



Wisconsin Conservation Congress
 District 2 Fall Meeting
 Meeting Minutes

WCC Meeting Minutes
 Form 8300-026 (R 11/17) Page 1 of 3

ORDER OF BUSINESS	08/17/2023	7:00	Rolling Oaks Golf and Supper Club Barron WI
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS
A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by	Al Brown at	7:15
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Roxanne Lotts, Hunter Denison, Wayne Norling, Duke Tucker, Floyd Drohman, Jim Morning, Al Brown, Don Dukershein, Curt Loew, Eric Wojchik, Mike Kelby, Jessi Espeseth, Andrew Lester, Nathan Magnine, Roger Roehl, Steve Tiegs, Dan Vacho, Brad Hopp, Claude Bovi, Duane Butler, Danielle Johnson, Emma Yearous(WCC)
EXCUSED	Mike Britton, Duane Hoefs, Mike Giles, Sean Keck, Everett Fuchs
UNEXCUSED	Dave Louis, Scott Tubbs
GUESTS	Spencer, Don, and Ann Dunham

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Dept of Natural Resources Staff Updates Updates

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	<p>Dan Hoffman- Secretary Director Began speaking about the current budget cycle. Due to budget cuts there had been 42-43 fewer staff, 125 million dollars were being dedicated for PFAS issues statewide. Dan explained that there wasn't enough staff for counter service at every location so that had been relegated to the larger locations. Secretary Payne was involved with round table discussions state wide to help establish what issues were most compelling. The Spring Hearings format has yet to be determined. Dan fielded questions from the floor.</p> <p>Cody Strong-Wildlife Supervisor Spoke about the Elk management plan in progress, mentioned that there were 515 Elk across the state. He said the sharptail grouse plan was up for approval by the NRB, sharptail numbers are currently up within a long term down trend. He mentioned the adopt a wildlife program, DMAP with 2000 enrolled properties and some new hires, and ended with the revised draft wolf management plan, within which there was no set harvest number, it was more of an adaptive management plan. The state wolf population is estimated at 1200 to 1400. There was considerable discussion and Cody fielded questions and concerns from the floor.</p> <p>John Hagen, DNR Warden Supervisor Explained the recruitment, retention and reactivation program, he spoke about the next warden recruitment class. He reviewed the ATV-UTV, 470,000 registered vehicles, accidents and fatalities are up, stressed safety issues, and driver alcohol use. He went on to mention that wake boats are becoming a state wide issue and thought that new legislation would probably be coming.</p> <p>Aaron Cole-Fisheries Biologist Began with State financial cuts and the staffing losses that followed. Over the past, 25% of the fisheries force has been lost. Spoke about alum treatments in many lake to control algae issues with a 5 year project study.</p>	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

B. Conservation Congress Updates

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	<p>1. Guidance for upcoming committee meetings Brad Hopp expressed the importance of keeping an open mind and giving the resolutions the attention they deserve. Have good discussion on all point weather you agree with them or not and give good and proper rational for the decisions of the committee. There is a stronger presence from the public weighing in on these meetings. If you cannot attend, let the chair of the committee know! Unexcused absences are unacceptable and will be subject to discipline. You were elected to represent the publics thoughts, interests, and input.</p> <p>2. WCC Advisory Committee assignments Assignments were reviewed. There was an open position on Turkey and Upland Game and Hunter Denison accepted that position. There are other opening that will be addressed by the District Chairs.</p> <p>a. Review the Resolutions from D2 Brad Hopp read The titles and the content of all the resolutions that passes in D2. There were thoughts shared after many were read. It was expressed by Eric that the discussion was not for further action but were read to create awareness of what our committee representatives can expect to discuss at there meetings.</p> <p>b. WCC advisory evaluation forms Handouts were given to show where to find them and fill them out. Directions are in the link.</p> <p>c. Delegate reimbursement process Handout were given to show the link to the info of how to sign up and what qualifies for reimbursement.</p> <p>d. Unexcused absences As in B1, This was addressed. Contact your chairs if you cannot attend a meeting. Unexcused absences are unacceptable and will be disciplined.</p> <p>3. Filling vacancies on county delegations There are currently 2 vacancies in Rusk County. Roger Rohle, the Chair of that county sent out a notice in his area about the opportunity had a very positive response. 3 citizens, listed above as guests, from that county attended the meeting to witness what being part of the WCC was all about! Great work Roger!!</p> <p>4-WCC Outreach a. Presentations Brad shared that there are many resources available to use when you have interaction with the public and organizations. b. Sharing outreach experiences. In the event that delegates have experienced input to the public or organization, send your info to the outreach Committee to be entered in the WCC facebook page.</p> <p>5-YCC Don Dukershein, Chippewa Cty delegate and YCC mentor, introduced Emma Yearous, Chippewa county YCC delegate. Emma spoke about the Elk calving telemetry program she was involved in, and some summer programs , duck banding and trout stream improvement. A warm welcome was shared by the District to Emma!</p>	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	<p>Under members matters several delegates favored the idea of using facebook to share and spread information about WCC matters. Eric Wojchik and several others favored the idea of having hybrid (zoom and in person) committee meetings. Claude Bovi asked Brad and Al to inquire about the status of the missing meeting minutes.</p>
ACTION	

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	Motion to adjourn, Curt Loew-Second, Dan Vacho 9:15
SUBMITTED BY	Claude Bovi and Brad Hopp
DATE	08/19/2023