# Wisconsin Conservation Congress
## Wolf Advisory Committee
### Meeting Minutes

<table>
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<th>ORDER OF BUSINESS</th>
<th>12/09/2017</th>
<th>1PM</th>
<th>Mead Wildlife Area Visitor Center</th>
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## I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS
### A. CALL TO ORDER

**Meeting called to order by**: Mike Riggle at 1PM

## B. ROLL CALL

**ATTENDEES**: Kevin Schanning, Guy Mcfarren, Jerald Huston, Jack Christenson, Mike Riggle, Matt Lallemont, Will Minette, Arden Loker, Richard Krawze, Bill Yingst, Jody Bigalke, Scott McAuley, Steve Nimmeman, Brad Martinson, Thomas Savage, Mike Rogers, Steve Staver, Lowell Wright, David Lois, DNR Dan Michels, DNR Jeff Pritzl

**EXCUSED**: DNR Nathan Roberts

**UNEXCUSED**: John Quall, John Piechowski

**GUESTS**: Senator Thomas Tiffany, Al Lobner, Larry Bonde

## C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

**DISCUSSION**: Allow Authors that are here to speak first and Let Senator Tiffany to speak when he arrives.

**ACTION**: Motion by M. Rogers and M. Lallemont, and approved

## D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

**DISCUSSION**: Read by Bill Yingst

**ACTION**: Motion to approve by M. Rogers and M. Lallemont, and approved

## E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

**DISCUSSION**: Al Lobner, wis. Bear Hunters Association read memo on resolution 410817, See Attachment

**ACTION**: Continued to Resolution 410817

## II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS
### A. Resolutions 620217, 410817

1. **Resolution 620217, Change Wolf application date**

   **DISCUSSION**: Bill Yingst read the resolution. A. Prudlick explained the reason for it. A motion to approve by S. McAuley and M. Lallemont, was made. The purpose is to change the application date to Dec. 10th like the Bear season so it would give the tag recipients more time to prepare for the hunt or training for trapping. If the Wolves were removed from the list before these dates, emergency rules could go into effect. There was concern that the min. numbers would not be out yet, but those could be adjusted to form the cut off time in harvest, and numbers could be adjusted like the bear in late Jan. J. Bigalke would like to see all tag applications be the same so it would be part of simplification.

   **ACTION**: All in favor to approve

   **PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

   **DEADLINE**

2. **Resolution 410817 Ban use of dogs from wolf hunting**

   **DISCUSSION**: Bill Yingst read the resolution. Mike Riggle read a statement from Gloriann Klein, (see attachment). A motion to reject was made by M. Lallemont, and M. Rogers. M. Riggle talked with G. Klein on the phone and the resolution was more about running bear with dogs then running wolves. She seems to think that the bear hunters get the wolves use to the dogs and to hunt wolves with dogs would put the dogs at risk. M. Rogers stated that the dogs are put on a lone track like coyote hunting and are trained to chase, not confront. Because of so little knowledge of hunting wolves with dogs and how most of the information and stats G. Klein gave, comes from hunting bear with dogs, this resolution should be rejected.

   **ACTION**: All in favor to reject

   **PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

   **DEADLINE**

   **Gloriann Klein (not present)**
B. Department information and updates

Jeff, district wildlife director

**DISCUSSION**
Jeff is the intern speaker for Dave McFarland's absence. The posting of his job is completed. Nathan Roberts is the carnivore specialist out of Rhinelander, but is on medical leave. Jeff stated that Nathan will have an alternative method of wolf counting strategy by the fall of 2018. The wolf minimum count is 925 to 956, and 232 packs. Wolf depredation is down from last year, last year, 2016, was a unusually high year. Jeff handed out depredation stats for 2017 and 2016. (see attachment). The department is hoping for the delisting so WI. can continue to manage the population and continue to develope the management plan. M. Riggle said that the management plan is 3/4’s done.

**ACTION** N/A

C. Law enforcement update

Dan Michels and Jeff Pritzl

**DISCUSSION**
Oneida county had an incident where a hunter shot a collard wolf during deer season, charges were filed. The city of Superior had a wolf that had become too accustomed to humans, and showed no fear. was trapped and euthanized after extensive discussion with US Fish and wildlife. 3 wolves were euthanized because of distemper this fall. A lone wolf by the willow flowage in Oneida county is starting to show up along side roads and not showing fear towards humans, they are monitoring this situation. Another incident with a collard wolf from Upper Michigan has moved down to Manitowoc and Kewaunee county and has lived through the deer-season on public land in Kewaunee county. Kewaunee and southern Door county will be part of the tracking blocks this year. M. Riggle wonders if there could be better ways for the DNR to let people know that wolves do disperse on their own to try to stop rumors that the DNR is moving them.

**ACTION** N/A

D. Senate Bill 602, Proposed legislation for regulating wolf management.

Senator Thomas Tiffany

**DISCUSSION**
M. Riggle read bill 602, Senator Tiffany spoke and took questions on the bill. Senator Tiffany talk about Idaho 6 years ago stopping all funding to wolf management and enforcement until the wolf is off the endangered species list in their state. They now have a wolf management plan in Idaho. This bill would not allow law enforcement and DNR to assist the US Fish and wildlife in any wolf incidents or management practices. But it would allow depredation money from the state. This bill would allow once the wolf is delisted in the state to go back to management. This would send a message to the Fed. Gov. and the courts use of the endangered species act, which we know that the wolf is no longer endangered in WI., has restrained the state from proper scientific management of the Wolf. This bill is not an idle threat, we worked hard to draft this bill. The bill has been referred to committee and hope to have a hearing on it in January. A motion by A. Leker and M. Lallemon to have this committee support bill 602, and bring this to the district leadership council for possible backing.

Senator Tiffany also talked about forest management in the fed forests and better management practices and wildlife practices that should be left up to the state.

**ACTION** The committee has voted in support of bill 602.

III. MEMBERS MATTERS
**DISCUSSION**

Scott McAuley: Would like to open zone 6 when harvest resumes to the entire wolf season as this zone is not good for a wolf population anyway. Something to talk about. Richard Krawze: Talked about this years deer season in northern forest county and how the amount of predators, not just the wolf are putting pressure on the wildlife and in turn putting pressure on the tourist industry, cabins for sale, people hunting other places. This is an issue that needs to be taken seriously. Jody Bigalke: Is a snowplow driver and is seeing more deer because of the CDAC. But because of the increase in deer numbers, the wolves have moved back also. Thomas Savage: Believes it is time for a management plan and believes this bill might be a step in the right direction, and believes that there is an undocumented management plan out that does no service to the public. Guy McFarland: The public needs to be more aware of the disease that come off of wolf scat, harmful to pets and humans. Bill Yingst: Has been in touch with a lot of congress and senator representatives about the wolf issue in wis. and asked us to pass the word to people we know to contact these people also. Bill passed out a call list to the committee members. Larry Boned: Talked about other predators in W1 and asked Jeff Pritzl the deer survey report. Jeff stated that the bobcat is expanding its territory. Larry would like to see more public awareness of coyote hunting and the benefit. Mike Riggle: Commented as a veterinarian for years that if people new about all diseases in wild and domestic animals, people would never go outside. He also thanked everyone for coming.

**ACTION**

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<tr>
<td>SUBMITTED BY</td>
<td>Steve Ninneman</td>
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