Wisconsin Conservation Congress
WCC Wolf Committee
Meeting Minutes

ORDER OF BUSINESS

| 10/27/2021 | 7 PM |

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS
A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Steve Budnik at 7:01

B. ROLL CALL

| ATTENDEES | Jeff Wilson, Lowell Wright, George Meyer, Dave Lois, Duane Hoefs, Steve Budnik, Chair, Laurie Groskopf, Mike Rogers, Ron Krueger, Steve Staver, Matt McHugh, Steve Ninneman, Paul Witalison |
| EXCUSED | James Engebretson, Bill Yingst, Tom Johnson |
| UNEXCUSED | Jessie Espeseth, Jeff Giese, Scott McAuley, Peter Mueller |
| GUESTS | Kari Lee-Zimmermann, Brad Koele, Jennifer Price -Tack, Randy Johnson (all DNR staff), Cynthia Samels, Amy Mueller, Barb Eisenberg, Heidi Cassel, Jason Maloney, Jean Voss, Kathleen Raddatz, Linda Hiller Deppe, Scott Pitta, Gloriann Klein, Marcel DuBois, Jerome Donohue, Al Lobner, Linda Hendricks, Tony Blattler - WCC Chair, Katie Moore |

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

Discussion: no changes
Action: 1 - George Meyer; 2 - Steve Ninneman motion to approve MC

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

Discussion: Steve Budnik reviewed the committee mission statement

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Discussion: Kat Raddatz was the only member of the public registered to speak. Comments related to the use of dogs in hunting is equivalent to cruelty to animals, which is against the law. She is against killing any living animal.

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS
A. Items first and second item on the agenda related to citizen resolutions

| DISCUSSION | Authors of resolutions support the elimination of using dogs to hunt wolves in WI. Committee discussed how to proceed with this resolution or to recommend rejection. |
| ACTION | Motion to reject the resolution 010121, 681721, 411221, 460121, 410821, 440421, 130921, 570421, 640321, 680521 |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | motion made to reject 1 - Jeff Wilson, 2 - Steve Ninneman MC 11 for, 2 against |
| DEADLINE | issue referred to DLC for possible action on spr |

2. Item 3 on agenda related to citizen resolution

| DISCUSSION | Resolution would recommend two wolf seasons with quota split evenly between seasons, similar to bobcat. |
| ACTION | motion to reject 1-Steve Ninneman, 2 - Ron Krueger 720421 |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | motion carried 8 in favor, 5 opposed |

3. Item 4 on agenda related to citizen resolution

<p>| DISCUSSION | the resolution prevents any future hunting/trapping season unless the new wolf management plan is complete. |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | Marya Bradley |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>motion to reject 1 - Laurie Groskopf 2- Ron Krueger 132621, 411421</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</td>
<td>DEADLINE</td>
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motion carried 13 in favor, none opposed

4. Item 5 on agenda related to citizen resolution

**DISCUSSION**

another resolution to require the wolf management plan be completed before resuming any harvests. Jason felt the completion of the management plan and some time passing would turn the heat down on this controversial issue.

**ACTION**

motion to approve died lack of a second. motion to reject 1 - Ron Krueger 2 - Steve Ninneman 040521

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

DEADLINE

motion carried 13 in favor, none opposed

5. Items 6, 7 & 8 on agenda combined related to citizen resolutions

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

Laurie Groskopf, Al Lobner

**DISCUSSION**

36 county boards have passed resolutions to return wolf numbers to 350 or 350 or less. Various organizations have also taken this position, including the WCC

**ACTION**

Motion to advance 1 - Paul Witalison, 2 - Mike Rogers 090821, 440221, 720721, 470121, 350121

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

DEADLINE

motion carried with 9 voting to approve, 4 against

6. Item 9 on agenda regarding citizen resolution

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

Linda Hendrix

**DISCUSSION**

the author asked that the resolution be withdrawn because she intends to rewrite it and submit again next spring

**ACTION**

motion to reject 560221 1- Jeff Wilson, 2 - George Meyer

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

DEADLINE

motion carried 13 in favor, none opposed.

B. Spring and Fall harvests

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

Randy Johnson

**DISCUSSION**

Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Manager, noted the February 2021 harvest report is on the DNR web site with detailed information. The next wolf management report which is furnished to the federal government should be completed soon.

**ACTION**

none

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

DEADLINE

C. Conflict management

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

Brad Koele

**DISCUSSION**

Brad Koele, Wildlife damage specialist, presented current data on lethal and non-lethal controls in WI. 95 conflicts are on the official list. 15 hunting dogs which is much less than other years. Possibly because problem wolves were removed during the winter harvest. 44 farm conflicts have occurred, which is more than usual. 62 landowner permits have been issued in conflict cases with 6 wolves being removed, plus 3 from landowner response to immediate conflicts. Wildlife Services have removed 60 wolves resulting after non-lethal abatement became ineffective.

**ACTION**

none

**PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE**

DEADLINE

D. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]

[PRESENTER]
### DISCUSSION
Jennifer Price-Tack from the science section - 1126 is the most probable wolf number prior to the winter harvest with a 95% confidence interval of 937-1364. The new method of estimating wolves in WI has been written up and is being published in the Journal of Wildlife Management soon.

### ACTION
none

### PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE

### DEADLINE

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### E. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC] [PRESENTER]

| DISCUSSION | in the absence of law enforcement, Randy Johnson noted that the DNR is still working with private trappers to collar wolves accidentally trapped for coyote season. There are 35 collared wolves at this time. Law enforcement has not had any issues with wolves being attacked during the past season. |
| ACTION     | none |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE |

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### III. MEMBERS MATTERS

| DISCUSSION | none |
| ACTION     | |

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### IV. ADJOURNMENT

| MEETING ADJOUNDED | 9:41 1 - Ron Krueger 2 - Mike Rogers MC |
| SUBMITTED BY     | Laurie Groskopf |
| DATE             | 10/28/2021 |