



- Executive Committee District Leadership Council Annual Meeting

**Wisconsin Conservation Congress
 Meeting Minutes**

ORDER OF BUSINESS	10/18/2021	2 PM	Zoom
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by	Tony Blattler at [Time]
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Tony Blattler, Joel Taylor, Dale Maas, Brett Weir and Terri Roehrig. DNR Kari Lee Zimmermann and Scott Loomans.
EXCUSED	
UNEXCUSED	
GUESTS	Rick Heisler Paul Smith Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel

C. Agenda approval and repair

DISCUSSION	Motion by Weir 2nd by Taylor to approve as presented. Motion carried.
ACTION	As stated.

D. Public comments

DISCUSSION	Rick Heisler asked to speak on Senate Bill 611 the Hunter Safety mentored hunt. His concerns are to ask that we oppose this bill. This bill would allow a new Hunter Safety student to complete the hands-on portion of the requirement by anyone 18 years or older during a mentored hunt. He feels Hunter safety instructors should be doing this due to their training and impartiality. This also allows for proper recording to the DNR as far as proof of completion. To his knowledge no one involved with Hunter Safety was contacted prior to the proposal of this bill.
ACTION	No action taken

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

The Executive Committee will review it may take a position not any of the items listed on

Blattler

A. the Natural Resources Board October 27, 2021, agenda.

DISCUSSION	Item 4 (B) Lake Trout harvest Lake Michigan. Dale stated that we had gone over that in the past and there were no issues. Item 4 (C) Lake Michigan whitefish rule. Dale stated that we had gone over that item also in the past and there were no issues. Item 4 (D) minor changes in inland fishing regulations. Tony advised that there were no issues coming out of Warm Water that needed to be addressed. Item 4 (E) Establish 2021 migratory bird season. It was also stated that the Waterfall Committee had no issues.
ACTION	No action was taken on the above items.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

B. Discussion on Sporting Freedom Package of legislation

Blattler

DISCUSSION	Tony stated that he would like to take these items one at a time and that he had met with other sporting organizations and none of them were asked their input on any of the items we will be discussing. He said it was his understanding that there was no support or discussion from any of the affected organizations for their input or guidance. 1. SB-609 pheasant stocking - the request is to stock pheasants for hunting. Referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Dale stated that he didn't see any funding in this request and he knows that they need staff and equipment to add this amount of birds in the system. Roehrig called for a point of order that there was a motion on the floor. Dale stated he did not hear that he then recorded a motion by Roehrig 2nd by Weir to accept. Roehrig also asked for a roll call vote with Weir, Taylor and Roehrig voting yes Maas and Blattler voting no. Motion carried. 2). SB-610 Turkey administrative rule change - administrative rules relating to hunting wild turkeys. Referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Maas 2nd by Roehrig to not support. Motion carried unanimous. 3). SB-611 Mentored hunt satisfying - the Hunter education field testing requirement with a mentored hunt. Referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Maas 2nd by Roehrig to not support. Motion carried.
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	<p>4). SB-612 Stocking Trout - stocking Brook Trout in Lake Michigan referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Maas 2nd by Roehrig to not support. Motion carried unanimous.</p> <p>5). SB-613 Hunting approvals - report on reducing the number of hunting, fishing, and trapping approvals required by the Department of Natural Resources. Referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Taylor 2nd by Weir to not support. Note: DNR has more to do than make a report. Licenses are approved by the legislature if they wanted they can change them any time. Motion carried unanimous.</p> <p>6). SB-614 DNR habitat plan - Department of Natural Resources habitat work plan referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Taylor 2nd by Weir to not support, DNR does not need to make another report it's already there. Motion carried unanimous.</p> <p>7). SB-615 public lands report - report on access the public lands owned or managed by the Department Natural Resources. Referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Maas 2nd by Weir to reject the same reasons as the previous, they already have the report. Motion carried unanimous.</p> <p>8). SB-616 dog training license - electronic issuance of dog training licenses. Referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Roehrig 2nd by Weir to support. Motion carried.</p> <p>9). SB-617 -Aquaculture - Department of Natural Resources report on partnering with private aquaculture industry. Referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Roehrig 2nd by Taylor to not support. Motion carried unanimous.</p> <p>10). SB-618 Hunting Rule Repeal - requiring the repeal of hunting, trapping, and fishing administrative rules in conjunction with promulgation of new rules. Referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Maas 2nd by Taylor to not support if past this rule would require getting rid of 2 existing rules for everyone that you put in and in the end it would wind up getting rid of good rules. Motion carried unanimous.</p> <p>11). SB-619 Right to Carry - right to carry a weapon in the state. Referred to Senate Insurance, Licensing and Forestry. No position taken.</p> <p>12). SB-620 Sandhill Cranes - Hunting of Sandhill Cranes, wildlife damage abatement assistance in claim payments for damage caused by Sandhill Cranes, and making an appropriation. Referred to Senate Sporting Heritage, Small Business and Rural Issues. Motion by Weir 2nd by Taylor to support. This has been the WWA and Congress position since 2011. Motion carried unanimous.</p>	
ACTION	As stated above.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	<p>Terri: asked for an agenda item on the WCC stands of the difficulties between the DNR and Natural Resources Board. She asked for the agenda item but it was not put on due to time constraints. She now wants another meeting to address this issue.</p> <p>Brett: The WCC is advisory to the Natural Resources Board and nonpolitical entity.</p> <p>Joel: he feels we need a meeting. We need to make a statement as to the political process.</p> <p>Dale: he feels it's not a fight we need to get into, all we are going to do is make it more difficult for us to work in a hostile environment.</p> <p>Tony: he had feedback from many Congress delegates mostly positive on the letter that he had drafted. He didn't feel that there was anything WCC could do to make the issue better. He believes the positions taken by both sides came from the very top of the organization. It will take a look at the scheduled to see if we can set up a meeting next week.</p> <p>Motion by Weir 2nd by Roehrig to adjourn. Meeting adjourned. 3:48 PM.</p>
ACTION	As stated above.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	3:48 PM.
SUBMITTED BY	Dale C. Maas
DATE	11/11/2021