Wisconsin Conservation Congress
Bear Committee
Meeting Minutes

ORDER OF BUSINESS

12/5/2015 | 9:00 AM | Mead Education Center

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Mike Rogers at 9:00 AM

B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES
Dave Mabie, Gary Mabie, Jeff Thums, Mike Pfankuch, Arlen Heistad, Russ Hitz, Scott strook, Denny Jones, Chris Wegner, Bruce Prentice, Connie Kadubek, David Lois, Robb Kaminski, Randy Voegeli, Dan Vacho, Eugene Muench, Ralph Fritsch, Dale Detampel, Kelly Crotty DNR LE, Dave MacFarland, Al Lobner, Mike Rogers, Kari Lee-Zimmermann

EXCUSED
Mike Murphy, Nathan Roberts

UNEXCUSED
Jerry Huston, Jim Young, Terry Olson,

GUESTS
Laurie Groskopf, Matt Lallemont, Carmen Heard, Diane Cain, Karen Pennekamp, Rod Coronado, Keri Lewis, Agatha Maksymiak, Hans-Jurg Schaller, Frances Lauper, Melanie Weberg

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION None

ACTION None

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION Current Mission Statement was read by Mike Rogers.

ACTION Motion to accept as currently written by Al Lobner, 2nd by Connie Kadubek.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION Public comments were given by Laurie Groskopf, Rod Coronado, Melanie Weberg, Karen Pennekamp, Keri Lewis.

ACTION None

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. APPLYING FOR BEAR TAG 510215

Resolution was read by author. Resolution would take legislative action to be implemented. There was significant discussion from the committee regarding implementation and amendments to the currently written resolution.

ACTION Motion was made to approve motion by Dave Mabie and 2nd by Russ Hitz. Motion passed with amendments from Committee and approval of the author. See attached revised Resolution.
B. BEAR PREFERENCE POINT PRICE INCREASE 050215  

**DISCUSSION**  
The original author (Mathew Denis) of this resolution was not present. The resolution was read by Chairman Rogers. Resolution is statutory and would require legislative action. After significant discussion motion was brought to a vote.

**ACTION**  
Motion was made to approve motion as read by Russ Hitz and 2nd by Dave Lois. Motion to forward as written was passed with Ralph Fritsch opposed.

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**  

**DEADLINE**  

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C. BEAR BAITING PERIOD DECREASE 270215  

**DISCUSSION**  
Author of resolution was present and presented the resolution 270215.

**ACTION**  
Motion made to reject by Al Lobner and 2nd by Russ Hitz. Resolution rejected by Committee with Bruce Prentice abstaining.

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**  

**DEADLINE**  

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D. DEPARTMENT INFORMATION REPORT.  

**DAVE MACFARLAND PRESENTATION**  

Dave MacFarland presented some information regarding the Tetracycline study which leaves some question if the Department will be allowed to use tetracycline and if not what product can be used. Currently Minnesota has transitioned to a different process that they feel is more reliable than tetracycline. There is also some thought of collaring bears again for Wisconsin.

Dave also presented the harvest information for this year regarding age, sex, zones, method of kill, and success rates. Tribal harvest of bears was 35-38 bears for this year. Aphis damage report was given along with complaints and Agricultural complaints which were up this year.

Bear Populations by zone were discussed. Tooth submissions were down this year because of electronic registration. Registration process was confusing for some. Quota recommendations were submitted by the DNR Bear Committee. A motion was made by Mike Pfankuch and 2nd by Connie Kadubek to support DNR Committee recommendations. Motion carried with opposition by Ralph Fritsch.

Russ Hitz suggested that the Department look at a plan that is used to distribute hunters as it is done for deer hunting for bear hunting as well. Dave MacFarland informed us that it is a possibility but will not happen this year, the reason being that the Bear Plan would need to be reviewed and updated, and the department did not want to work on the Wolf Plan and the Bear Plan at the same time.

DNR Warden Kelly Crotty gave a report on Law Enforcement issues. Warden Crotty also reported on the Learn to Bear Hunt program as well as the Catch a Dream Hunt and other noteworthy organizations and hunts. Dave Mabie also talked about his LTBH encounters.

III. MEMBERS MATTERS  

**DISCUSSION**  
No comments given by Committee Members.

**ACTION**  
None

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IV. ADJOURNMENT  

**MEETING ADJOURNED**  
Motion by Dave Mabie 2nd by Denny Jones to adjourn. Motion carried. 12:30 PM

**SUBMITTED BY**  
Al Lobner

**DATE**  
12/5/2015
TITLE: APPLYING FOR A BEAR TAG

THE PROBLEM:

As more hunters are getting involved in bear hunting, it is taking longer to draw a harvest permit. Over the past several years there have been rule changes on how many years an applicant can miss and still retain their preference points. Knowing it could take up to 10 years to receive a harvest permit yearly applying can be missed.

Be it resolved, that the Conservation Congress at its Bear Study Committee Meeting held at the Mead Education Center on Dec. 5, 2015 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing a statutory rule change to allow hunters to apply for 6 years at a time for preference points or a harvest permit.

David Mabie
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Dave Mabie

Resolution #510215