# Wisconsin Conservation Congress
## Legislative Study Committee
### Meeting Minutes

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

| Saturday, August 10, 2013 | 9:00 AM | Plaza Hotel & Suites, 201 N. 17th Ave, Wausau, WI |

## I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

### A. CALL TO ORDER

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY** Alan Suchla (Chair) at 9:00 AM

### B. ROLL CALL

**ATTENDEES** Michael Hamm, Roger Wilson, Brook Wallen, Ben Loma (Secretary), Richard Krawze Sr., Lowell Suring, Chuck Boley, John Jones, George Bartels, Harold Drake, James Thomas, Claude Bohn, David Miller (Vice Chair), William Howe, David Breunig, Martin Sands, Tom Van Haren (DNR Liaison), Matt O’Brien (DNR Liaison), Mike Bruhn (DNR Liaison)

**EXCUSED** Paul Shaurette, Jayne Meyer, Mark Kropotich

**UNEXCUSED**

**GUESTS** Jean Voss, Carol Schmidt, Colleen Malmen, Carole Vande Walle, Robert Haase, Brad Hasheider, Gerald W. Clark, John Hoeffs, Barb Eisenberg, Miles Narveson, Ken Risley

### C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

**DISCUSSION** If possible take Citizen Resolutions in order of guest resolutions authors which were present at this meeting

**ACTION** Agreed

### D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

**DISCUSSION** The mission of the Legislative Committee of the Conservation Congress is to advise the legislature of the official positions of the Congress and to testify to such at legislative hearings and meetings: to review resolutions and legislation in order to advise and recommend positions to the members and leadership of the congress; and to work with the department of natural resources in the development and implementation of wildlife, habitat and conservation legislation and administrative rules

**ACTION** Drake moved approval as presented, seconded by Thomas, motion carried by voice approval

### E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

**DISCUSSION** (No public comments were given)

**ACTION** NA

## II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

### A. (II., A. 1) ABOLISH HUNTING AND TRAPPING IN STATE PARKS 130213

**JEAN VOSS - AUTHOR**

**DISCUSSION** Resolution read by Chair. Voss spoke on behalf of her authored resolution. A motion to reject by Drake and 2nd by Miller. Discussion by Drake, Wilson, Howe, Hamm, Boley, Walalen, Thomas, Van Haren and Bruhn

**ACTION** Motion to REJECT was approved by voice approval
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<tr>
<th>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</th>
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<tr>
<td>No Action – Author was present for discussion</td>
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**B. (II., A. 11) RETURN TO PRE-ACT 168 LEVELS OF HUNTING, TRAPPING, FISHING IN STATE PARKS (150313)**

[AUTHORS - CAROL SCHMIDT, COLLEN MALMEN, CAROLE VANDE WALLE]

**DISCUSSION**
Resolution read by Chair, Carole Vande Walle spoke on behalf of their resolutions, A motion to reject by Thomas and 2nd by Miller. Discussion by Wilson, Breunig, Loma, Thomas, Waalen Boley.

**ACTION**
Motion to REJECT was approved by voice approval

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**C. (II., A. 2) ESTABLISH A SENIOR RESIDENT CONSERVATION PATRON LICENSE (200113)**

ROBERT HAASE – HAD LEFT MEETING

**DISCUSSION**
Resolution read by Chair, Motion to Approve by Wilson and 2nd by Miller. Discussion by Howe, Bohn, Miller and Drake

**ACTION**
Motion to APPROVE was passed by voice approval

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**D. (II. A. 4.) GIVE AUTHORITY TO WARDENS TO ENFORCE TRESPASS LAWS (NR RELATED INCIDENTS) (570113)**

BRAD HASHEIDER - AUTHOR

**DISCUSSION**
Resolution read by Chair, Hasheider spoke on behalf of his authored resolution. Motion to Approve by Thomas and 2nd by Miller. Discussion by Thomas, Miller, Drake, Krawze, Loma, Waalen, Boley

**ACTION**
Motion to APPROVE was passed by voice approval

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**E. (II. A. 3.) FAIR PAY, FAIR TAKE POLICY - WILDLIFE PROTECTION LICENSES (130413)**

NO PERSON CAME FOURTH TO MAKE A PRESENTATION

**DISCUSSION**
Resolution read by Chair, Motion to Reject by Hamm and 2nd by Bohn. Discussion by Miller, Drake, Suring

**ACTION**
Motion to REJECT was passed by voice approval

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**F. (II. A. 5.) INCREASE FINES FOR DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE (710213)**

AUTHOR – GERALD W. CLARK

**DISCUSSION**
Resolution read by Chair, Clark spoke on behalf of his authored resolution. Motion to Reject by Howe & Krawze. Discussion by Wilson, Hamm, Miller, Bohn, Thomas, Drake, Public – Carol Schmidt, Wilson, Waalen, Krawze, Boley

**ACTION**
Motion to Reject – Fails by hand vote 5 –12, Motion to accept by Suring and 2nd by Wilson, Motion to ACCEPT passed by hand vote 12 - 6

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G. (II. A. 6.) INCREASE LICENSE FEE TO FUND MACKENZIE CENTER (110413) NO PERSON CAME FOURTH TO MAKE A PRESENTATION

**DISCUSSION**
Resolution read by Chair. Motion to Accept by Miller and 2nd by Howe. Discussion by Miller, Howe, Bruhn, Waalen.

**ACTION**
Miller draws his motion to Accept and was passed by voice approval. Motion to REJECT make by Wilson and 2nd by Miller. Motion to REJECT passed by voice approval.

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**
Chair, Alan Suchla will contact Author about Rejection of Resolution

**DEADLINE**
Chair will provide notice to Author by August 31, 2013

H. (II. A. 7.) LAWS FOR UNCASED FIREARMS/BOW IN MOTORIZED VEHICLE DURING OPEN SEASON (590213) JOHN HOEFFS - AUTHOR

**DISCUSSION**
Resolution read by Chair. Hoeffs spoke on behalf of his authored resolution. Motion to Reject by Krawzee and 2nd by Thomas. Discussion by Miller, Breuning, Wilson, Hamm, Thomas, Loma

**ACTION**
Motion to REJECT passed by voice approval

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**
No Action – Authors were present for discussion

**DEADLINE**
NA

I. (II. A. 9.) REPEAL THE WOLF HUNT – ACT 169 (410313) BARB EISENBERG – AUTHOR

**HANDOUT PROVIDED** (SEE ATTACHED)

**DISCUSSION**
Resolution read by Chair. Eisenberg spoke on behalf her authored resolution. Motion to Accept by Bohn and 2nd by Thomas. Discussion by Wilson, Miller, Boley, Loma, Krawze, Thomas, Waalen, Wilson, Bohn, Suring.

**ACTION**
Motion to REJECT passed by voice approval

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**
No Action – Authors were present for discussion

**DEADLINE**
NA

J. (II. A. 8.) RAISING NON-RESIDENT FISHING LICENSE FEES (710113) NO PERSON CAME FOURTH TO MAKE A PRESENTATION

**DISCUSSION**
Resolution read by Chair. Motion to Pass by Bruing and 2nd by Bartels. Discussion by Krawze, Loma, Miller, Bohn, Howe, Breuning, Boley, Hamm, Bartels.

**ACTION**
Motion to PASSED by a hand vote 9-7

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**
Chair, Alan Suchla will contact Author about Passing of Resolution

**DEADLINE**
Chair will write question for Spring Hearing Questionnaire and forward to Kari Lee-Zimmermann by October 1st to get on January Agenda for Exec Council agenda

K. (II. A. 10.) RETRIEVAL OF HUNTING DOGS FROM PROPERTY WITHOUT LANDOWNER PERMISSION (230113, 250113, 330113, 540313) MILES NARVESON AND KEN RISLEY - AUTHORS

**DISCUSSION**
Resolutions read by Chair. Narveson spoke on behalf thier authored resolution. Motion to Accept by Bruing and 2nd by Drake. Presentation by Risley & Narueson. Discussion by Wilson, Krawze, Boley, Loma, Bohn, Suring, Thomas, Miller

**ACTION**
Motion to ACCEPT passed by voice approval
**L. (II. A. 12.) TREAT MINOR CHILDREN OF MILITARY PERSONNEL AS RESIDENTS (470213)**

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<th>DISCUSSION</th>
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<td>ACTION</td>
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**NO PERSON CAME FOURTH TO MAKE A PRESENTATION**

**M. (II. B.) 1. 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UNDATE 2. PRIORITIES FOR 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

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<tr>
<th>DISCUSSION</th>
<th>Fish hatchery update, New Walleye hatchery program update, Elk update,</th>
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<tr>
<td>MIKE BRUHN - DNR</td>
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**III. MEMBERS MATTERS**

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<th>DISCUSSION</th>
<th>Most committee delegates &amp; DNR Liaisons had no comments. Suchla (chair) addressed the ammo, situation to the delegates &amp; to the DNR about our inability to purchase .22 rim fire or hunting ammo, on how this could effect hunting license purchases. If you can not buy hunting ammunition, how can we manage our wildlife population or take our youth to the shooting range to practice</th>
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<td>ACTION</td>
<td>None</td>
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**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

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<th>Motion to Adjourn make by Wilson and 2nd by Wilson at 2:30 PM</th>
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<tr>
<td>SUBMITTED BY</td>
<td>Ben Loma</td>
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<tr>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>August 10, 2013</td>
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Attachment – handout / present read by Barb Eisenberg in her presentation
Legislative Committee Meeting August 10, 2013---Public Comment

I am here to urge the Legislative Committee to accept and forward Resolution 410313 - Repeal the Wolf Hunt- Act 169. I came from Milwaukee today because of the importance of this issue and because the majority of Wisconsin residents are unable to attend or unaware of the meeting. I spoke at the Natural Resources Board meeting in July 2012 where there was standing room only. I have seen the high level of interest in this issue in which Wisconsin is the center of attention and is leading the discussion on how we want to manage our wolf population.

Act 169, the legislation that made a wolf hunt mandatory in Wisconsin moved through the legislature quickly with very little time for public input. There is no biological reason for a wolf hunt. I know of no research that shows that a wolf season has ANY effect on depredation and it may, in fact increase the likelihood of depredation by leaving young wolves without the adult supervision in learning how to hunt and how to avoid conflicts with humans.

Why is the data being disregarded on previously employed non-lethal methods of reducing depredation on livestock and other animals? How many farmers have learned techniques such as hazing, the use of herding dogs, motion sensitive lights and protective enclosures for their livestock? How effective have those techniques been? How many hunters have been educated on the social structure of wolf packs and the changes in behavior that occur during the year depending on the life stage of the pups and the parents?

Depredation is and has always been addressed through removal of specific, individual wolves found to be a threat to livestock, and by educating farmers and hunters on how to prevent depredation. Professor Treves, a wolf management and public policy researcher here in Wisconsin, has developed a risk map that predicted 92% of future livestock depredations, but it seems so far his research has not been used to shape wolf management policy. Why isn’t this information being used to take specific actions to prevent these depredations?

I have a degree in Biological Aspects of Conservation, so I understand the importance of large predators, such as wolves, in ecosystems. I urge you to examine the science carefully. We have proven methods of dealing with depredation. There are numerous other hunting opportunities and there is no research to suggest that a hunt will prevent depredation.

Most importantly, it has been years since the question of a wolf hunt has been posed at the Spring Hearing. The majority of Wisconsin voters have not been fully informed of the implications of this issue on our wildlife resources.

To live in a state where an essential predator, the wolf, that has been admired and respected for so long in Wisconsin, is made a target such a short time after it is taken off the threatened species list leaves in question our role and status in conservation. I urge you to accept and forward Resolution 410313 for a statewide vote at the annual meeting.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Barb Eisenberg, 1246 E. Chambers Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212, 414-372-5785