Dave Boyarski, Kendall Kamke, Ellen Barth, Rachel Brookings, Laura Stremick, Travis Motl. Also in attendance Wupaca County youth delegate Karen Steinbrook.

##### C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	N/A
<b>ACTION</b>	N/A

##### D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	N/A
<b>ACTION</b>	N/A

##### E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	N/A
<b>ACTION</b>	N/A

#### II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

##### A. FISHERIES SPRING HEARING QUESTIONS

**KENDALL KAMKE**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p><b>Question 22:</b> Question on why these counties and lakes were chosen? The two reasons given were to increase size allowing natural reproduction and because of possible enforcement issues.</p> <p><b>Question 28:</b> The concern about creating lake specific rules was expressed. The reason given for supporting the question was to enhance walleye reproduction.</p> <p><b>Question 30:</b> Comment concerning creating more lake specific rules.</p> <p><b>Question 31:</b> Comment "the reason for the question is an effort to standardize size limits." Question on whether the fifty inch size limit actually increases size on every lake?</p>
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	<p>Response was that it may on some lakes. Other lakes probable never because the forage base cannot support fish up to that size.</p> <p><b>Question 34:</b> Question was asked the reasons for change? Response given was to thin out population in an effort to control growth rates.</p> <p><b>Question 36:</b> Comment that the question does not match the description. The question asks for ten inch crappie size limit. The question does not mention crappie. It needs clarification.</p> <p><b>Question 37:</b> Comment that this is a previously treated lake and the fish are not getting up to the current size level of eight inches.</p> <p><b>Question 39:</b> Concerns were expressed regarding high mortality rates of fish and wasting of the resource</p> <p><b>All of the other fisheries questions were read with no comments or questions asked by the delegates. .</b></p>	
ACTION	N/A	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	

### B. SPRING HEARING WILDLIFE QUESTIONS

RACHEL BROOKINGS

Discussion	<p><b>Question 4:</b> Question on whether any have been reported? The answer was that not at this time but we need to be proactive.</p> <p><b>Question 5:</b> Question on whether wardens see a lot of this? The answer was that it does happen and it becomes a matter of proving intent by the warden.</p> <p><b>Question 9:</b> Question on whether there is anything smaller caliber available? The answer was that there is not at this time but there may be at some future time.</p> <p><b>Question 10:</b> Question on what a raptor is? The answer was that it is a new cross bow that is actually classified as an air gun and is currently not legal.</p> <p><b>Question 12:</b> Question on need to change. The answer was that this has worked will on other species and allows greater flexibility to manage.</p> <p><b>Question 14:</b> Question on potential effects on zone two which has the highest demand for permits and possible revenue loss. The response was that success rates should not affect populations and lost revenue is not anticipated with some savings from not having to mail out permits.</p> <p><b>All of the other wildlife questions were read with no comments or questions asked by the delegates.</b></p>	
ACTION	N/A	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	

### C. D.N.R. STAFF UPDATES

JEFF PRITZEL

DISCUSSION	<p>Jeff reported that there are five new area wardens this year. There are four current vacant positions. Two recent promotions which included Brett Owsley promoted to district wildlife supervisor. He also reported on current vacant positions. Dave Boyarski reported that there are now six fisheries districts. This is due to the split of Lake Superior and Lake Michigan from one district into two. Also noted was the promotion of Laura Stremick Thompson to district fisheries supervisor. Travis Motl was introduced as her replacement. Dave also gave an update on current district vacancies.</p> <p>There was a discussion on the status of proposed fish ladder supported by the tribes and F.W.S. The expected cost is about 1.5 million dollars. The department staff continues to study possible effects. The possibility of carp getting upstream was mentioned.</p> <p>Question on status of stocking arlie trout in Big Green Lake. This continues to be a work in progress and is at least a year away yet.</p> <p>Question on Menasha Lock. The lock is still closed to navigation and will remain so. Sampling has found no round gobies beyond the lock. Citizens need to be reminded to report exact locations if any are caught. Department personal continues to monitor this.</p> <p>Question on whether trout rearing for Big Green will interfere with walleye hatching since they use the same hatchery. None expected at this time.</p>	
ACTION	N/A	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

N/A	N/A
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**CONGRESS ADVISORY QUESTIONS**

**JAMES BINDER**

Discussion	<p>All of the advisory questions were read. Delegates were allowed to comment and ask Questions after each was read. The following questions were commented on by the delegates.</p> <p><b>Question 43:</b> Comment; The purpose of the question is better clarification of daily bag limits. Recent data shows cisco populations in decline .Question was asked if cisco and white fish are the same? Answer was no they are not.</p> <p><b>Question 52:</b> Comment: There are good bear populations south of hi-way 10 and creation of a new zone should be part of any new bear management plan.</p> <p><b>Question 56:</b> Comment: This should be supported in an effort to keep non trappers from applying.</p> <p><b>Question 57:</b> Comment: We should support because cable restraints are very effective and mortality rates are very low. Dogs seldom suffer ill effects when caught and are easily removed.</p> <p><b>Question 62:</b> Comment: Questioning the need for rule change. Answer was that a new 81/2" trap is now available and currant size limitation is 8".</p> <p><b>Question 64:</b> Question on the need for removing milkweed from local noxious weed ordinances? Response was that growth of milkweed should be encouraged to support the monarch butterfly which has seen major population declines.</p> <p><b>Question 72:</b> Comment on the width of the easements for the pipe line becoming wider and becoming more of a land grab which is hurting affected land owners.</p> <p><b>Question 75:</b> Question on proof of veteran status required? Comment that national guard and reserve people may not be eligible unless they were deployed overseas.</p> <p><b>Question 83:</b> Comment that this was submitted to the legislature last year and died in committee. Author has requested delegate support to move forward this year.</p> <p>All other Congress advisory questions were read without questions or comment from the delegates.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	N/A	
Person(s) responsible	Deadline	
N/A	N/A	

**D. MULTI ORGANZATIONAL FEE INCREASE PROPOSAL**

**ARLYN SPLITT**

DISCUSSION	<p>Arlyn read correspondence from chairman Bonde regarding the license and stamp fee increases proposed and supported by statewide conservation groups. A list of the proposed fee increases and the sponsoring organizations was read. Delegates were asked to contact their Legislators and urge support for the increases, which are intended to help cover current D.N.R. budget shortfall of over 4 million dollars. Concern was expressed that no fishing license increase were included in the proposed list. It was suggested that a \$1.00 increase in all fishing license could raise an additional 1.1 million dollars and should be included. There was concern that these proposals were not supported or voted on by the entire Congress. It was suggested that the Congress has in fact supported license increases the last two years.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	N/A	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	

**E. CODE OF PROCEDURE CHANGES**

**ARLYN SPLITT**

DISCUSSION	<p>Arlyn requested that all delegated read the suggested code of procedure changes they received in their packet. Changes will be reviewed at the State Convention.</p> <p>Question on who wrote the changes? It was assumed to have been Rules and Resolutions Committee but, no one seemed to know for sure. Clarification is needed.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	N/A	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
N/A	N/A	

**F. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**ARLYN SPLITT**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Arlyn asked if anyone was considering changing committee assignments for the upcoming year. Only one individual said he was considering dropping a committee. Based on delegate response specific committee assignments were not covered. Final details will be worked out at the Convention with any new delegates being assigned to a committee based on open seats. It was mentioned that the ten year Fish and Wildlife Committee did not meet. The plan is done and this committee should be eliminated. Arlyn also reminded the Green Lake County delegates that an effort is needed to fill the vacant position in their county. Also, the Marquette County delegates need to address the 2 unexcused absence of Nancy Katzbeck including tonight's meeting as well as the fall district meeting.	
<b>ACTION</b>	N/A	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
N/A	N/A	

**G. AWARDS**

**ARLYN SPLITT**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Arlyn asked the delegates to review the awards requests as outlined in the agenda and submit their recommendations to the Executive Committee by the requested March 14, 2017 deadline. At that time there was a motion made to suspend discussion on the remaining agenda item since everyone received the information and could act on it on their own time. Motion was made by Paul Gettelman, it was seconded by Wright Allen. Motion carried on a voice vote.	
<b>ACTION</b>	N/A	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
N/A	N/A	

**III.**

**IV. MEMBERS MATTERS**

	<p>Discussion on the hospitality room at the State Convention. District 7 is responsible to stock and manage the room this year. Mike Pfankuch from Winnebago County agreed to handle the logistics. We need to contact last year's delegation for a list of needed items. Some cash donations have already been received. Jim Binder has a line on paper goods and a donation of thirty pounds of cheese. Possible activities for Thursday night were discussed. Possible trap shoot or archery at Critters in Winneconne. Nothing specific was decided. District delegates should consider food or cash donations. Arlyn Splitt announced that Dick Koerner has decided to step down as Chair for Winnebago County. Unknown at this time who will replace him.</p> <p><b>Fond Du Lac:</b> Mike Arrowood expressed concerns about the use of underwater cameras during sturgeon spearing. It is estimated that 25% are using them. Expect to see a resolution against this at the Spring Hearings. Also concerns about spear size. There is no limit at this time. Possibly some size limit should be considered. Bob Haase commented that he would like to see the D.N.R. tip line number in bold letters on the cover of the regulation pamphlet</p> <p><b>Green Lake:</b> Paul Gettelman thanked the Department for getting the Princeton Dam in the budget. Natural Resources magazine is being discontinued in the next State budget. A resolution will be introduced at the Spring Hearings to continue its publication.</p> <p>Question regarding current status of W.C.C. Chair due to spearing of a carp during Sturgeon spearing. Known information was passed on by Arlyn. Following discussion there was a motion on the floor by Paul Gettelman and was seconded by Wright Allen to have District 7 go on record in support of Chairman Bonde. Motion passed on a voice vote.</p> <p>Concerns about managing game species by Judicial Rule is becoming a problem. An effort needs to be made to make game rules immune from Judicial review.</p> <p>Question on herd control measurers available to D.M.A.P. participants for forest damage like ag tags for crop damage.</p> <p>Arlyn Splitt announced that he will not be running for District Leadership Council. Anyone interested should give it consideration by the State Convention.</p>	
	<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

	N/A	N/A
<b>ACTION</b>	N/A	

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	<b>10:10 P.M.</b>
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	<b>Harold Drake (Acting Secretary)</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>3/16/17</b>