



Executive Committee District Leadership Council Annual Meeting

**Wisconsin Conservation Congress
 Meeting Minutes**

ORDER OF BUSINESS	05/21/2019	10:00AM	DNR Office Madison
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by	Vice Chairman Tony Blattler 10:02 AM at 10:02 AM
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Tony Blattler, Joe Weiss, Joel Taylor, Dave Larson, Mike Riggle, Dale Ebert, Kevin Smaby, Terri Roehrig, Stan Brownell, Dale Maas, Paul Gettelman, Dave Breunig, Mike Rogers, Kenneth Risley, Jane Meyer, Eugene Altwies, and Scott Gunderson. Kari Lee Zimmermann and Mike Schmit staff.
EXCUSED	Ronald Krueger Senior, Al Logan or, Brett Weir and Larry Bonde.
UNEXCUSED	
GUESTS	

C. Agenda approval or repair

Blattler

DISCUSSION	Tony requested flexibility in order of the agenda based on staff availability. Secretary's note: minutes are reported in order of agenda and do not necessarily reflect the order taken.
ACTION	Motion by Larson second by Weiss to allow flexibility in posted agenda. Motion carried.

D. Public comments

DISCUSSION	None
ACTION	

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Friends of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress update (information only).

Kari Lee Zimmermann for Rob
 Bowmann

DISCUSSION	Kari distributed a copy of the accounts report for the friends group for 2019. This report detailed a balance of \$42,829.41 as of the DLC meeting on 5/22/18 identifying paid bills, monies donated for trailer project and the end of 2018 balance of \$33,376.10. Additional monies donated for trailer project in 2019, bills paid to date, and the balance before convention of \$31,907.20. Total deposit on 5/13 of \$22,863.51 and a balance after deposit of \$54,770.71. There were some outstanding bills that they were still waiting for receipts on. A complete itemized report is available by contacting the WCC liaison.	
ACTION	Information only. No action taken.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

B. WCC Liaisons Report

Kari Lee Zimmermann

DISCUSSION	Kari reported on the difficulty she's continuing to have in updating delegate profile information and accurate completion of the county rosters. It was a lengthy discussion on why we have to reinvent our profiles every year and the value that it may or may not have in the process. Also a concern was the inaccuracies in the report filled out after the spring hearing. In some cases counties have not identified Vice Chairs. Some counties shared the difficulty of that taking place due to the fact that the Vice Chairs are intended to be the recording secretary for CDAC meetings and there is a reluctance for delegates to accept that position. As far as delegate profiles, many delegates do not go in and update their profiles on an annual basis which causes many communication problems, (change of email address, change of home address, change in phone number). Many options were discussed including enforcement of the code of procedure requirements already in place. It was suggested that this issue should be referred to the Executive Committee since everyone seemed to be aware of the issue at the DLC. This has been the third year in a row that we've had this same discussion without solving the problem.	
ACTION	Information only. Discussion to take place at the Executive Committee level.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

C. Advisory committee assignments

Tony Blattler

DISCUSSION	<p>Tony stated that Larry, Kari and himself met to review committee assignments. Mike Schmit provided copies to the individual DLC members highlighting some areas that were identified as problems. He asked that DLC members review the final draft prior to approval for any errors or misunderstandings. In some cases delegates profiles did not match committee request sheets from the individual districts. There was further discussion as to what delegates would like to be assigned to and what committee assignments are available within their district. It was determined that the process of having one of the district meetings set up for committee assignments and requests and then the finalization at the state convention for new delegates for possible openings on committees was the direction the DLC and approve. Mike asked that the DLC members review and get back to him within a couple of days so that the final postings could be approved. Kari reminded the DLC members that some committees (Ad-hoc, Great Lakes and the Mississippi River among others) needed a written letter explaining committee delegates interests and background information on why they felt they should be assigned to the particular committee. Tony asked if a letter was going to be sent out to those that had applied for the committees in question to make sure that their resume was turned in. The consensus of the group was those individuals were told about it at the convention and follow-up should be on the delegates requesting those committees.</p>	
ACTION	<p>Information only. No action taken.</p>	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

D. WCC Coordinator position update

Kari Lee Zimmermann

DISCUSSION	<p>Kari stated that the direction from the convention asking for a job description for the YCC coordinator position will be started shortly. With putting all the final touches on information from the convention and prepping for other meetings she was running short on time but wanted everybody to know that within the next week or so she would be drafting that position's job description. There is still some discussion on the funding of the position but the process of defining and then posting for the position has been approved. This will be a limited term employee position. It is a rather time-consuming process since it needs to be posted for a period of time and interviews taken but again she just wanted to keep the DLC informed. Joel Taylor asked if there was going to be a residency requirement as in close to Madison or if this would be statewide? Kari thought that it would probably be operated out of the central office. Scott Gunderson suggested that it not be a requirement and that we would be missing out on some talented people if we limited residency close to Madison. He suggested that there may be people looking for a part-time position that are very talented and could be housed in one of the offices throughout the state. This is not a debate for this level but he is suggesting that that input be taken back to leadership within the department.</p>	
ACTION	<p>Information only. No action taken.</p>	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

E. Proposed COP changes

Tony Blattler

DISCUSSION	<p>Tony suggested that the members go to their convention book under code of procedure (page 6) VII (a) (4) was suggested by the rules committee that this be located in this location is of understanding. If accepted this would then be removed from the code of procedure page 15 IX (B) (2). Background for this was discussed at the state convention but due to timing of the change was delayed for this meeting. There was a motion by Meyer second by Gunderson to approve the change. Motion carried.</p>	
ACTION	<p>As stated above.</p>	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

F. CWD Action Initiative

Tom Hauge, Jeff Guerard and Bill McCary.

DISCUSSION	<p>Tom stated that this Action Initiative did not exist two months ago. But after the governor's preliminary budget came out a group of conservation minded individuals got together and talked about CWD issues within the state and all the ramifications of this problem. All those in attendance at the first meeting were frustrated with the way CWD has been handled in Wisconsin and coming together as a group trying to come up with ideas to change the spread of CWD and the high rate of prevalence that is appearing in the state. After the discussion they thought that there was some areas of action that could be embraced. It was decided that the group would call themselves the "CWD Action Initiative". They have established a web-page and a presence on Facebook. The CWD action initiative is a grassroots effort by individuals and organizations to protect the health of Wisconsin's wild deer and elk populations. They seek increased attention and action by Wisconsin's elected officials to implement effective CWD management programs that will stop and reverse the growth in disease prevalence and spread. He provided the DLC with a folder they developed to help interested organizations and individuals to better understand this initiative. (Secretary's note: the information listed below reflects bullet points for more information go to www.cwdaction.com or on Facebook "stop cwd".) We have kind of separated our action plan into three buckets: for Governor Evers:</p>	
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	<p>1). Depopulate insecure CWD positive deer farms. 2). Cooperate with neighboring states. 3). Improve reporting. 4). Create one CWD plan. 5). Establish a Governor's Council on CWD. 6). Contain new CWD infections.</p> <p>For the Legislature in the 19-21 budget: 1). Create safe and convenient carcass disposal. 2). Improve Wisconsin CWD testing system. 3). Improve deer farm bio-security.</p> <p>For the Legislature separate legislation: 1). Ban deer baiting and feeding statewide. 2). Restored deer season options. 3). Establish a 10-year moratorium on new deer farms.</p> <p>After the presentation there was a discussion on whether or not the WCC was officially going to support the initiative. The delegates felt that the concept and overall goals were acceptable but in some areas were either beyond the scope or specific stated positions of the WCC.</p>
ACTION	<p>Motion by Weiss second by Roehrig to support plan in concept without endorsing the details of the plan in its entirety. Motion withdrawn by Joe Weiss. and Terri Roehrig.</p> <p>Motion by Weiss second by Roehrig that "The WCC and DLC seek increased attention and action by Wisconsin's elected officials to implement effective CWD management programs that will stop and reverse the growth in disease prevalence and spread." Joe stated that these principals are what we should be supporting even though we differ in opinion as to how to make the needed change. He wanted to be very clear that our policies and positions should not be under-cut by our support of the concept. Motion carried.</p>
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Roles of the Historian and Outreach and Public Relations Coordinator positions on

Tony Blattler

G. Executive Committee

DISCUSSION	<p>This was brought up at a strategic planning committee meeting and also on the floor of the convention. The titles and duties of the executive committee as to these two positions was discussed. It was noted that when the executive committee was increased from 3 to 5 it was felt that the two additional members should have specific duties. Further discussion generated the opinion that the two additional members could be assigned to these duties but in some cases may not be the most knowledgeable, not to say that people were doing a bad job more that we may be limiting leadership candidates. Some experienced people may feel that history or public relations is not necessarily their best area of expertise. Our goal should be to have the best candidate in a position of leadership. It was also noted that according to the code of procedure the chair has the right to appoint individuals to meet specific needs. Maas commented that in reality "the privilege of the chair "it might be more appropriate to have the two executive positions in question be "at-large". They could certainly have oversight but would also allow the most skilled delegate to lead those committees.</p>
ACTION	<p>Motion by Weiss to leave the Public Relations Committee as it is and make the Historian position an at-large with the gathering of historical information as a primary function. Second by Larson. After discussion the motion was withdrawn. The following motion was then offered: motion by Weiss second by Risley to direct the Rules and Resolutions Committee work on the correct wording for a COP change to have the two executive positions in question be elected by and from the DLC as "at large" or another name to be determined and allow flexibility by the chair to make appropriate adjustments to allow the most talented individuals to work those committees. Motion carried.</p>
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Assigned Resolution: Reinstate and Staff the Department of Natural Resources Science

Tony Blattler

H. Services Bureau (660119)

DISCUSSION	<p>There was much discussion on the above resolution.</p>
ACTION	<p>Motion by Taylor second by Meyer to advance resolution. A question was asked as to where it would go (next questionnaire)? Taylor stated that this should be a WCC position of the DLC. Motion failed.</p> <p>There then was a motion by Meyer to support a Science Services Bureau and add (five) water positions. Motion died for lack of a second.</p> <p>Motion by Riggle second by Meyer to support the current administration proposal to elevate Applied Science to a Bureau level and the addition of five water quality and contaminant specialists. Motion carried.</p>

	It was requested that Larry draft a letter to the Governor and Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee in support along with appropriate communications to resolution author.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE
Larry Bonde		

Assigned Resolution: reinstate Milwaukee as a separate district within the WCC (320119, 340119, 410219).

Tony Blattler

I.

DISCUSSION	A delegate from the Milwaukee County was in attendance and stated her position as to why Milwaukee County should be allowed district status. It was felt that Milwaukee County is doing a better job than they had in the past but that the original concept of having it a stand alone district is not consistent with other highly populated counties in the state. To have Milwaukee County to have the ability by virtue of delegate representation have more say than the less populated counties in the state was felt inappropriate. The DLC encouraged Milwaukee County to continue its keep up the good participation within the WCC.	
ACTION	Motion by Riggle second by Taylor to reject resolution. Motion carried. Resolution rejected.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	<p>Paul Gettelman stated he enjoyed the meeting and was looking forward to serving on the DLC.</p> <p>Stan Brownell mentioned that Monroe County is having a CWD summit on August 17 with a mission of improving CWD testing. He wanted to be sure that his participation would not be outside the governance of the Congress. He was instructed that as long as positions that he took were the same stated positions of the Congress there was no issues involved. Should they be different he needed to identify that it was his own personal position and not that of the Congress.</p> <p>Jane Meyer stated that there is a start of an environmental caucus and as she knows more she will share that information. It was also noted that the same policy for participation was required.</p> <p>Ken Risley thanked Kari for the video about online input information and the preparations for the county meetings it went well and is appreciated. He also mentioned that their CDAC review (three years) might not reach their population goals in that time frame. He's concerned that the department will invoke additional sanctions, if this happens the county CDAC will be very upset.</p> <p>Kevin Smaby said thank you for leadership's turn out for the YCC delegates at the convention. The delegates were energized and we will continue to move forward with our program. He also stated that once again milk was not available at the state convention and for being the Dairy State this is disappointing. He is also asking that a CWD committee be established within the Congress.</p> <p>Mike Rogers agreed for the need for a CWD committee and also a need for funding for dumpsters.</p> <p>Scott Gunderson thanked staff support for all the work that they did on not only the online input but all the things they do throughout the year. He also mentioned that the resume/application for some of the committees was only mentioned about the Great Lakes committee at the state convention. Kari commented that she would get an email out stating that the request to serve would be for all ad hoc and also include Mississippi and Great Lakes committees. He mentioned that the youth Expo was a success again this year there were 2,800 youth along with 600 chaperons that attended. This is a great event and that the friends group getting money for bus scholarships has really helped out, he encourages all delegates to approach their local clubs and see if they can get donations.</p> <p>Joe Weiss mentioned that the Native American spearing totals are out and he said that it would be available online very soon. He also gets questions on how the committee chairs and vice chairs are chosen. He says it is not addressed anywhere in the code of procedure and wonders if that shouldn't be better defined. He asked whether there should be any more individuals involved with this (possibly the entire executive committee). Tony mentioned that it's laid out in the strategic plan and Joe asked if it would be important to have it in the code of procedure because a lot of people don't really think about looking in the strategic plan.</p> <p>Dale Maas echoed Gundy's remarks on the youth Expo. Paul Gettelman and Jim Burmeister from Columbia County maned the booth again this year and it was a good time. Touch of the Wild 2 was well received and encouraged any and all delegates and DLC members to take some time and stop at the Expo. It's amazing over 30 buses a day over the two days 2800 youth it's pretty neat to see if you have the time please come. As far as the trailer we are diligently working to come up with a plan. As soon as the outreach committee gets formed and has a meeting we hope to be able to get the approval to move forward with an advertising plan. This will help us get the trailers on the road. He thanked all the clubs and organizations that have donated so far and he still needs additional funding. We need \$2500 per trailer to get them on the road. He was asked when he expected to have the two small trailers available, his reply was as soon as we get appropriate funding to get the educational graphics along with a spare tire and interior lighting. We did have the use of Touch of the Wild 2 and not to be critical this is a wonderful trailer with a lot of opportunities, the difficulty is finding someone to pull the trailer to and from locations that have the adequate towing capability. Touch of the Wild 2 takes a 2 5/16 ball., requires an adequate towing vehicle with internal electrical brakes that matched the wiring harness. The normal SUV pickup truck scenario is not normally set up unless you have a complete towing package on that vehicle. If you're interested and have the appropriate towing vehicle get a hold of Mark LaBarbera and find out its availability.</p> <p>Terri Roehrig: Buffalo County will be the topic of discussion for years to come but we truly believe we need more tools out</p>
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	there. We are also looking at teaming with Eau Claire County on getting deer carcasses collection for the coming season. She also asked Kari to communicate with the advisory committee leadership to remind them that they are required to provide 2 Facebook postings one prior to a committee meeting and the second afterwards. Tony reminded the DLC members to stick around for the annual photograph. He reminded delegates that later today we will meet with the NRB. This is the one time a year we get to meet with the entire Natural Resources Board and if you are able to stay for the supper this evening it is a great way to interact and better understand the process. Motion by Scott Gunderson second by Dave Larson to adjourn. Motion carried.
ACTION	

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	3:48 PM
SUBMITTED BY	Dale C. Maas
DATE	06/26/2019