

# Wisconsin Conservation Congress

## District 5

### Meeting Minutes



<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	<b>7 March 2018</b>	<b>1900-2100 hrs.</b>	<b>Alma, WI</b>
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#### 1. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

##### A. CALL TO ORDER

<b>MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY</b>	Al Suchla, at 1900 hours
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##### b. ROLL CALL

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Buffalo--Domine, Noll, Roehrig, Urnes Dunn—Gullickson, Holmstadt, Marotz, Sinz, Thompson Eau Claire—Burrows, Vanden Bloomen, Zielke, LaCrosse—D. Heidel, R. Heidel, Schultz, Smaby Pepin—Casey, Wayne, Yingst, M. Hurlburt Pierce—Brazzale, Hatch, Ogden Trempealeau—Anderson, Engelien, Ryder, Suchla, Symicek Vernon—Leis, Morgen, Smith, West
<b>EXCUSED</b>	Eau Claire: Hanks, Quall, LaCrosse: Eisenbacher, Pepin: P.Hurlburt, Pierce: Loberg, Boley, LaCrosse: Eisenbacher; Pepin: T. Hurlburt, Casey; Vernon: Koelker
<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	none
<b>GUESTS</b>	DNR Personnel: Dan Baumann, Jess Carstens, Jordan Weeks, LaCrosse County WCC Youth Delegate—Duren.

##### C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	No changes to agenda.
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#### 2. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS & PROGRAM UPDATES

##### A. REVIEW OF FISHERIES SPRING HEARING QUESTIONS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Statewide bass fishing continuous open season—no comments</li> <li>2. Alternate bass size and bag limits for tournaments—questions about catch and release bass mortality</li> <li>3. Review panfish regulations on Mississippi River—no comments</li> <li>4. Review gamefish regulations on Mississippi River—want to know if WI DNR should have meetings with MN DNR to discuss.</li> <li>5. Increase size limit for sturgeon on Lake Superior--</li> <li>6/7. Walleye regulations in Jefferson/Rock Counties—no comments</li> <li>8. Reduce walleye bag limit 5 to 3 on Lake Winnebago system—no comments</li> <li>9. Reduce mortality of flathead catfish in several counties—no comments</li> </ol>
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##### B. REVIEW OF WILDLIFE SPRING HEARING QUESTIONS

DISCUSSION	<p>10. CWD Deer harvest transportation 72-hour rule—explanation “what is CWD affected county”, dumping of deer carcass needs to be done properly to prevent spread of prions. Only some dump sites are able to take deer carcass. Why is Buffalo County not tested?—issue of cost so not every county is tested. Question is poorly worded and maybe rejected because of the specific wording.</p> <p>11. Pheasant hunting daily shooting hours—affects areas with a 2pm closure time and would allow DNR staff to stock birds without hunters present.</p> <p>12. Wildlife refuges additional trapping opportunities—no comments</p> <p>13. Luers/baiting trapping for nuisance furbearing animals—no comments</p> <p>14. Trapping within 15 feet of beaver dams—no comments</p> <p>15. Keeping raccoon incidentally trapped during closed season—Who gets to decide a “beaver trap set”?</p>
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### C. DNR STAFF UPDATES

DISCUSSION	<p>DNR—<b>Wildlife</b>—Jess Carstens—several biologist positions open statewide. Many new faces in the DNR expected. FET dollars will provide a WI habitat fund for landowners. 25% cost share but if you get a grant you must open your land to the public—10, 20 or forever. Adopt-a-fishery or wildlife area. Wolf report—some movement in US Congress to delist wolves. DNR is moving to be ready to have a wolf hunt if wolves are delisted. No Elk trapped in Kentucky for WI area. About mid-50 number in the Black River herd.</p> <p><b>DNR Dan</b>—Licenses are on sale for 2018. Fishing license expires 31 March. Fall turkey drawing eliminated for fall—included in spring turkey process. Extra spring turkey tags go on sale March 19<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><b>Warden Bob</b>—21 hired last year are about to be stationed including southern Dunn county. Hiring 10 stations statewide recreational Safety Wardens—accident investigations 5 outdoor skills trainers to do safety training and work with volunteer instructors. Changes to Park Ranger system—now patrolled by Wardens. Issue with WI license in MN and Iowa area still needs to be paper copy in boundary waters.</p> <p><b>Fisheries—Weeks</b>—38 positions filled—mostly retirements. Need two heavy equipment operators.</p>
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### D. REVIEW NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY QUESTIONS

DISCUSSION	<p>Natural Resources Board Advisory Question</p> <p>16. Establish a funding source for management of state public lands—“all users” how would that be administered? Poorly written. How do we allow non-consumptive users to contribute to public lands?</p> <p>17. Eliminate the group deer hunting law--</p> <p>18. Crossbow hunting season—same arguments as took place when compound bows replaced recurve bows.</p>
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### E. REVIEW CONSERVATION CONGRESS ADVISORY QUESTIONS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>19./20. Support for climate change science—no comments</p> <p>21. Panfish daily bag limit Clark County—no comments</p> <p>22. Black River added to priority list for Lake Sturgeon Rehabilitation waters—no comments</p> <p>23. Quality panfish management for Chippewa Flowage/Sawyer County—no comments</p> <p>24. Reduce combined daily panfish limit on Long Lake, Waushara County—no comments</p> <p>25. Raise musky size limit to 50 inches on White Sand Lake, Vilas County—no comments</p> <p>26. Raise musky size limit to 50 inches on Cisco Chain of Lakes, Vilas County—only 5 percent of musky waters are 50-inch, fish advisory on not eating musky over 50 inches.</p> <p>27. Largemouth/smallmouth bass slot limit on Pike Lake, Chippewa County—no comments</p> <p>28. Statewide 12-inch size and 3 bag-limit on largemouth bass—no particular scientific basis for this harvest question.</p> <p>29. Northern pike size limit reduction on Tuttle Lake, Marquette County—no comment</p> <p>30. Increase channel catfish bag limit in Dodge County—no comment</p> <p>31. Open statewide Inland trout season for catch and keep on first Saturday in April—no fish biology reason to not do this.</p> <p>32. Return to a 3-zone mink and muskrat season framework—no comment</p> <p>33. Require an in-person field day for all safety students under 16-- poor gun handling demonstrated by on line students during the field day portion</p> <p>34. Change season limits for youth turkey tags—does not seem to be a good reason to change current rule—<b>this question did not go through the WCC Turkey Committee.</b></p> <p>35. Create lifetime hunting and fishing license—how will this count in the Pittman Bowles federal funding.</p> <p>36. Create “last chance” outdoor opportunity—no comment</p> <p>37. Florescent yellow for firearms season—if we can do pink we can do yellow for color blind hunters.</p> <p>38. Allow tracking dog handlers to dispatch wounded deer—dog currently have to be on a leash.</p> <p>39. Darkhouse spearing for northern pike on WI portion of WI/MN border of Mississippi River—no comment</p> <p>40. Allow unrestricted harvest of white perch on Lake Superior waters—they are an invasive species.</p> <p>41. Allow transfer of bear tags to senior hunters (over 70)—no comment</p> <p>42. Penalties for tiling within 5 feet of channel surface water—5 feet is not much of a buffer. This would apply a penalty to a current law.</p> <p>43. Designate all karstic WI as sensitive areas—does this mean more enforcement to protect groundwater? Will there be a good source/person available to answer questions about this issue beyond anecdotal comments during the spring hearings?</p> <p>44. Conduct hydrogeological surveys in WI counties lacking those studies—no comments</p> <p>45. Ban the use of neonicotinoid insecticides on state owned agriculture and forest land—why public land and not banned on private land? Doing harm to pollinator population</p> <p>46./47. WI guide license requirements—no comments</p> <p>48. Increase guide license fees—guides want the fee increased.</p> <p>49/50/51/52. Permit fees for nonmotorized watercraft—support for fee and opposition</p> <p>53. Allow large caliber pneumatic rifles and bows for hunting big game—comments that this should be two separate questions.</p> <p>54. Wolf Application date change. No comments</p>
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### 3. CONSERVATION CONGRESS ANNUAL COUNTY MEETING AND DNR SPRING HEARING LOGISTICS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Reviewed logistics issues from booklet.
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#### A. REVIEW OF INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE SPRING HEARING LOGISTICS MEMO

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Reviewed logistics issues from booklet.
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#### B. DELEGATE PROFILES

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Fill out profiles with preferences for committee assignments by April 13 <sup>th</sup> is you are not up for re-election.
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#### C. LOCAL SPRING HEARING PRESS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Review letters sent to each delegate.
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#### 4. OTHER CONGRESS BUSINESS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Shooting Ranges—survey of county ranges needs to be updated by each County Chair.</p> <p>Code of Procedures changes—confirm attendance several days ahead of committee meetings to determine if there will be a quorum. Resolutions add email of author.</p> <p>Committee assignments—</p> <p>Term limits on Advisory Committees—stagger the term limits so you retain some institutional memory.</p> <p>At the end of the annual meeting write down the names of 4-5 names of members that should stay on the committee. What are some methods to retain knowledge? How can we insure a timely turnover?</p> <p>A good secretary is valuable member so do not subject them to term limits.</p> <p>Some difficulties with choosing the secretary of a committee.</p> <p>Have a vote of confidence at the committee meeting for the leadership of that committee—does not take a change of the code of procedure.</p>
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#### 5. MEMBERS MATTERS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>--On-line Voting for Conservation Committee—very complicated with many opinions. Current voting technology for spring hearings will have to be replaced. What will the new technology be? Go Wild card number system will not be available for voting. With the lack of discussion at Spring hearings due to the change to electronic voting system, several years ago, may be the system to return to the "hand" count method for the Spring hearings? This issue will be discussed at the Congress Meeting in Green Bay. If there is no online voting in Wisconsin for political offices, at any level, or referenda how can the Congress do online voting issues?</p> <p>--Citizen resolutions need to follow format on page 25 of booklet.</p> <p>--District leadership elections need to be in a quiet area so members can hear the statements of the candidates.</p> <p>--Statewide duck opener, bag limits about the same. Horicon Goose zone will probably be eliminated.</p> <p>--Longer nomination period for the District Leadership positions.</p>
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#### 6. ADJOURNMENT

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	<b>2242 hours</b>
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	<b>Dennis Vanden Bloomen, Eau Claire County, Acting Secretary</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>7 March 2018</b>