



Executive Committee     District Leadership Council     Annual Meeting

**Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
 Meeting Minutes**

<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	10/04/2019	9 AM	Grand Lodge Wausau
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**I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

<b>Meeting called to order by</b>	Larry Bonde at 9:02 AM
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**B. ROLL CALL**

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Joe Weiss, Tony Blackmer, Joel Taylor, Dave Larson, Steve Budnick, Dale Ebert, Ronald Krueger, Sr., Kevin Smaby, Terri Roehrig, Stan Brownell, Al Loper, Dale Maas, Paul Gettelman, Brett Weir, Larry Bonde, Mike Rogers, Kenneth Risley, Eugene Altwies, Scott Gunderson. Kari Lee Zimmermann and Mike Schmit.
<b>EXCUSED</b>	Mike Riggle, Dave Brunig and Jane Meyer
<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	
<b>GUESTS</b>	

**C. Agenda approval and repair**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Larry stated that he had no changes to the agenda but would like flexibility to adjust the order of the agenda to accommodate various presenters. (Secretaries note: these minutes appear in the order stated on the official agenda, they may or may not be in the actual order taken.)
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion by Blatter second by Larson to approve agenda with flexibility. Motion carried.

**D. Chairs update**

**Larry Bonde**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Larry stated that due to a scheduling change Sec. Maas would be unable to attend the January meeting. He asked for volunteers to take minutes and hopefully there would be someone to accept it otherwise he would appoint someone. He mentioned that he has a new contact within the governor's office who has been very responsive to the needs of the Congress, DNR Secretary Cole was very helpful in facilitating this. He was happy to announce that a YCC coordinator has been hired and there would be more information to follow. He was also happy to announce that Secretary Cole was confirmed by the legislature. He also mentioned that he received a thank you letter from this year's bear tag recipient (Isaac Beanders).
<b>ACTION</b>	Information only. No action taken.

**E. Public comments**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	No public comments were made.
<b>ACTION</b>	NA.

**II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Department of Natural Resources Program Updates**

Various

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	See Below	
<b>ACTION</b>		
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**1. Office of Applied Science**

**Scott Hull, Director**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Scott explain that the Office of Applied Science (OAS) helps all departments within the agency to make good decisions and also performs research to help them better understand the decisions that they have made. He also stated that the OAS has updated their webpage along with the current changes to the DNR web-pages. The OAS has developed a communication team to help get their message out to the general public. Through their studies past and current data is updated and depending upon what you're looking for many of those reports will allow you to check on deer activity and populations in your area. This is not limited to deer but includes bear and many other species. Scott handed out a listing of active research being done by the "office of Applied Science" which contained the names of the lead scientist, the project goal, and the end of the study. Additional in-depth information is available online.
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	<p><b>Wildlife:</b>                  Southwest Wisconsin CWD, deer and predator project.                  Snapshot Wisconsin.                  Bobcat research in Wisconsin.                  Deer population model.                  Advanced prion detection methods.                  CWD surveillance strategies.                  Scientific consulting.                  Prairie Grouse viability analysis.                  Prescribed fire.                  Bear genetic survey.                  Fur bear monitoring.                  Habitat management outcomes.                  Otter population assessment.                  D map-deer metric evaluation.                  Waterfall population dynamics.                  Elk research and monitoring.                  Car-killed deer body condition.                  CWD prion persistence and soil.                  Deactivation of CWD prions using composting.</p> <p><b>Fisheries research:</b>                  Walleye, perch and whitefish interactions in Green Bay.                  Coarse woody habitat effects.                  Muskellunge age and growth study.                  Reassessing Lake Michigan predator-prey balance.                  Angling and hooking mortality in Lake Sturgeon.                  Northern Highland fishery research area.                  Monitoring temporal trends in trout populations.                  Ecological factors that influence walleye recruitment in ceded territory lakes.                  Spatially-explicit assessment of North-Moonlight Bay and Green Bay stocks of whitefish.                  Quantifying shifts in spawning phenology and recruitment in Wisconsin fishes.                  Trout age and growth in Wisconsin streams.                  Evaluating sustainable muskellunge exploitation in ceded territory.                  Understanding Pan Fish trends and responses to angling and predator population in Wisconsin lakes.</p> <p><b>Joint fisheries and wildlife research:</b>                  Beaver influences on Cold-water Stream habitat populations in Wisconsin.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>		
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**2. Wildlife**

Tammy Ryan, Acting Director

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Tammy gave a brief rundown on her 26 year career with the DNR up to her being appointed as acting wildlife director. She then reviewed the operational highlights of the wildlife division with the DLC.                  They are recruiting for three area wildlife supervisor vacancies, working on the Crex Meadows multipurpose building and working on new equipment purchases for physical year 2020. As far as wildlife outreach, this will be the third season of Wild Wisconsin which premieres on October 14. This program covers the preparing of harvested game from field to table. They've also developed a new hunt wild mobile application, this has additional enhancements over the previous applications. They have also updated their CWD brochure for this coming season.  <b>Future Rules:</b>                  The Ruffed Grouse permanent rule to implement management plan (December NRB).                  Revision of State wildlife refuges and closed areas (October NRB).                  Rule to implement bear management plan (December NRB).                  Removing night hunting restrictions for raccoons (December NRB).  <b>Game Mammals:</b>                  Crossbow evaluation.</p>
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	<p>Black bear management plan.                  2019 deer hunting seasons underway.                  Elk trans-location.                  20th anniversary of the deer donation program.                  They also updated the CWD web-page, this includes information on where you can get your deer sampled, find your CWD test results, handling of deer carcasses and how to report a dead or sick deer.                  This year Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) was identified positive in five counties with a number of other ones being evaluated. Crawford, Iowa, La Crosse, Richland and Sauk counties have been confirmed (138) deer of this date have been identified.                  Birds/Habitat                  Wildlife has been working on the Ruffed Grouse management plan, Waterfowl Management Plan, Duck Zone Ad-HOC Committee and Wildlife Stamp Update.                  Northern District:                  Many Wetland Infrastructure projects are in progress.                  They are also working on the Lake Poygan break wall project.                  Northern District:                  Woodboro Wildlife Area                  Langlade County                  Powell Marsh Wildlife Area.                  Sawyer County Elk Range.                  West-Central District:                  Perform Maintenance and Wetland infrastructure repair.                  Work on Black River elk herd.                  Southern District:                  Working on Horicon Marsh and Theresa Marsh Wildlife Area (Washington and Dodge counties).                  Work on Waterloo Wildlife Area (Jefferson County).                  Work on Tichigan Wildlife Area (Racine County)                  State Game Farm:                  Work on 2018 Ring-Necked Pheasant program (approximately 75,000 pheasants stocked).                  Working on 2019 pheasant stocking (approximately 80,000 pheasants to be stock).</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	Information only. No action taken.
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**3. Fisheries**

Todd Kalish, Acting Director

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Todd gave a brief update on staffing changes within fisheries stating that they just hired a replacement Fisheries Biologist for the northern area based out of Hayward. He is also happy to announce that they are re-staffing their operations and habitat crew throughout the state, two supervisors were hired late last year. And they are working on hiring an additional three habitat specialists who traditionally were heavy equipment operators. With some of the project difficulties that we have experienced in the past we are rethinking those assignments and how these specialists will be utilized. The thought is that we may not be doing habitat projects all by ourselves but partnering up with other organizations and or contractors moving forward. We still have heavy equipment operators, and equipment scattered throughout the state and the specialist will have CDL licenses but their primary function will be to assist in project planning and developing those partnerships that I talked about earlier. Three additional staff will be hired to fill vacancies in Eau Claire/La Crosse, Spooner and Fitchburg.</p> <p>Fisheries has been working on a Trout Management Plan which will be presented to the Natural Resources Board on October 23. They have also been working on a Sturgeon Management Plan conducting a public meetings to put a draft plan in place and are awaiting comments before drafting the final presentation. Work has continued on the Lake Superior Management Plan and a draft is expected by the end of the year. They are also working on a Walleye Management Plan statewide.</p> <p>The Lake Superior permanent rule with the tribes will be going to the NRB in December and a three-year management plan for Lake Michigan should be done by the end of October.</p> <p>There were questions on Cisco stocking by the federal government, Todd stated that the feds are looking at the issue for a possible Wisconsin strain to be stocked.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	Informational only. No action taken.
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**4. Law Enforcement**

Todd Schaller, Chief Warden

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Todd opened by thanking the Wisconsin Conservation Congress Friends for facilitating approximately \$4000 reward on the elk poaching issue that recently happened. One of the things that he noted is that the DNR hotline often has groups or individuals who want to offer rewards for tips on violations. One of the issues that they're running into is who and or what tip made the case it's not always a cut and dried process as multiple tips may come in on a single case. He noted that some local law enforcement agencies have partnered with local crime stoppers and have them be a filter to work through these issues. Law enforcement would like to have the ability to have a partnership with a separate organization with the ability to fund raise and administer the rewards program. He mentioned that law enforcement was cleared to offer for 15 hires by the end of October. He also noted that within the next two years many of the senior management team will be eligible for retirement and in some cases pre-notification has already taken place. He himself as identified is tentative retirement date (in the next 2 years) and is working with personnel to get a replacement hired and in place prior to retirement. From an informational standpoint the "call for service program" he has talked about in the past has added mapping so that responders and dispatchers can visually see the location of wardens. This will allow them to better manage the workload.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	Information only. No action taken	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**5. DNR Secretary Matters**

Scott Loomans

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Scott welcomed the DLC and thanked them for allowing him to appear on behalf of Secretary Cole. He stated that the Senate Natural Resources Committee had met and endorsed Preston for the position on a vote of five to nothing and was confident that confirmation by the full Senate will take place shortly.</p> <p>He spoke about the Lake Michigan three-year plan and Preston's desire to have one small additional meeting to confirm their position since this has been a multifaceted discussion with many groups. They have talked to Larry about having the Congress represented at this meeting and he has agreed. Scott said he attended the National Fish and Wildlife meeting in St. Paul last week and one of the topics he sat in on was the relevancy of Fish and Wildlife programs and how it would impact state programs moving forward. His intentions were to bring that information back to the department working team and see how those programs may be utilized throughout the state, once that happens he would like to bring it back to the Congress for their review.</p> <p>Larry asked Scott what was his take and what he heard on concerns on the balance of funds in the Fish and Wildlife account as once again the stamp increase was turned down by the legislature. Scott says he is aware of some of the funds having additional balances but the reality is that the department does not have the authority to use, these funds are assigned to ongoing projects that may have hit a roadblock, whether or engineering issues but they are dedicated funds and they do not have the authority to redirect them. What could happen would be the Legislature could increase the funding limit but they seem to not have a good understanding on how these funds are accumulated and functions through the budget cycle. Larry stated that he felt that talking to these legislators and educating them as to the problems rather than having them take a negative position without having all the facts was not a service to anyone.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	Information only. No action taken.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**B. WCC Advisory Committee Reports**

Various

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	See below	
<b>ACTION</b>		
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**1. Strategic Plan Implementation Committee**

Terri Roehrig

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Terri presented a plan update from committee the following are bullet points:</p> <p>The committee mission statement is out of date and will be drafted by her and submitted to the committee for review, discussion and approval at the next meeting.</p> <p>Outcomes from the July meeting include brainstorming on types of public relations, audience, and when to do public relations and how including internal and external methods.</p> <p>Information shared with both the public relations committee to review and action.</p> <p>Facebook administration, Larry Bonde, Justin Larkey and Terri Roehrig are the administrators.</p> <p>Educational trailers have been moved to a subcommittee.</p> <p>In the future we will need to work with outreach and public relation committee on status of plan and measurement of goals.</p> <p>Short-term goals (in order of priority).</p>	
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	1. Outreach; public relations, education trailers and support, Facebook, education of public on role of WCC/NRB, value of WCC delegation and increasing spring hearing attendance and participation.	
<b>ACTION</b>	Information only. No action taken	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**2. Outreach and Public Relations Committee**

Terri Roehrig

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Terri presented a PowerPoint presentation on the following.                  Status; the committee has met as a whole on July 13, July 23, and September 14.                  The education trailer subgroup has met on July 29 and August 27.                  Committee members; her opinion is that about 50% are dedicated, energetic, supportive and understand the importance and need to drive this forward.</p> <p>Accomplishments to date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Created the WCC photo library.</li> <li>2. Increased exposure on Facebook.</li> <li>3. Press releases sent out on important topics not only to our delegates but to our media outlets as well.</li> <li>4. Disbursement of WCC brochures to our delegation through the fall district meetings.</li> <li>5. WCC brochure updates-we have taken the opportunity to make some updates to the brochure and they are in the process of being printed.</li> <li>6. Education trailers-a subcommittee has been formed to move the decision-making on the education trailers along faster so we can get a third trailer up and running.</li> <li>7. Outreach talking points for fall district meeting-the outreach committee members have shared information about the outreach needs that we would like each delegates support in.</li> <li>8. WCC promotional cards for trailers-were purchased by OHEC.</li> </ol> <p>Education trailer update.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use of two OHEC trailers and getting word out there through Facebook and emails to our delegates, we do have WCC cards and brochures available but need to get WCC talking points for those manning the trailers.</li> </ol> <p>Law enforcement donated trailers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One trailer approved by executive committee and personally funded through WCC to get up and running.</li> <li>2. Cooperative effort between WCC, Friends of the WCC and OHEC and at least one sponsor willing to provide \$3000 of upfront investments for a three-year presence of logos on trailer.</li> <li>3. Second trailer-on hold and may use for smaller display.</li> </ol> <p>Current WCC trailer in ill repair.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A recommendation is to sell it and put money into the law enforcement trailers. Removing the items we are not using and getting rid of the ratty mounts.</li> </ol> <p>What is getting in the way of progress?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Struggling to get quorums for meetings.</li> <li>2. Delegate engagement, feedback and participation including district meetings-talking points and feedback.</li> <li>3. Lack of budget/funding.</li> </ol> <p>After the presentation there was a discussion about the proposal to sell the original WCC trailer. Dale stated that he was satisfied with moving the first law enforcement trailer forward but was concerned about two items. The first was whether or not we would be able to get one sponsor to donate \$3000 and whether or not we had a fall back position in case we had multiple smaller sponsors. The second was selling the original WCC trailer, his concern were that he has multiple mounts in storage as replacements. The nature of our displays can be hard on the mounts they're fixed to the sides of the trailers and moving down the road and the interaction with those touring the displays. He felt that for the small amount money that would be generated by the sale that the trailer would be best used with a little bit of TLC as a storage trailer for the extra mounts.</p> <p>Gunderson; this is a huge undertaking and maybe it would be better off to have three members dedicated just to this.                  Bonde; this was originally assigned to Outreach because of the concern Dale had of only making decisions himself and felt that it needed to be acted on with the authority of others. That's why I created the ad hoc subcommittee because it became too difficult for the Outreach Committee as a whole to make timely decisions. This subcommittee also brings its actionable items to the executive committee as needed.</p>
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	<p>Gettelman; he asked how many of the DLC members had actually seen the trailers and a show of hands of those that have never seen the trailers up close. Many of the DLC were in the latter category and that is why Paul was asking the question. He has been involved with Dale the last couple of years but he also knows the effort that has been put in prior to his being a part of it and this is a big job. We really need the commitment by the committee and the entire Congress to be a part of this worthwhile endeavor. It was never the vision to have three people man these trailers and transport them all over the state to different venues. The concept was to offer the educational trailers as a teaching moment and a way that our delegates could interact with organizations within their county to help strengthen the understanding of what the WCC is and what we do. Larry stated that hopefully for the next convention in Green Lake we will be well on our way and have the ability to expose our whole delegation to the positive experience that these trailers will provide.</p> <p>There was a question asked about why only one sponsor location, and Larry said it was a marketing strategy that was proposed by Mark LaBarbera (OHEC). Mark's experience was that you had better results with one sponsor rather than multiple.</p> <p>There was a question on how you could reserve a trailer, the answer was, contact Mark LaBarbera for the two shared trailers. Terri also said that there working on developing a Google calendar that would be available for people to look at to see availability.</p> <p>Scott Gunderson asked of the two smaller trailers what's being done? Larry stated that the first one is being developed but is not ready yet and still needs to \$3000 sponsorship. The second one is not being developed because we want to be sure that the first one is utilized. Scott questioned if an organization wanted to get the second small trailer and provide what's necessary short of the mounts and the work to assemble the balance with their be an opportunity to do that?</p> <p>Larry stated that if someone's organization wanted to partner with the Congress that that would be a great opportunity, he couldn't speak for the whole Congress and thought that that was a definite possibility. Larry suggested that that be put as an agenda item for the trailer subcommittee. Scott said he was reasonably sure that he could find an organization that could provide the needed resources for the second small trailer. Dale stated that he would send Scott some preliminary information and pictures that might help in his presentation and would be happy to answer any questions that the organization would have.</p> <p>Al Lobner questioned what the value might be on the original trailer. Dale stated that in its current condition he would be estimating that it might be worth \$500 to the right person, may be a little bit more but it was more valuable as a storage location than the amount of money that you might get from selling it.</p> <p>Tony stated that he felt it was important that we get the trailers out to the Congress members throughout the state because this is a good program.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	Information only. No action.
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**3. Great Lakes Committee** Dale Maas

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Dale gave a report on the Great Lakes Committee meeting and the struggles that they had in getting a quorum. He feels that there has got to be some way that we as leadership can come together and educate our delegates as to the importance of their commitment. We all understand this is voluntary and in some cases can be a hardship and from time to time everyone will have a conflict on the date. He feels that there must be a better way to make sure that we can function as an organization.</p> <p>The committee brought forward their one assigned question (160119) restore anadromous (lake run) fish passage to the iron River Bayfield County.</p> <p>The question "would you support working with local conservation groups and the DNR to restore fish passage for migrating (lake run) fish to the Iron River and Bayfield County?"</p> <p>After a few follow up questions a motion by Blattler second by Smaby to advance.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion carried. Question advances.
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**4. Outdoor Heritage & Education** Kevin Smaby

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Educating hunters on the risk posed by CWD infected carcasses (160219, 170119, 250319, 360319, 610319, 700219). Question: do you support the Wisconsin Conservation Congress recommendation to the Wisconsin DNR to print CWD information with each deer license to increase hunter awareness on the proper disposal of deer carcasses, testing site information, and biological information?</p> <p>Motion by Krueger second by Larson to reject, we already have a position on this.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion carried. Question rejected.
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**5. Mississippi River Committee** Kari Lee Zimmermann

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Mike Britton was not able to attend the meeting today Kari will be explaining the issues.                  The committee requested a minor change in their mission statement. After information to the Natural Resources Board they would ask that it would also have Department of Natural Resources be included.                  Motion by Smaby second by Weiss to allow change in mission statement. Motion carried.                  They had a committee question entitled appropriate harvest and protection level (S) for native Buffalo fish.                  Question: would you support the WCC recommend the DNR and Natural Resources Board study the buffalo-fish specie to determine and establish appropriate levels of harvest protection within Wisconsin waters?                  Motion by Lobner second by Gunderson to reject. Discussion: this is a social problem and there is no information on over harvest. He stated District 6 opposed to this just because it says both fishing may be the cause. They recently conducted a tournament and department personnel were there and buffalo-fish were the least harvested.                  Larry Bonde: their concern was no one knows.                  DNR Meredith: they have no information on this issue and to the best of her knowledge there are no studies scheduled to take place.                  Kevin Smaby: there were concerns by the author that this could be a problem.                  Mike Rogers: Buffalo fish move around a lot.                  Paul Gettelman: the commercial fishermen on the Mississippi new focus on the buffalo-fish and they have trouble finding them, they are highly prized by the commercial fishing industry. Al Lobner: he feels there is a need to educate the public on what is a buffalo-fish.                  Larry Bonde: they just want a study, but the DNR is not concerned. Dale Maas: a study is making more sense, and that Buffalo being crowded out by the silver and big carp we will never know unless we look into it. We air on the side of caution we talk about West Nile and Grouse how is this different?                  Scott Gunderson: we depend on the DNR to show concern if they are dropping the ball then we should bring up the issue.                  Al Lobner: he talked to the vice president of both fishing groups and if bow fishing was taken out that they had no problem with the study. On the motion to reject motion carried by voice vote. Question rejected.</p> <p>The committee also wanted to reemphasize the issue with local bait harvest conditions. Motion by Smaby second by Larson to restate our position. Motion carried.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	As stated above.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**6. Warm Water Committee**

Joe Weiss

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Joe reviewed the warm water committee meeting offering the following questions:</p> <p>Reduced daily bag limits for Pan Fish on Big Eau Pleine Reservoir, Marathon County (370519).                  Would you support reducing the daily bag limit to 10 Pan Fish for the Big Eau Pleine Reservoir allowing the Pan Fish population to grow and ensure future fishing opportunities?                  Motion Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advanced</p> <p>Namekagon (NR) and St. Croix River (SCR) Smallmouth Bass and Musky minimum size and bag limit (070119, 580119).                  Would you support reducing the daily bag limit for Smallmouth Bass and Musky on the NR and SCR to 1 fish with a harvest minimum size of 18 inches for Smallmouth Bass and 50 inches for Musky?                  Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advance.</p> <p>Northern Pike limit on Wallace Lake, Washington County (670119).                  Would you support daily bag limit of two Northern Pike and no minimum length limit, except that all the northern pike between 25 to 35 inches must be released on Wallace Lake in Washington County?                  Motion by Weir second by Weiss to advance. Motion carried. Question advanced.</p> <p>Prohibit the use of privately owned fishing rafts on the Wolf River (200319).                  Would you support a ban on the use of private fishing rafts on the Wolf River?                  Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion failed. Question rejected.</p> <p>Protection of spawning walleyes and on the Wisconsin River from the Scott Street bridge-Wausau downstream to Prairie du Sac (720519).                  Would you support a change stating that from the first Monday in March to the general fishing opener, one walleye over 28 inches in length can be harvested per day? Upon the general fishing opener the current slot limits of 15-20 inches with one over 28 inches would be in effect?                  Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advanced.</p> <p>Avril, Presque Isle and Van Vliet Chain of Lakes muskellunge size limit increase (640519).</p>	
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	<p>Would you support a rule change to increase the minimum size limit for muskellunge on Avril, Presque Isle and Van Vliet lakes to 50 inches and a daily bag limit of one fish? Motion by Weiss second by Budnick to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.</p> <p>Pan Fish bag limits on Big Round Lake, Polk County (490119). Would you be in favor of reducing the daily bag limit to 10 Pan Fish in aggregate on Big rRund Lake? Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advance.</p> <p>Add Forest County to list of counties allowing for one line/lure per angler, three lines per boat max (210219). Would you support adding Forest County to the list of seven existing counties in northern Wisconsin with a one line/lure per person, three line maximum per boat ruling? Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance with the change of removing trolling in the right up. Motion carried. Question advances as amended.</p> <p>Requirement that all fishing and hunting rules and regulations apply to all license holders equally (200119). Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance removing regulations and inserting exceptions for certain users in the right up. Motion carried. Question advances as amended.</p> <p>Allow for underwater spearfishing in Forest County (210319). Would you support opening Forest County waters to underwater spearfishing for Pan Fish and rough fish? Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.</p> <p>Removal of largemouth bass size limits on Buckatabon Lakes, Vilas County (640619) this will be a 2 part question. Would you support the elimination of the size limit on largemouth bass on Buckatabon Lakes? Motion by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advances. Would you support a restrictive slot size limit of no minimum length, yet protective slot of 14-18 inches with 1/18 inches allowed for harvest on the Buckatabon Lakes? Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advance.</p> <p>Green Lake Pan Fish bag limit reduction, Washington County (670219). Do you support reducing the Pan Fish daily bag limits on Green Lake, Washington County, to a total daily bag limit of 10 Pan Fish? Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advances</p> <p>Change opening date of musky fishing season to the first Saturday of May in the northern zone, with the month of May being catch and release only (640319) Would you support a change in the musky season opener to the first Saturday in May, catch and release only through the month of May? Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	As stated above.
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**7. Legislative Committee**

Scott Gunderson

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Scott reported on the committees results on the following questions: Alternate funding sources to Fish and Wildlife account in addition to hunting, fishing and trapping licenses (110119). This will be a two-part question. Would you favor the Conservation Congress creating a committee to look into alternate funding other than license fees? Motion by Larson second by Taylor to reject. Motion carried. Question rejected. Would you favor the Legislature creating an alternative funding source in addition to licenses? Motion by Larson second by Smaby to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.</p> <p>Boating safety improvement on 50 to 70 acre lakes (020119). Would you favor the Wisconsin Conservation Congress working with the Legislature to change boating regulations to reflect fast boating only be allowed on lakes with 50 or more acres of usable surface water outside of the slow no wake zones? Motion by Weiss second by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.</p> <p>Establish a non--resident wild rice harvester license (040419). Would you favor the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, the Department of Natural rResources and the Legislature working together to establish a non-resident three day wild rice harvest license for the cost of \$30? Motion by Taylor second by</p>
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	Weiss to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.	
	Increase price of non-resident licenses and fees for bear and deer hunting (560119). Would you favor the Wisconsin Conservation Congress and the DNR working with the Legislature to increase non-resident deer in bear licenses? Motion by Gettelman second by Larson to break this out into two separate questions explaining nonresident deer and non-resident bear licenses. Motion carried. Two-part question to advance.	
	Return the use of back tag for deer hunting (020219, 260119). Do you favor the Wisconsin Conservation Congress working with the DNR and the Legislature to return the requirement of wearing a back tag for deer hunting? Motion by Lodner second by Taylor to reject. Motion carried. Question rejected.	
	Changes to trespassing laws and their enforcement (250119). Would you favor the DNR working with the Legislature to authorize wardens to investigate trespass complaints and issue citations when it involves recreational and natural read source trespassing? Motion by Blackmer second by Gettleman to advance. Motion carried. Question advanced.	
<b>ACTION</b>		
	<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**8. Rules and Resolutions Committee**

Tony Blattler

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Tony reported that the Rules and Resolutions Committee had two resolutions referred to them, both of those resolutions were rejected at the committee level and no action be taken at this time. It was also noted that the proposed changes for the Code of Procedure much of which were housekeeping were not available in time for the DLC to act on your DLC reviewed the proposed changes and there were some questions upon the use of vote yet but in some cases that word is the appropriate in other cases we would need to address it as input.	
<b>ACTION</b>	No action taken will be reviewed and acted upon at the next DLC meeting in January 2020	
	<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**9. Fur Harvest Committee**

Ed Harvey

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Ed Harvey gave his report on the following questions: Experimental badger season. (This is a committee question) Do you support a three-year experimental badger harvest to assess the sustainability of a badger season? Motion by Gettelman second by Maas to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.  Opening time of muskrat season, on public land only, on opening day of the muskrat season only (250219, 330119, 360519, 540119, 680219, 230319). Would you favor changing the opening time of muskrat from 12 midnight on opening day of the season only, and on public land only? Motion by Lobner second by Smaby to advance. Motion failed. Question rejected.  Record-keeping for wild animal sizes (150119, 150219). Do you support a legislative change which would create a measuring and record-keeping function in the Department of Natural Resources for large and small fur bearing animals? Motion by Weir second by Krueger to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.  Extend the late bobcat permit. To February 15 (520119). The late season ends on January 31, each year. The Fox season, and the coyote trapping season and on February 15. Do you support changing the closing date of the late bobcat permit to February 15, concurrent with the closing of Fox season, and the coyote trapping season? Motion by Larson second by Gunderson to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.  Changes starting date for the use of cable restraints (550219, 610219). Do you support a change which would allow the use of cable restraints and trapping fox, coyote and bobcats begetting the first day of the season for those species? Motion by Lobner second by Risley to reject after discussion the motion was withdrawn followed by a motion by Blattner second by Weiss to advance. Motion carried. Question advances.  Trapping navigable streams (370119). Do you support a change in the law to allow trapping, in addition to hunting and fishing, on navigable streams? Motion by Larson second by Ebert to advance. Motion carried. Question advance.	
<b>ACTION</b>	As stated above.	

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

**10. Online Input Committee**

Kari Lee Zimmerman

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Kari reported that the online input committee had met and reviewed possible changes for year two, the committee felt that regarding changes to the process used to receive input from the public on DNR and WCC questions committee recommends no significant change from 2019, but the following changes/improvements should be made to the current process: use of Survey Monkey to collect online input went well and was well received by both the public and the WCC, they believe there is always room for improvement.</p> <p>The OIC would still recommend the following for implementation in 2020:                  add a third option besides yes and no such as no opinion or not applicable. Changes to the RVN: incorporate the county code into the RVN but the website/link info for the survey on the paper with the RVN and make the RVN shorter and send fewer to each county.                  Test possibility of using a Scranton reader to tabulate the in-person input results to effect cost savings. Add information to the hearing officer scrips about using the RVN.                  Create signs/posters for each county to use to help identify the location of the hearings. Linking the DNR's background information to the questions online.                  There were two ideas that would need further consideration from department staff: requiring the hearing officer to use the presentation, and link in short videos on how to use the RVN.</p> <p>Resolution options:                  the online input committee felt strongly that the online submittal of resolutions would lead to better, more accurate information being presented to the public through the resolution process. Resolution submitted online could be accepted year-round and by reviewing the resolutions prior to having the public react to them, problems could be identified and solutions suggested. Online submittal of resolutions could be implemented in several ways or through a stepped approach. The committee offered three options on the resolution issue.                  Motion by Weir second by Roehrig to develop option 2 for review by the DLC. Motion carried.                  (Secretaries note for clarification this is the draft of option 2. Year one (20/20) online early submittal with deadline and counties to provide input-resolutions would be submitted online invented through the county for accuracy and problems that may be identified. There would be an online deadline so that resolutions for 2020 would be reviewed and uploaded for public viewing. Hard copies also be posted for in-person input at each counties hearing. Authors can still be required to be present. Resolutions brought to the hearing could be accepted, however the county chair would have to be clear about the numbering as those would follow the advanced submittals. This would be a good option to be used for a stepped approach moving towards online submittal only.                  Year two (2021)-online submittal only. A Code of Procedures change could be implemented to have all resolution submitted by a deadline prior to the spring hearings for review . This would allow for resolutions to be posted in advance of the spring hearing for review, but also added to the online input form for participants with RVN. There would be no in person taking of resolutions and if people in the county wanted to review and provide input on the resolutions, they could use the RVN and go online to view them. Note: resolutions deadline for both years will need to be near March 1, give counties enough time to review formatting, have edits made, and revised resolution resubmitted for posting publicly and at least two weeks prior to the spring hearing. (This is a draft for development and not acted on.)</p>
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<b>ACTION</b>	Internal development action only. No decision made.
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PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

**C. Spearing Carp During Sturgeon Season**

Larry Bonde

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Larry had submitted a resolution himself to the warm water committee referencing spearing carp on Lake Winnebago system during the spearing season. The warm water committee rejected the resolution request stating the DNR insist small carp are a good source of forage for game fish. Other opportunities exist to spear carp other than Sturgeon season.</p> <p>Joe Weiss and the Warm Water Committee were concerned that there was no county vote and no biological need. Larry stated that he had vetted this through Sturgeon committee and the head of fisheries and they could find no reason for this rule nor could law enforcement.</p> <p>Motion by Gettelman second by Weir to reconsider the resolution. Motion carried.</p> <p>Full question is as follows:                  currently the only body of water and time of year you cannot spear carp is on Lake Winnebago system during the Sturgeon spearing season. There are times when visibility is poor during the Sturgeon spearing season and there is a fair amount of large carp currently in the Winnebago system which does create a situation where a spear may be inadvertently in violation by spearing a carp.                  There have not been any biological or law enforcement issues identified to suggest this restriction is necessary.                  Would you support a rule change that would allow the legal spearing of carp during the Sturgeon spearing season for those who possess an unused Sturgeon spearing authorization on the Lake Winnebago system as long as the carp is removed from the lake</p>
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	and properly utilized according to current rule for taking of rough fish? There was motion by Gettelman second by Weir to advance to questionnaire. Motion carried. Question advances.
ACTION	As stated above.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

**D. Setting Dates For Committee Meetings A Year In Advance**

Dale Maas

DISCUSSION	Dale shared his frustration with the difficulties that many of the committees are having getting a quorum. He knows that a number of the committees Warm Water and Great Lakes actually schedule their meetings one year in advance. He wanted to have those meetings put on the Congress calendar so all candidates for committee assignments and or liaisons would be made aware and adjust calendars accordingly. When he asked about it he was told that there needs to be a formal action by the DLC so that's why he is bringing it up today. After discussion it was agreed that when the new 2020 calendar comes out committee meetings could be assigned at that time. There was a discussion on whether or not there was any wiggle room. Consensus was that this would at least be a good start in trying to alleviate some of the issues. There's no certainty that those dates are firm but they are a starting point. There was also discussion about not having multiple committee meetings on the same date and that this might ease some of those conflicts so those people that are on more than one committee do not have to choose which one they're going to attend.
ACTION	Informational only housekeeping issue.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

**III. MEMBERS MATTERS**

DISCUSSION	<p>Risley: feels we need to change the publics perception that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress as a representative of the Department of natural resources.</p> <p>Lobner: feels that District 6 should be allowed to have an additional delegate to the Great Lakes committee due to interest.</p> <p>Gunderson: he would like to make sure that the proposed resolutions be given out to the DLC before the day of the meeting. Kari said she will make that happen in the future. He also agreed that holding meetings on opening days of various events is not good, he thanked the chair for todays meeting since tomorrow would cause conflict on the handicapped and youth hunts.</p> <p>Brownell: he stated that his area had three CWD meetings for information and input. He was surprised that of the three meetings one was just for the Amish community and it wound up being the biggest and best attended of the three. He also reported that five of the politicians finally got involved, two attended and three at least sent his representative.</p> <p>Maas: thanked the committee for there position on setting meetings up to one year in advance and for those committees that can do that time will tel if it helps attendance. He reminded the delegates that he would not be available for the January 2020 DLC meeting and was willing to work with whoever volunteered to stand in for that meeting.</p> <p>Blattler: On the topic of Grouse if you have any issues please share them with the DNR. Also people under 30 to 35 years old did not know what we had for birds in the 70s and 80s and their basing grouse numbers off of their history not on the real history.</p> <p>Ebert: The Grouse issue is the same as discussed in other counties. The old growth forests have reduced habitat in his opinion. The NE Wisconsin Management Plan has added to reduction of habitat and is a concern for foresters in his District.</p> <p>Larson: The fall District meeting committee rosters of committees was causing difficulty and he was concerned that we were not communicating properly as information was showing up the evening of the meeting. He also questioned why the DNR upland game committee did not have a delegate from the Conservation Congress on it.</p> <p>Weir: thank you to all that took off work to attend it shows great dedication.</p> <p>Roehrig: District 5 meeting frustration on EAB, CWD and back tag issues. We need to find a way to get the public involved so they have better understanding.</p> <p>Bonde: thanks DLC for taking another look at the carp issue in the Warm Water committee for all their discussions.</p> <p>Motion by Maas Second by Rogers to adjourn. Motion carried.</p>
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<b>ACTION</b>	As stated.
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**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	<b>4:45 PM</b>
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	<b>Dale C Maas</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>10/15/2019</b>