

Wisconsin Conservation Congress

District 5

Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	6 August 2018	1900-2100 hrs.	Alma, WI
-------------------	---------------	----------------	----------

1. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Kevin Smaby, at 1900 hours
----------------------------	----------------------------

B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Buffalo--Domine, Ruff, Noll, Roehrig Dunn—Gullickson, Sinz, Thompson Eau Claire—Hanks, Quall, Vanden Bloomen, Zielke, LaCrosse—Eisenbacher, D. Heidel, R. Heidel, Schultz, Smaby Pepin—Hatch, Yingst, Hurlburt Pierce—Brazzale, Boley, Hatch, Loberg, Ogden Trempealeau—Anderson, Engeliien, Symicek Vernon—Leis, Morgen, West
EXCUSED	Buffalo: Urness; Dunn: Holmstadt, Marotz; Eau Claire: Burrows; LaCrosse: Netzer; Pepin: Hayden, Wayne; Trempealeau: Suchla, Ryder;
UNEXCUSED	Vernon: Greendeer, Koelker
GUESTS	DNR Personnel: Dan Baumann, Brian Breck, Harvey Halversen; Youth Conservation Congress Claire Morgan Public:

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	No changes to agenda.
------------	-----------------------

2. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS & PROGRAM UPDATES

A. DNR STAFF UPDATES

DISCUSSION	<p>Brian Breck Fisheries (Alma)--not many changes in the last 20 years. Live and online questions about fishing on the Mississippi. To be followed by more specific questions on bag limits and other issues. About 2 years (2020) before any rule changes will be in effect. Questions by Domine about status of minnow harvest rules. Archery for catfish and hand grab (noodling) is allowed statewide—DNR will propose adjustments to seasons and bag limits. Rules that apply are current fishing rules. Six biologists have been recently hired.</p> <p>H. Halversen—CWD—20 August public hearing/meeting. Shooting permits for private landowners will be issued to get 70 samples in the smaller (27 square miles) zone. Hunters will be asked to submit deer to get 310 samples in the larger 10-mile radius (xxx square mile) area. Goal is to get 350-400 samples per county. Question by Sinz—how high should bird feeders be off the ground? Congress question--Could deer hunters be fined a high \$ for illegal baiting. Need a stiffer penalty such as loss of guide or hunting privileges? Can the DNR produce a U-Tube video to show how to take out lymph nodes for testing? How can volunteers help build and collect samples from kiosks?</p> <p>DMAP process is being reviewed. CDAC governing documents are being reviewed. Elk reintroduction has been suspended until 2019.Goal is for 1400 elk in Wisconsin.</p> <p>Wolves—count and population estimates are being done by trapping and counting tracks. Healthy wolf herd.</p> <p>Migratory bird hunting—increase Canada geese bag limits.</p> <p>Rough grouse—population decline, habitat, climate and west Nile virus monitoring.</p> <p>Nine (9) new wildlife biologists were hired recently. Thirteen (13) wildlife technicians' openings.</p>
------------	--

	Transition has begun to shift wardens from the state park duty.
--	---

B. CONSERVATION CONGRESS UPDATES

DISCUSSION	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Guidance for upcoming committee meetings—meeting notices will be emailed or snail mail to resolution authors. 2. WCC Advisory committee assignments—reviewed District membership on each committee. 3. WCC Advisory Committee evaluation Forms-- 4. Delegate Reimbursement Process—no payments until committee secretaries submit the meeting minutes. 5. Unexcused Absences—if you are going or not going to be able to attend please notify the Committee Chair. Vice Chair. Head counts are needed for meals. 6. Sexual Harassment Training—on line training. A link will be sent for online training. 7. Discussion on Potential Options for Fee increases/program revenue—please submit your survey. 8. Conservation Chronicle—only available online—some will be mailed to non-email Congress members. Domine commented that he submitted an article on the Illegal Dumping Reward that the Buffalo County Alliance put forth. 9. Outreach Presentations available for WCC delegates. 10. Youth Conservation Congress—check Google calendar for upcoming events.
------------	--

--	--

3. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Heidel, D. Would like an opportunity to discuss fee increases with their respective committee. --Domine, Buffalo County is offering a reward for illegal dumping. Very good publicity. --High School Trap shooting teams are going well in the state. We need to encourage participation. --Yingst, Wolf issue is a federal issue. We need to call the WI federal legislators. There are 1000 wolves, way above the agreed upon 350 goal. Need to be proactive. Takes about 2 minutes to call and talk to an aid. --Can WCC send an email to notify Committee leadership that they have selected to serve? --Does not support bringing more elk when the wolf problem still exists. --need to review the --CDAC for CWD issues at 20 August meeting in Rock Falls. Testing for a baseline is the first-year goal. --About 90 WI high schools have ice fishing teams. Mid-Feb 2019 (WI Free Fishing Saturday) will have a Mississippi River one-day ice fishing contest on Pool 7 or 8 with 850 possible participants. --Need to get dumpsters for deer bones drop off. The collection of hides will offset some of the costs of collection. --WI Wildlife Federation is a good watch dog group. Counties should become a member. --Mississippi River DNR teams is located in La Crosse. They will provide outreach and information. --CWD will change the deer hunting culture of the state. We have to deal with it—cannot stop it. --Purple loosestrife is out of control. --Reference the 2017 Big Game report. Deer hunting numbers are declining possibly due to aging out. Numbers show an increase in crossbow hunters but not an increase total deer harvested. Should not divide hunters.
------------	--

4. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	2120 hours
SUBMITTED BY	Dennis Vanden Bloomen, Eau Claire County, Acting Secretary
DATE	6 August 2018