



Executive Committee     District Leadership Council     Annual Meeting

**Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
 Meeting Minutes**

<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	05/11/2023	2:30 PM	Best Western Waterfront Hotel Oshkosh, WI 54901
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**I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

<b>Meeting called to order by</b>	Rob Bowmann at 2:35 PM
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**B. ROLL CALL**

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Joe Weiss, Rick Olson, Dave Larson, Kurt Justice, Lori Groskopf, Dale Ebert, Ron Krueger, Kevin Smaby, Terri Roehrig, Al Lobner, Stan Brunell, Dale Maas, Justin Loerke, Brett Weir, Tashina Peplinski, Mike Rogers, Kenneth Risley, Paul Reith, Rob Bowman, Bob Wincek, Kari Lee Zimmerman.
<b>EXCUSED</b>	
<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	
<b>GUESTS</b>	

**C. Agenda approval or repair**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Rob asked that the agenda be approved as published with the exception of the chairman's report which will come tomorrow.
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion by Weiss 2nd by Rogers to approve as stated. Motion carried.

**II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Chairs update**

Bowmann

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Postponed to tomorrow's meeting	
<b>ACTION</b>		
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**B. Spring hearing review**

Terri Roehrig

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	See below	
<b>ACTION</b>		
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**1. Review of 2023 Resolution Review Process**

Terri Roehrig

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The resolution review committee reviewed 301 resolutions. Terri stated that the authors seemed pleased with the process once it was explained to them since they were not sure about the how, why it worked the way it does. She had a good team of workers from volunteers who compiled the team. They were provided with extra training and had extra training and clarification available to them. She felt that the authors could use a better understanding for the need for legislation on some of the questions. Joe Weiss felt that there were missed opportunities to see the finished resolution at the county level. Terri stated that we might need to start even earlier next year.	
<b>ACTION</b>	Information only. No further action taken.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**2. Recommendation for advancement of missed resolution**

Terri Roehrig

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Terri stated that there was a missed resolution that was no fault of the author and suggest that it be moved to the Environmental Committee.	
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion by Larson 2nd by Smaby to advance to the Environmental Committee. Tashina commented that the resolution was similar to others that was passed on and not setting a precedent by doing so. Motion carried.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**3. Recommended Code of Procedures changes (tabled at February DLC meeting)**

Terri Roehrig

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	<p>Motion by Brett Weir 2nd by Ron Krueger to take code of procedure changes off of the table and assign it to the floor of the convention.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <p>Joe Weiss suggested that it be sent to the Rules and Resolutions Committee.</p> <p>Rick Olson stated that the Code of Procedure discussion needs to be discussed more openly and asked why did the open house decision get made? Procedures need more discussion, there are a lot of questions and answers yet to be given on the topic.</p> <p>Ken Risley stated that a majority of those that attended in his county was concerned about the elections and to ask questions on the resolutions.</p> <p>Dale Maas stated that many of those in attendance at Dodge County came for the election and left right after and since no one was discussing any of the questions it turned into a very small group of people that were left. He did get feedback that those that stayed felt that it was a nice opportunity to talk to different departments within the DNR and thought that if this could be combined with the way earlier meetings were run where you could ask and get more information about questions that would be productive.</p> <p>Kevin Smaby commented that the open house was great for discussion but people do want to go back to the old question and answer format as in the past.</p> <p>Brett Weir asked how do we get people involved?</p> <p>Tashina Peplinski stated it was a good county meeting but citizens are asking why did this open house decision get made? She stated that the DNR doesn't tell us (or shouldn't) what to do.</p> <p>Terri stated the online resolution does not match our Code of Procedure and there are many pages that do not match what we're doing.</p> <p>Dave Larson stated people in his county do not want to go to a meeting with no discussion.</p> <p>Al Lobner stated that online voting in Wood County does not work for everyone due to Internet reception and also many of the citizens are not computer literate.</p> <p>Kurt Justice stated that Vilas County has the same experience that many have already said here today and wants to go back the way it was.</p> <p>Justin Loerke stated there are 2 sides to every question if we want to throw out the baby with the bathwater or go back. He feels it's a bigger disservice not moving forward.</p> <p>Bob Wincek stated looking at his county they voted for the delegates and by 7:45 they were down to 6 people.</p> <p>A friendly amendment to the original motion was to "take Code of Procedure off the table and assign it to the DLC agenda in 2 weeks". Motion carried</p>
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	
DEADLINE	

**C. Code of Procedures recommended changes** Paul Reith

DISCUSSION	<p>Paul offered his thoughts on the change he submitted to article VII. Conservation Congress official position:</p> <p>A. Official position-the official position of the Conservation Congress on any issue is formed, amended, or repealed by any of the following:</p> <p>Append</p> <p>D. All official position will be published and maintained until amended or repealed.</p>
ACTION	<p>Motion by Kevin Smaby 2nd by Terri Rohrig that the history committee keep records of all official WCC positions that are formed amended or repealed. All official positions will be published and maintained until amended or repealed. Motion carried.</p>
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	
DEADLINE	

**D. CDAC recommendation update** Jeff Pritzl, Deer Program Specialist

DISCUSSION	<p>Jeff stated that all the county CDAC had reported in with 2 counties having some difficulty, Marathon County and Iowa County. All the other counties in the state seemed acceptable. They conducted 2 meetings with the counties that were turned down in the turnaround time was short. They had difficulty getting the winter severity index for the individual counties in question and Jeff stated he will look at getting additional time gap in between the 2.</p> <p>Joe Weiss asked if any of the counties talked about subdividing much like the old DMU because of habitat? Jeff answered that yes it will come up for review with the CDAC oversight committee. He also mentioned that deer donation numbers were down again. This is probably because the number of deer processors in the state has also fallen in the department is enhancing the price paid for the service.</p>
ACTION	<p>Information only. No action taken.</p>
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	
DEADLINE	

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**III. MEMBERS MATTERS**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Ken Risley stated that the public is concerned for CWD and the health hazard that it may be to humans.                  Mike Rogers the open houses were not a good idea.                  Bob Wincek echoes Mike's thoughts on the open house.                  Kurt Justice stated that a license increase is very needed, it's been more than 15 years since our last increase and conservation is suffering for it.                  Lori Groskopf was concerned about the demographics of the people answering the online questioning.                  Paul Reith commented that CWD is a problem, lack of trust to the process and finding outcome is missing by the time someone harvested deer. Get it checked the season before deer gun would be over, they would of lost the opportunity of using the harvested animal and have to wait to the following year before they could get a replacement take.                  Terri nothing.                  Kari nothing.                  Al Lobner commented more out-of-state people are weighing in on the opinion poll it's up to 7% input.                  Dale would like to see us go back to the spring hearing format.                  Tashina wanted to know what we want to do with the spring hearing on Code of Procedure.                  Justin stated he was not running for counselor in District 7.                  Dave Larson was concerned about the missing minutes of a number of the meetings throughout last year and this year.                  Joe Weiss acknowledged the letter of concerns from Mary Elizabeth and Claude that was circulated to the DLC members. This asked to do with concerns that they are hearing about the Conservation Congress had we need to be aware of some of these and do better. One of the concerns was the lack of minutes. Dale commented that he had now had a volunteer that would help with the number of the missing minutes to get them in and up-to-date and that he would keep current with the minutes as we come up and then go back and help that individual as well.                  Rob mentioned that District 11 is the sponsor of the hospitality room this year. They have 100% of the refreshments donated so he hopes that everybody comes in and help support that and raises additional funding for WCC friends group. He also mentioned that he needed committee assignments by the end of the convention.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	<p>Information only. No action taken. A motion by Joe Weiss. 2nd by Dave Larson to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:19 PM</p>

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	<b>5:19 PM</b>
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	<b>Dale C Maas</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>05/11/2023</b>