Wisconsin Conservation Congress
BEAR COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes

ORDER OF BUSINESS
Dec. 3, 2016  9:00 AM  Mead Wildlife Visitor Center

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES  Dan Vacho, Gene Muensch, Scott Sinz, Chris Wegner, Jeff Thums, Rob Kaminskas, David Lois, Dale Detampel, Chandra Stafford, Bruce Prentice, Mike Murphy, Arlen Heistad, Scott Strook, Dennis Jones, Dave Mabie, Connie Kadubek, Gary Mabie, Bob Knorr, Mike Pfankuch, Scott Lettman, Kelly Crotty, Jeff Johnson, Nathan Roberts, Dave McFarland, Mike Schmit.

EXCUSED  Keiran Kramer, Terry Roehrig.

UNEXCUSED  Steven Berger


C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION  None

ACTION

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION  Motion by Mike Murphy to approve as written 2nd by Dale Detampel. Motion passed unanimously.

ACTION  Mission Statement was read and approved as written.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION  Laurie Groskoph spoke on wolves and her experience at the Wolf Summit held in Minnesota. Ralph Fritsch spoke on some legislation with regard to people crossing railroads.

ACTION  Ralph also passed around a petition to allow sportsmen to cross railroads to access hunting areas.

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. EARLY BEAR SEASON SOUTH OF HWY 10

RES 470216

STEVEN BERGER

DISCUSSION  Resolution read by Mike Rogers. Discussion included Treaty Rights, legal issues, and safety issues.

ACTION  Motion to reject by Mike Murphy 2nd by Jeff Thums. Motion passed unanimously.

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE  Mike Rogers

DEADLINE  Mike Rogers will advise author of results
B. ZONE E SOUTH OF 10
RES 700216

LARRY FLYTE

DISCUSSION
Author explained his situation and the reason why he would like an earlier season with a separate Zone E.

ACTION
Motion to approve with friendly amendment by Mike Murphy and 2nd by Connie Kadubek. The author was ok with the friendly amendment and resolution passed unanimously.

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
Author was present and knows that the resolution is headed to the District Leadership Council in January.

C. BEAR PREFERENCE FOR YOUTH
RES 350216

MATT LALLEMONT

DISCUSSION
Several issues were discussed and most importantly was that it would take legislative action to implement this resolution. After a lengthy discussion followed the committee advised the author to rewrite the resolution next year and include some answers and guidelines to the questions that came up at this meeting.

ACTION
Motion to reject by Mike Murphy and 2nd by Bob Knorr. Motion passed unanimously.

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
Author was advised on the next steps to bring this back next year.

D. SEPTEMBER 1 OPENER
RES 030216

CHAIR MIKE ROGERS

DISCUSSION
There was a discussion and some other alternatives were brought forward on how to help solve some of these problems for bait sitters. One of those suggestions was make it a latter closure such as October 31.

ACTION
Motion to reject by Mike Murphy 2nd by Chris Wegner passed unanimously.

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
Mike Rogers will call author.

E. SHORTEN WAIT TIME/REDUCE SUCCESS RATE
RES 480116

CHAIR MIKE ROGERS

DISCUSSION

ACTION

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
Mike Rogers will call author.

F. BEAR TAG LOTTERY RESOLUTION

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

DISCUSSION
Discussion centered around reasons that this resolution would not be fair to other bear hunters that currently have several years of preference.

ACTION
Motion to reject by Mike Murphy and 2nd by Scott Sinz. Passed unanimously.

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
Mike Rogers will call author.

Nathan Roberts spoke on what is currently happening within the research in regard to bears. A considerable amount of discussion was spent on what was going to be recommended to replace the Tetracycline Study. Currently there has not been a suitable replacement for that study but the department is hopeful that that replacement may be in place by spring.
Dave McFarland informed us on the results of the 2016 bear season as well as the damage report that he was given from USDA Wildlife Services. Dave also reviewed the situation occurring in the Grantsburg area.

Although the Bear Management Plan has been put on hold there have been requests to begin working on it again. The department had this project on hold until the new Wolf Management Plan could be completed. With the wolf season being put on hold due to relisting, some members of the Bear Committee requested that the effort to review the plan begin again. With that in mind the department has begun to gather information and to set a timeframe to complete that project.

The recommendation for Zone B was to increase the harvest to 900 bears which would allow for roughly 1275 bear permits. After significant discussion Ralph Fritsch made a motion to request the NRB increase that harvest number to 950 bears and Mike Pfankuch 2nd that motion. Motion passed with Bruce Prentice abstaining.

The recommendation for Zone C was to allow for a harvest similar to last year, with a harvest goal of 1300 bears. This would allow for roughly 7050 permits. A motion to pass was made by Mike Murphy and 2nd by Dave Lois. Motion passed.

The recommendation for Zone D was to allow for a harvest goal of 1600 bears which was similar to last year and would allow for 2600 permits. A motion to support this recommendation was made by Arlen Heistad and 2nd by Mike Murphy. Motion passed.

Dave McFarland spoke extensively on the Tetracycline study, how it works, what the replacement may be now that tetracycline can no longer be used and why the Federal Government has banned the use of tetracycline.

After Dave’s presentation Kelly Crotty gave us his report on Law Enforcement and what trends are taking place. The usual problems still exist and LE continues to educate residents on what the law is and/or better answers to these situations.

### III. MEMBERS MATTERS

| DISCUSSION | None |
| ACTION     | None |

### IV. ADJOURNMENT

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<tr>
<th>MEETING ADJOURNER</th>
<th>12:20 PM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUBMITTED BY</td>
<td>Al Lobner</td>
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<td>DATE</td>
<td>Dec. 3, 2016</td>
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Meeting Adjourned 12:20 PM

Submitted by Al Lobner

Date Dec. 3, 2016