Wisconsin Conservation Congress
Executive Council Meeting Minutes

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Rob Bohmann at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

WEISS, OLSON, BROWN, LARSON, WIELOCH, LOMA, ELLINGSON, ACHEHNBRENNER, SABY, SUCHLY, BROWELL, MAAS, SPLITT, MILLER, BONDE, FAHRNEY, ROGERS, RISLEY, PHelan, SHOOK, KUHR, BOHMANN, HENNICH

ATTENDEES

WEISS, OLSON, BROWN, LARSON, WIELOCH, LOMA, ELLINGSON, ACHEHNBRENNER, SABY, SUCHLY, BROWELL, MAAS, SPLITT, MILLER, BONDE, FAHRNEY, ROGERS, RISLEY, PHelan, SHOOK, KUHR, BOHMANN, HENNICH

EXCUSED

PUHL

UNEXCUSED

N/A

GUESTS

KARI-LEE ZIMMERMANN, ADAM LINDSEY, NUMEROUS DNR EMPLOYEES

B. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION

ITEM II B - Mike Staggs will present

ACTION

Agenda approved by voice vote

D. CHAIRMANS UPDATE

Rob - would like to see a couple more committees established (total of 20 or so) to enable more delegates to be assigned to a committee. Committee members be sure to report what transpired at their meeting to the WCC delegates. BONDE - Discussion of Strategic Plan - compromise, role of two new exec committee positions, communication, restructuring of districts (no action yet), YCC started (questions still on roles and responsibilities, length of terms etc.) WCC involvement with implementing Kroll Report, Fisheries involvement with WCC coordinated by Ron Bruch, powerpoint developed for use to advertise WCC, brochures available too, WCC info added to DNR reg books etc. ROB - committees be sure to get questions and minutes to Kari ASAP. New policy is within 30 days of your meeting or you will not be reimbursed for your expenses. Establish a training day in June for committee chairs etc. Review committee assignment forms. Fill out at the Spring District meetings. Hand in at convention so all delegates know when they leave the convention, what committee they will serve on. Next 3 conventions will be held at the Stony Creek Inn. Districts will rotate hosting the event. Deer and Turkey expo needs more participation. Pheasant fest next month in Milwaukee. Passes available for exec council members. YCC needs representatives from every district. Work with your delegates. This year will be our 80th convention. Maas will work on gun board. WCC Liaison report - Kari - get your info in on time and date for Spring meetings, will post NLT 1 Feb. PDF travel voucher now available on-line. PDQ’s should be available soon on-line. Voting machines have been purchased for use during spring hearings. CD/DVD available to play at district meetings for delegate training.

ACTION

ROB - DNR committee membership for delegates will be reassigned each year at the convention.

INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS

DISCUSSION

LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE WILL BE COVERED TOMMORROW
FISHERIES UPDATE - Mike Staggs

ACTION

Angler retention - stable numbers. Population grows but number of anglers remains the same. Trends in participation of younger generation not increasing. Being with friends and family is the most
Important reason for participating. Free fishing weekends in summer and winter. Web info available for reg and lake specific info. Walleyes are the most important game fish. 60% dissatisfied with size, 73% dissatisfied with numbers. Spearing is NOT the reason for decline. Poor reproduction is the culprit. 84% of harvest is naturally reproduced. Wisconsin Walleye Initiative has begun. 440,401 large fingerlings stocked in 100 lakes. 80% of total fish harvest in Wis. Is panfish. Panfish Management plan in progress to address concerns. Trout regulation review is underway. What is the goal? How do we get there? Working with Trout Study Committee (Joanna Griffin is new liaison to study committee). Money available for obtaining easements on streams and lakes. 100 stream miles is the goal. Pick focus areas, do generic appraisal.

WILDLIFE UPDATE – Tom Hauge


Lunch Break ; reconvened at 13:04 p.m.

DNR SECRETARY UPDATE- Cathy Stepp

Walleye Initiative is a huge endeavor. Questions concerning managing on the “science” side of things. Important to manage the people who are our partners. Not acceptable to “dump data” on our customers. Must explain “why” and reasons that make sense. Use social media to engage the public., Get more info available to the public. Public Lands Access book available now on – line.

INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

2014 DNR Spring Hearing Questions MIKE STAGGS, TOM HAUGE,

FISHERIES-


WILDLIFE-


ACTION

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE DEADLINE

DISCUSSION

CHERISH WISCONSIN – THIEDE Outdoor fund, signed by the Governor, to establish an endowment fund for habitat management on state land. Natural Resource Foundation is our “partner”. People can donate through license fees. Spin off up to 5% per year from fund to use on various projects.

FISHERIES PARTNERSHIP INIATIVE - RON BRUCH

Discussion on the formation of a Fisheries Advisory Council (working with the WCC to create and facilitate a statewide stakeholder group) that would advise the Fisheries Management Board on statewide fisheries management and regulation issues. WCC would have at least two members on the council.

MACKENZIE ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER: CITIZEN RESOLUTION 110113

Motion to REMOVE FROM TABLE by SHOOK, second by MAAS discussion

Motion to REJECT by MAAS, second by MILLER Motion CARRIES by voice vote
TUNDRA SWAN SEASON: CITIZEN RESOLUTIONS 050112, 200412, 630112, 670812, 680112
Motion to REMOVE FROM TABLE by HENNICH, second by MAAS
discussion
Motion to ADVANCE by SHOOK, second by HENNICH
discussion
Friendly amendment by BONDE to remove "we have" in 2nd sentence paragraph 2
vote on motion as amended to advance. Motion CARRIES by voice vote.

REMOVE YELLOW PERCH AS LAKE MICHIGAN COMMERCIAL SPECIES: CITIZEN RESOLUTION 410113
Motion to REJECT by MILLER, second by BONDE
discussion - Yellow Perch are currently not harvested commercially and have not been since 1997. Question is a
mute point as the season is closed.
Motion CARRIES by voice vote

PROPOSED WCC ADVISORY QUESTIONS
FUR HARVEST
9. Elimination of trapping hour restrictions (050113, 310113) – motion to ADVANCE by HENNICH, second by MAAS.
Motion CARRIES by voice

10. Remove otter and fisher permit application fee from patron license benefits (360113)
Motion to REJECT by SHOOK, second by PHELAN. Motion CARRIES by voice.

11. Trapper Education requirements for landowners (540113).
Motion to ADVANCE with suggested changes on screen by BONDE, second by MAAS.
Motion CARRIES by voice

12. Trapper education requirements (540113)
Motion to ADVANCE by MAAS, second by SHOOK. Motion FAILS.

13. Wisconsin Mentored Trappers License (060313, 140113, 180113, 320113, 360213, 430113, 540213, 620113, 720113, 140113, 620113, 720113).
Motion to REJECT by SHOOK, second by HENNICH. Motion CARRIES.

14. Hunting with lights for varmints, predators, and raccoon (290113)
Motion to REJECT by OLSON, second by LARSON. Motion CARRIES

WOLF
35. Wolf Trapper Education (500113). Motion to ADVANCE by BROWNELL, second by ROGERS. Friendly
amendment by BONDE to re-word. Motion CARRIES with suggested changes.

DEER AND ELK
1. Wanton Waste of Big Game Animals (060213). Motion to ADVANCE by PHELAN, second by SHOOK. Motion FAILS. Motion to REJECT by OLSON, second by HENNICH. Motion CARRIES.

2. Antler Point Restictions in Barron and Polk Counties (030213, 490513). Motion to ADVANCE by PHELAN, second by LARSON. Motion FAILS.

3. Archery Antlerless Tags in Regular Units (450113). Motion to REJECT by SHOOK, second by SPLITT. Motion CARRIES.

4. Provide Additional Deer Registration Process Opportunities (680113). Motion to REJECT by SHOOK, second by WEILOCH. Motion FAILS. Motion to ADVANCE by FAHRNEY, second by LARSON. Motion CARRIES.

5. White Deer Protection in CWD Zones (570213). Motion to ADVANCE by SHOOK, second by PHELAN. Motion CARRIES.

DISCUSSION BY ED HARVEY ON RE-WRITE OF FUR HARVEST RESOLUTION FOR TOMMORROW.
Dinner Break: 17:30. re-convene 18:30.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY
6. Terrestrial Invasive Plants (440213). Motion to REJECT by MILLER, second by SHOOK. Motion CARRIES.

7. Education on Managing Lead at Shooting Ranges (040313). Motion to ADVANCE by SHOOK, second by SMABY. Friendly amendment by BONDE to amend to question format on screen. Motion CARRIES.

8. Climate Change Education (500313). Motion to REJECT by FAHRNEY, second by MILLER. Motion CARRIES.

GREAT LAKES
15. Re-instate Northern Pike Ice Spearin on WI/MI Boundary Waters (150113, 380113). Motion to REJECT by Aschenbrenner, second by BONDE. Motion CARRIES.

LAND USE
16. Adequate Free Access to Waterways (710413). Motion to ADVANCE by SHOOK, second by LOMA. Motion CARRIES.

17. Open all Wisconsin Department of Transportation Mitigation Lands. Motion to refer back to Land Use Committee by BOHMHANN, second by PHELAN. Motion CARRIES.

LEGISLATIVE
18. Establish a Senior Resident Conservation Patron License (200113). Motion to ADVANCE by MILLER, second by SHOOK. Motion CARRIES.
19. Give Authority to Wardens to Enforce Trespass Laws Related to Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Activities (570113). Motion to REJECT by PHELAN, second by ELLINGSON. Motion CARRIES.
20. Increase Fines for Dogs Running at Large (710213). Motion to REJECT by RISLEY, second by ROGERS. Motion CARRIES.
21. Raising Non-Resident Fishing License Fees (710113). Motion to REJECT by BONDE, second by ASCHENBRENNER. Motion CARRIES.
22. Retrieval of Hunting Dogs from Property Without Landowner Permission (230113, 250113, 330113, 540313). Motion to ADVANCE by ROGERS, second by LARSON. Friendly amendment by FAHRNEY to exclude "domestic animals" and replace with "Hunting dog". Motion CARRIES with amendments.
23. Treat Minor Children of Military Personnel as Residents (470213). Motion to REJECT by BONDE, second by MMS. Motion CARRIES.
24. Mallard Hen Limit . Motion to ADVANCE by SHOOK, second by HENNLICH. Motion CARRIES.
25. Protective Slot Limit for Mississippi River Walleye Harvest (120113). Motion to ADVANCE by SMABY was retracted. Motion to ADVANCE 2ND PART by BONDE, second by SMABY. Motion CARRIES.
26. Darkhouse Spearing on W/MINN Boundary Waters (150213, 310213, 320413, 380213). Motion to REJECT by BONDE, second by ASCHENBRENNER. Motion CARRIES.
27. Prevent non-resident novice hunters from applying for LTH (440113). Motion to ADVANCE by OLSON, second by SMABY. Amended by Kari with rewording on screen. Motion CARRIES with proposed changes.
28. Shooting Program for Youth and Parents/mentors. Motion to REJECT AND SEND BACK TO OUTDOOR HERITAGE by HENNLICH, second by SHOOK. Motion CARRIES
29. Support for the Wisconsin Outdoor Education Expo. Motion to ADVANCE by MAAS, second by SHOOK. Motion CARRIES
30. Increase WI Inland Waters Trout Stamp Fee. Motion to ADVANCE by BONDE, second by KUHR. Amended by BONDE to add wording on screen. Motion CARRIES.
31. Reduce Bluegill Bag Limit on Otter Lake, Chippewa County (090113). Motion to ADVANCE by BROWN, second by OLSON. Motion CARRIES.
32. Eliminate the Size Limit on Northern Pike on Lake Alpine, Waushara County (700113). Motion to ADVANCE by WEISS, second by OLSON. Motion CARRIES.
33. Reduce Daily Bag Limit and Institute a 10" Minimum size Limit on Crappies on Palmer and Tenderfoot Lakes, Vilas County (640513). Motion to ADVANCE by LOMA, second by BONDE. Motion CARRIES.
34. Streamlining Local Fish Rule Changes (040113). Motion to ADVANCE by OLSON, second by WEISS. Motion CARRIES.
35. Transferring of License or Permits. Motion to ADVANCE by MAAS, second by PHELAN. Amendments include re-wording on screen. Motion CARRIES BY HAND COUNT.
36. 2ND Amendment and Gun Control. Motion to REJECT by BONDE, second by ROGERS. Motion CARRIES.
37. Resolution to Support Statewide Harvest of White Deer. Motion by BONDE to ADVANCE., second by SMABY. Motion FAILS.

Resolution by PHELAN regarding statewide motor trolling. NO ACTION TAKEN. INFO ONLY.

CODE OF PROCEDURES CHANGES, STUDY COMMITTEE
MISSION STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Changes to COP: all motions are to ADVANCE
5A – BONDE, second ELLINGSON. CARRIES
8 – BONDE, second LARSON. CARRIES
7C-17 – BONDE, second FAHRNEY. CARRIES
7D – BONDE, second MAAS. CARRIES with amendment by BONDE
7E – BONDE, second LARSON. CARRIES
7I – BONDE, second HENNINICH. CARRIES
8B – BONDE, second FAHRNEY. CARRIES. PHELAN amends to include “displays”.

ASCHENBRENNER amends to include displays at hearings.
10E-5 – BONDE, second SMABY. CARRIES
14C – BONDE, second SMABY. CARRIES

STUDY COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENTS
Environmental Study Comm. Amended. Motion to send back to committee by BONDE, second by FAHRNEY. Motion CARRIES.

Fur Harvest amended. Motion to ADOPT by MAAS, second by SMABY. Motion CARRIES.

Land Use amended. Motion to REJECT by BONDE, second by ROGERS. Motion CARRIES. Leave Statement as is.

Outreach and Public Relations amendment. Motion to ADOPT by MAAS, second by LOMA. Motion CARRIES.

Upland Game amendment. Motion to ADOPT by WEILOCH, second by RISLEY. Motion CARRIES.

STUDY COMMITTEE REPORTS
Bear – Mike Rogers
Deer and Elk – Al Phelan
Great Lakes – Dale Maas.

Outreach and Public Relations – motion by FAHRNEY to send COP recommendations to Rules and Resolutions. Second by BONDE. Motion CARRIES

Rules and Resolutions – Motion by BONDE to create ad hoc shooting range committee. Second by MAAS. Motion CARRIES.

Trout – No action taken

Upland Game – Motion to change the name to “Turkey and Upland Game” by RISLEY. Second by MAAS. Motion CARRIES

DISCUSSION

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE

ACTION

DEADLINE

II. MEMBERS MATTERS

BROWN – appoint qualified committee secretary's
LARSON – commend DNR on adding Frac sand mining oversight
OLSON – new land use secretary needed.
MILLER – to politically correct when appointing committee members
SMABY – unexcused committee attendance discussion
ASCHENBRENNER – Bow hunters rights have expanded
ELLINGSON – Elk herd and iron mine discussion
WEILOCH – untruths in resolutions, lack of personal responsibility, hunters safety on-line prevents one on one exposure.
LOMA – nameplates at meetings. Introduce resolution concerning terrestrial invasive plants. Motion to reconsider this resolution by MAAS, second by LARSON. Motion to ADVANCE by LOMA, second by LARSON. Motion CARRIES.
HENNINICH – Migratory committee tebled issues due to personal agendas.
KUHR – resolve more at committee level. Too many resolutions rejected.
SHOOK – Motion to reconsider question 13, second by PHELAN. Motion CARRIES. Motion to ACCEPT resolution as re written on screen, second by MILLER. Motion CARRIES.

Resolutions continue to get through the system even in improper format.
PHELAN – Motion to request executive committee reauthorize animal "AG DAMAGE" committee, second by ROGERS. Motion CARRIES
RISLEY – request more district 10 representation on wolf committee.
SPLITT – concern for rejection of so many resolutions.
MAAS – district level training. election of delegates be monitored by reliable people (wardens or other uninterested parties), concerns over selling previously purchased stewardship lands.
BROWNELL – require authors to attend committee meetings. Police ourselves to respect others.
SUCHLA – Where is sandhill crane legislation going?
FAHRNEY – issue of rejecting questions. Improve vetting system.
WEISS – poor attendance at warm water meeting. Need better vetting of committee members when assigning.

BONDE – Motion to reconsider and add definition of “white deer” by SHOOK, second by PHELAN. Motion CARRIES. Motion to add definition by BONDE, second by ROGERS. Motion CARRIES

BOHMANN – add “motorized recreational vehicle” committee. Write questions in proper format and submit to Kari within 30 days of committee meeting.

INTRODUCE TODD SCHALLER (New Chief Warden)

18 wardens hired in 2013. Boots on the ground in Mar-April this year. 13 more hired starting 13 Jan. 14 in training.

Get dates and times to Kari this week reference district spring meetings.

District 2 will “host” convention this year.

District 4 next year

District 11 and 12 the following.

III. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED 10:50:00 AM

SUBMITTED BY Joe Weiss, Secretary WCC

DATE 01/18/14