



- Executive Committee    
  District Leadership Council    
  Annual Meeting

**Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
 Meeting Minutes**

<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	01/08/2022	8:00 AM	Zoom
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**I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

<b>Meeting called to order by</b>	Tony Blattler at 8:03 AM
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**B. ROLL CALL**

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Blattler, Olson, Larson, Riggle, Groskopf, Ebert, Krueger, Smaby, Roehrig, Nicholson, Maas, Loerke, Weir, Peplinski, Breunig, Rogers, Risley, Reith, Altwies and Gunderson.
<b>EXCUSED</b>	Taylor and Lobner.
<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	
<b>GUESTS</b>	Ed Harvey, Scott Loomans, Todd Cook, Kari Lee Zimmermann, David Zielke, Cole Young, Lois Lehman, Jean Voss, Jerome Donohoe, Diane Cain, Scott Karel, Cynthia Samuels, Corky Meyer, Amy Mueller, Jeff Wilson and Linda Hendrix.

**C. Agenda approval or repair**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Tony asked for flexibility on the agenda due to time constraints on some of the presenters.
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion by Larson 2nd by Smaby to allow flexibility for request. Motion carried.

**D. Public comments**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Tony stated there was nobody that registered for public comments.
<b>ACTION</b>	No action taken.

**II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Update on spring hearings process/timeline and elections** Blattler

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Tony stated that 2 days ago he was notified by DNR leadership that there would not be in person spring hearings again this year due to various out breaks and re-occurrence of Covid variances.</p> <p>Tony stated that as of this being the 3rd year in a row for not having in person spring hearings is asking the DLC to reconsider their position ongoing yet another year without having delegate elections. He also stated that even in his county (Price County) being primarily rural and with a very low population to begin with; he has canvassed what he thought would be 5 individuals that might step up and be nominated and was turned down on all occasions. With it moving on with yet another year without elections especially with the number of open positions scattered throughout the state.</p> <p>Peplinski questioned where we are on online elections? Loerke called for a point of order, which he said is the same issue that he brought up at the last meeting pertaining to the ruling that we can not have 2 people from the same county within the same district be allowed to speak and make motions. He understands the issue is still trying to be decided and he feels very strongly that this needs to be resolved very soon. Again this requires a Code of Procedure change which was asked of the Rules and Resolutions Committee last year.</p> <p>Krueger questioned how we would know who to vote for as far as nominations. A myriad of other questions were asked by DLC delegates. Gunderson questioned concerns on how we assure that voters are from the county they are voting from and also the bylaws change to have more than one delegate for the DLC from the same county has not been answered.</p> <p>Tony stated that he would prefer a subcommittee be set up to try to pair this down to some concepts for our next DLC meeting. Kevin Smaby said that he has 4 members of the Rules and Resolutions Committee which could meet with some of the members of the Outreach and Public Relations Committee as an ad hoc and try to put proposals together for the next DLC.</p> <p>There was discussion about whether or not they can come up with an actionable solution in that short of time. Terri stated that we need to think positively about this and move forward with all haste. Paul stated he needs to be able to find a way for positive proof of county residents, this could be a very dangerous proposal. Dale asked for clarification his understanding was that for the last 2 years everybody's position was basically frozen in time, in other words if you had a two-year position when it was frozen and it stayed frozen as a two-year position extension until we had in person voting or came up with a positive way to allow online voting for delegates. Tony stated that is basically true but it doesn't take into consideration delegates that either have quit, have left the county or choose not to run again so that would have to be clarified on the county by county basis.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	Motion by Peplinski 2nd by Altwies to form the subcommittee by the end of January. Have them meet before February's DLC meeting. Motion carried. Tony appointed Terri Roehrig as chair of the subcommittee.
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

Outreach and

Paul Reith

**1. Outreach and Public Relations Committee, Rules and Resolutions Committee report**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Paul stated that the committee met the previous week and reviewed multiple issues. Dale Maas gave a trailer report on progress on what he was doing.</p> <p>From the previous Spring Hearings the resolution issue needs more guidance on resolution presentation. There was a number of items that the committee strongly felt needed to be reviewed and from the discussion on once again having no in person hearings this year for 2022 they suggested some additional items be put on the agenda for the newly formed subcommittee.</p> <p>Secretaries note: these are not in any particular order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Need more guidance on resolution presentation/discussion with local DNR managers/what are appropriate tools in the toolbox to address the needs.</li> <li>-Need a longer time to review for submission of resolutions.</li> <li>-Need more individuals to help review and comment on resolutions.</li> <li>-Need to find a way to keep the public satisfied with the resolution process, yet find enough ways to make them fit with in our process for a good quality resolution along with DNR department policy.</li> <li>- Do we need to eliminate some of the antiquated wording such as " where as, be it further resolved".</li> </ul> <p>Need to have another meeting very soon so we can come back (outreach committee) with the proposal for additional cash from the friends group to allow for Facebook Boosts (which needs DLC approval) to help get the word out prior to the Spring Hearing.</p> <p>There were 3 or 4 people that had volunteered to be a part of an ad hoc committee if it was formed between Rules and Resolutions and Outreach and Public Relations.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	As stated.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	
Kevin Smaby		

**2. Rules and Resolutions Committee**

Kevin Smaby

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Kevin stated there were 4 resolutions assigned to the committee.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Concerning a two-year term limit on WCC committees. The resolution was felt that 2 years was too short of a time. Larry Bonde committee member requested at the DLC discuss with the districts to review and evaluate what the delegates bring to the committee and their district.</li> <li>2. To add Milwaukee as its own district, which was rejected.</li> <li>3. Setting up the size of districts by population was rejected.</li> <li>4. Not allow guides to sit on committees in leadership positions. This was also rejected.</li> </ol> <p>We were asked by the DLC to look at having 2 District Counselors from the same county, after much discussion a vote was held and was approved to allow 7 yes 5 no.</p> <p>Eugene Altwies questioned Kevin on when letters would be sent out to the resolution writers? Kevin stated he was having trouble with getting them printed out that they should be out shortly.</p> <p>The committee also recommended that for 2022 all resolutions be online. They also recommended with online resolutions that a new understandable tutorial be made for the creation of the resolutions and that all resolutions be turned in by March 15 in order to qualify for the survey.</p> <p>Tashina made a motion having to do with the COP change for 2 delegates from the same county in a district, that it would require a three-quarter majority vote of the district. Was seconded by Gunderson point of order was then called out stating that it was not allowed due to not being totally explained and not available 30 days ahead of time. The motion was withdrawn. Tashina will send a written motion 30 days prior to our February DLC meeting</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	As stated above.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**B. Discussion on Draft Wolf Rule**

Various

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Lori Groskopf, secretary of the WCC Wolf committee and also a delegate to the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation Wolf committee stated that there are many changes in the Wolf rule that need changing and clarification. Terri Roehrig also suggested the need for a subcommittee. Blattler stated we need to give some guidance to the committee.</p> <p>Scott Karel DNR stated this is the same rules that we have in place now with 2 exceptions. Reduction registration time to 8</p>
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	<p>hours, in the past this was 5 PM the day after harvest. The other difference is the single zone harvest permits, again this is to change something that has been there for a long time and has allowed for identifying zones that are more active goals and to aid in their control.</p> <p>The changes were made pertaining to night hunting, allow tags for specific zones to better target and maintain specific area goals. Shorten registration harvest times to 8 hours.</p> <p>Tony stated there is one other part of the proposal that he is very concerned with. The DNR proposed to have the DNR set quotas on the Wolf harvest. This will cut out the NRB/WCC and its advisories committees which in turn eliminates public input and keeping all of the above from making a difference!</p> <p>While at this time it's specific to the Wolf quotas but one might assume it could apply to all animals with quotas in the future. This would be a major change in policy!</p> <p>Tony is concerned on removing the WCC and the NRB from having input on these matters.</p> <p>Scott Loomans (DNR staff) "these rules make no changes other than the ones (3) noted."</p> <p>Ed Harvey stated there is a difference between a plan and a rule they don't have to make a permanent rule if they're trying to get into the semantics of the process. He stated that the 17 point document is actually an 18 point document if you add what Tony has stated about the DNR setting the quotas rather than the standard process. He is yet to see a draft copy of the planning process that he was a part of, even though they have had their four scheduled meetings. Tashina commented that she was worried about a knee-jerk reaction to the 2021 hunt. The 48-hour hunt was not enough time to do a proper job setting traps that turned into a free-for-all. Justin commented that it would be his wish to let the committee (Wolf) do what they were responsible for and come back and give guidance to the DLC. Rick Olson commented there was nothing scientific that could be gathered about the 48 hour foot race that they call the Wolf hunt for 2021. Lori commented that the DNR is working on getting a new DNR Wolf advisory committee she assumes this is different than the current membership. Scott Loomans said he would be happy to work with the WCC committees on this process. Scott Karel also indicated the same. Scott Loomans also stated that he believes that the DNR will always have a Wolf committee in the future.</p> <p>Tony asked for a motion at this time.</p> <p>Motion by Groskopf 2nd by Roehrig to activate the Wolf committee to get WCC positions for the February DLC meeting so the WCC can take the appropriate position at the NRB board meeting in February.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	As stated above.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**C. WCC advisory committee reports and proposed advisory questions** [PRESENTER]

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	See below.	
<b>ACTION</b>	Secretaries note: items below are listed according to printed agenda and may not be consistent with the order they were taken in. Call questions advanced were in draft form further review will take place at subsequent DLC meeting for proper verification.	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**1. Motorized Recreational Committee** Dave Larson

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Question 23 (550221).                  Allow multiple riders on ATV's for outdoor recreation. Motion by Maas second by Krueger to support. Motion carried.                  Resolution advanced to questionnaire.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>		
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>		<b>DEADLINE</b>

**2. Fur Harvest Committee** Ed Harvey

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Question 24. (040621, 720821)                  Allow the use of rim-fire rifle or handguns to dispatch trapped animals within 50 feet of the centerline of unpaved roads.                  Motion by Altwies 2nd by Gunderson to support. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire.</p> <p>Question 25 (040721, 090721, 560321)                  Allow the use of traps with a draw spread up to 8 inches for dry-land sets beginning on the opening day of Wolf season.                  Motion by Rogers 2nd by Weir to support. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire.</p> <p>Question 26. (100120)                  Disabled trapper permit motion by Rogers 2nd by Gunderson to support. Motion carried. Question advances to</p>	
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	questionnaire.
<b>ACTION</b>	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**3. Turkey and Upland Game Committee** [PRESENTER]

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Question 27. (681221) Funding small game mammals and unprotected species with a slingshot and small game license. Motion by Larson 2nd by Smaby to support. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire.
<b>ACTION</b>	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**4. Wolf Committee** [PRESENTER]

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Question 28. (411221) Band dogs from hunting rules in Wisconsin. Motion by Peplinski 2nd by Rogers to advance (this question is advancing per WCC Code of Procedure). Question 29. (090821, 440221, 720721, 470121, 350121) Support wolf population goal of 350 wolves. Motion by Smaby 2nd by Rogers to support. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire.
<b>ACTION</b>	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**5. Outdoor Heritage and Education Committee** [PRESENTER]

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Question 30. (030121, 050121, 060121, 080121, 100121, 110321, 130121, 140221, 150121, 200621, 240521, 250121, 330221, 360221, 390121, 410321, 440621, 450721, 490221, 500721, 520621, 540421, 560621, 580221, 600221, 660221, 670121, 680621, 700721, 710121). Maintain hands-on Hunter safety classes. Motion by Altwies 2nd by Olson to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire. Question 31 (040121) Allow Purple Heart recipients to hunt over bait on private land at same time on odd years when dog hunters go 1st. Motion by Smaby 2nd by Larson to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire. Question 32 (131721) Allow an assistant to help a disabled person fish. Motion by Smaby 2nd by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire. Question 33 committee question. Implement a wanton waste law in Wisconsin. Motion by Larson 2nd by Olson to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to spring questionnaire. (May need legislation). Question 34 (committee question). Should the DNR permit and regulate all hunting contest to control wanton waste and carcass dumping. Motion by Larson 2nd by Olson to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to the questionnaire. Question 35.(Committee question). Should coyote hunting contest be banned. Motion by Maas 2nd by Krueger to reject. Motion carried. Question rejected. Question 36. (Committee question). End killing contests. Motion by Peplinski 2nd by Smaby to advance. Motion is advance to questionnaire per WCC code of procedure.
<b>ACTION</b>	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

**6. Land-Use Committee** [PRESENTER]

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Question 37. (060521). Knowles-Nelson funding lower Chippewa River parcels. Motion by Maas 2nd by Roehrig to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to Spring questionnaire.
<b>ACTION</b>	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Tabled review Until next DLC meeting.	

**7. Legislative Committee** [PRESENTER]

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Question 38. (330421) Canoe and kayak registration. Motion by Maas 2nd by Larson to advance. After further discussion a 2nd question was entertained, motion by Peplinski 2nd by Altwies to add 2nd question as to no fee assessed contact information only. Motion carried on 2nd question. Motion carried. Both questions advance to questionnaire.</p> <p>Question 39. (040821,et al). Past the recovering America Wildlife Act. Motion by Smaby 2nd by Larson to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire.</p> <p>Item 40. (690221) Revised definition of a muzzle loader. Motion by Larson 2nd by Weir to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire.</p> <p>Question 41. (270121) Use of PCP air guns. Motion by Altwies 2nd by Larson to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire.</p> <p>Question 42. (410221). Commercial fishing funding proposal. Motion by Maas 2nd by Larson to advance. Motion carried. Question not on spring hearing.</p> <p>Question 43. (540121). Modify Wisconsin Constitution to increase the use of boating registration fees. Motion by Rogers 2nd by Larson to advance. Motion carried. Question advances to questionnaire.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>		
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**8. Bear Committee** [PRESENTER]

<b>DISCUSSION</b>		
<b>ACTION</b>	<p>Motion by Breunig 2nd by Altwies to support the Bear Committee's quota recommendation to the Natural Resources Board. Motion carried.</p> <p>Secretaries note; this action was taken, a report previously given by committee chairman Rogers.</p>	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**9. YCC Oversight Committee** Tashina Peplinski

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Tashina reported on the many activities that were offered to the YCC youth during the past year.</p> <p>They also brought forward an alumni proposal plan for review by the DLC. The YCC Oversight Committee would like to propose the following to extend opportunities to those YCC delegates that have aged out of the YCC program.</p> <p>The following is the YCC alumni proposal and plan:</p> <p>After much consideration the YCC oversight committee has decided to call this group of individuals involved the "YCC a \Alumni". The committee also decided that they wanted to create a system to keep this group of individuals involved, but did not want to create an entirely new program. The committee felt that it's time and efforts should continue to focus on building the current YCC program. So this proposal achieves the easiest and quickest way to allow for continued connection and contribution from these students/adults.</p> <p>YCC alumni program is voluntary. YCC alumni will undergo the same annual background checks as does the YCC mentors. YCC alumni can participate until the age of 25. YCC alumni will continue to receive the monthly YCC newsletter, and be encouraged to contribute to the newsletter. YCC alumni will continue to be invited to participate in the YCC monthly virtual learning meetings. YCC alumni will be invited to attend all YCC oversight committee meetings as guest speakers to share their current conservation involvements. YCC alumni will be allowed to attend, participate, and mentor in any or all of the YCC learning weekends. YCC alumni will be invited to attend the WCC annual convention to help mentor and work with the current YCC delegates.</p>	
<b>ACTION</b>	<p>After discussion there was a motion by Maas 2nd by Smaby to accept the proposal. Motion carried.</p>	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>	

**10. Trout Committee** [PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	No resolutions advanced.	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

**11. Shooting Sports Committee**

Scott Gunderson

DISCUSSION	<p>Vice Chairman Gunderson gave the report for chairman Harold Drake who had a previous commitment. Scott stated that the committee met November 17 by a zoom meeting. There were no resolutions assigned to the committee. The committee did recognize that \$832,000 was distributed through the range grant program last year. State manages (11) ranges, the issues are closings and upgrades.</p> <p>They also get involved in helping with the range planning.</p> <p>The committee is working on a statewide range inventory program many of them have been identified some removed from the list latest count is that we have 396 ranges in Wisconsin. The committee would like to continue checking by district at the biannual district meetings as they have in the past.</p> <p>The committee is making some progress on a shooting sports coordinator. The need is there but would also need legislation They are also looking at a statewide shooting competition. It was also noted that the range survey was shared with and by the archery programs along with the new R3 coordinator. Another opportunity for our youth delegates if we ever get back to a convention would be having a shooting sports competition in the convention area. It was also discussed at the committee of about NR20 decibels 05 having to do with conduct on ranges. This is an important requirement and needs to be enforced. The scholastic clay target program has really taken off. It has over 130 teams within the state some teams having as many as 120+ shooters.</p> <p>It was asked if they needed permission to continue with their range inventory at the DLC meetings. Consensus was that if done it in the past is didn't need a motion to continue.</p>	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

**12. Migratory Committee**

Todd Cook

DISCUSSION	<p>Resolution 490121 Limit nonresident waterfall hunters. Waterfall committee rejected only 7% of waterfowl hunters are nonresidents. The committee and the department were not in favor.</p> <p>Resolution 520521 Legalized the use of F shot for waterfall hunting. Motion by Smaby 2nd by Larson to support. Motion carried. Question advances.</p>	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

**13. Mississippi River Committee**

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	No resolutions advanced.	
ACTION	As stated above.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

**III. MEMBERS MATTERS**

DISCUSSION	<p>Lori Groskopf: She is concerned that committee minutes are not done in a timely manner, agenda is not posted in advance and would also like to know who is assigned to DNR advisory committees.</p> <p>Paul Reith: He believes ATV issue should be revisited.</p> <p>Tashina Peplinski: Concerned that we should be thinking ahead now on how we are going to be prepared with the Covid issues reemerging.</p> <p>Eugene Altwies: Some resolutions were written well, others not so much he is willing to help. He feels co-chairs should look at resolutions 1st also need more department input on resolutions in the future.</p> <p>Ron Krueger: He wants the resolutions before the county online.</p> <p>Kevin Smaby: Wants hunting with dogs committee to reactivate.</p> <p>Scott Gunderson: Resolutions that was the auto trigger for voting need to go under a separate header in the questionnaire. Any resolutions it come in with non-facts should be discarded.</p> <p>Mike Riggle: He was made aware by a friend in law enforcement that the law enforcement legislative package is not our friend it also has shining for deer within the package (with done).</p>
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	Ken Risley: He wants the hunting with dogs committee reestablished. Tony Blattler: Reminded everyone that we all have responsibilities to bring issues up as DLC leaders. Whether that means that the meetings are giving him a call rather leadership so that things do not fall between the cracks. Motion by Maas 2nd by Krueger to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:48 PM.
<b>ACTION</b>	

## IV. ADJOURNMENT

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	<b>2:48 PM</b>
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	<b>Dale C. Maas</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>01/08/2022</b>