

DAC MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, March 26, 2010
NORTHEAST REGION SERVICE CENTER
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN

DAC members in attendance: Chair Werner Burkat, John Kocourek, Joe Greene, Jim Rutledge and Tom Zimmer.

DAC members excused absences: John Mitchell, David Lato, Steve Johnson, David Stinson and Dale Petkovsek.

Others in attendance: Carl Mesman, Andy Janicki and Kelly Frawley

Chairman Burkat called the meeting to order at approximately 10:15 a.m.

Approve/Amend Agenda

Burkat amended the agenda to allow discussion for officer appointments. Zimmer wished to discuss Remove Hunt From Vehicle from Long-Term Class B to Allow Participation in Special Hunts. Motion by Greene, second by Rutledge, to approve agenda amendments. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Rutledge, second by Greene, to approve July 2009 minutes. Carried unanimously.

Open Positions on Council

The position of the alternate in the past has been reserved for preparing future members to the DAC. Janicki commented that due to a recent job change having Johnson go from full member to alternate may be an option.

Zimmer commented that Johnson's input on sight issues, especially with the resignation of Dave Stinson, is critical. Having Johnson as an alternate even though contrary to its original intent is not a bad idea.

Janicki commented that he has him continuing as a full member. Burkat approved of that option due to his value to the Council and recommended asking Johnson to maintain his full membership and allow six months to see if his new position allows Johnson to continue of the DAC.

Janicki has received three applications from candidates wishing to be on the Council.

Rutledge stated that in the past applicants were appointed through the DNR Secretary after the Chair and the liaison interviewed and ranked the candidates.

The Council reviewed applicants expressing interest in serving on the Council.

Kocourek discussed filling the alternate position to allow potential candidates to determine their interest to serve on the Council. Kocourek commented if it would make sense for Burkat to interview the candidates.

After discussion Burkat stated that the Council wishes for Dale Petkovsek to move to a full-time member from the alternate position leaving one permanent and one alternate position open. Burkat recommends filling one permanent position on the Council and leaving the alternate position open at this time.

The Council identified two applicants for Chair Burkat to interview and recommend appointment to the Department Secretary.

Elections for Council Chair

Burkat called for nominations from the floor to serve as chair of the Council. Rutledge nominated Burkat as chair. Burkat called thrice for further nominations. Kocourek called for nominations to be closed. Burkat was the only nomination received by members of the Council. Motion by Zimmer, second by Greene to confirm Burkat as chair. Approved unanimously. Burkat accepted the nomination but announced it is his intent to make this his last year as chair.

Burkat called for nominations for vice chair.

Motion by Rutledge, second by Green to nominate Zimmer as vice chair.

Motion by Zimmer, second by Kocourek to nominate Greene as vice chair.

Burkat called thrice for further nominations. Burkat asked for paper ballot. Upon review of paper ballots, Zimmer approved as vice chair.

Mazomanie Beach Access Issue

Janicki addressed accessibility and behavioral concerns being experienced at the Mazo beach, a clothing optional beach. No action necessary by the Council.

Remove Hunt From Vehicle from Long-Term Class B to Allow Participation in Special Hunts

If there is an exception based on the conditions identified, special exemption would be necessary to special exemptions for all crossbow, hunt from a vehicle, trolling and all Class B holders.

Mesman offered ag-tag hunting if their is concern about a disabled hunter being unable to participate in a disabled hunt. The ag-tag allows the harvest of an antlerless deer for any farmer with levels of documented corn damage.

Visual Impairment/Crossbow Use Bill

Receives calls statewide regarding use of crossbow with sites. Mesman summarized recent amendments.

Accessible Boat Access

The members reviewed boat access project proposed throughout the state in 2010. The Council recommends the replacement of access sites at Blaisdell, Sissabagama, Namekagon and Chetac Lakes in the Rice Lake Area and Silver and Camp Lakes in the Southeast Region. The Council also review projects proposed for Grand River Marsh and Montello Dam.

Assembly Bill 273

Motion by Zimmer, second by Greene, to add discussion of AB 273 to the agenda. Mesman reviewed the assembly bill with the Council. The Department has taken a position against AB 273.

Rutledge commented that he has served on legislative review committees that looked at allowing a Class A or Class B permit holder the ability to reposition or retrieve with an uncased firearm for Class A and B.

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is authorized to issue certain hunting permits that authorize hunting by persons who have a physical disability (specialized permits). Among the privileges granted by these specialized permits is the privilege of hunting with assistance rendered by another person.

In order to obtain a specialized permit from DNR, a person must submit an application furnished by DNR that includes a statement or report prepared and signed by a licensed physician or chiropractor verifying that the applicant is physically disabled. A person may also obtain a specialized permit even if the person would otherwise be ineligible for a specialized permit if DNR, based on the recommendation of a licensed physician or chiropractor, determines that the issuance of the permit complies with the intent of the law. This bill authorizes an applicant for a specialized permit to submit a statement, report, or recommendation from a licensed podiatrist, as well as from a physician or chiropractor, in support of a specialized permit application.

Member Updates

Burkat: No update.

Greene: No update.

Zimmer: No update.

Kocourek: One-armed canoe paddles shown at Canoeacopia.

Janicki: No update.

Rutledge: National Paralyzed Veterans of America trapshoot on July 23 through 26th in Green Bay. Had 25 youth shooters in 2009. Monday is the pistol shoot.

Mesman: Warden in Waupaca has annual learn to hunt. Has youth with disabilities. King Veterans home is hoping to have a disabled hunt. Deer farm owner offering three tags. UTV going in effect statewide March 30, 2010 through June 2012. County must adopt an ordinance accepting conditions. Can use UTV for disabled hunting in counties approving the ordinance.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 10th in Minocqua. On Thursday, June 9th there will be a field survey at Turtle-Flambeau to view the accessible campground.

Motion by Greene, second by Kocourek, to adjourn. Carried unanimously at 2:34 p.m.