



Wisconsin Conservation Congress
 WCC Wolf Committee
 Meeting Minutes

WCC Meeting Minutes
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ORDER OF BUSINESS	12/03/2022	1:30	Mead Wildlife Area
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by	Ed Harvey at 1:30 pm
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Jeff Wilson, Arby Humphrey, Lowell Wright, Dave Lois, Duane Hoefs, Ed Harvey, Chair, Jessie Espeseth, Mike Lane, Laurie Groskopf, Mike Rogers, Ron Krueger, Mike Hurlburt, Bill Yingst, Steve Staver, Matt McHugh, Steve Ninneman, Paul Witalison, Jeff Giese, Scott McAuley,
EXCUSED	
UNEXCUSED	James Engebretson
GUESTS	Kari Lee-Zimmermann, Jennifer Price -Tack, Randy Johnson, Dustin Gabrielson (all DNR staff), Melissa Smith, Cynthia Samels, Gloriann Klein, Linda Hendrix, Valarie Gibbons, Kelli Villis, Lois Lehmann, Oliver Starr, Brian Giles, Elaine Swanson, Lisa Ciorlieri, Frank Pratt

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	no changes
ACTION	1 - Mike Lane; 2 - Mike Rogers motion to approve MC

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Ed Harvey reviewed the committee mission statement

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	Smith supports resolutions; Gibbons opposed to hunting wolves with dogs, supports resolutions; Klein, ban use of dogs to hunt wolves, is against compensation; Villis in favor of resolution to bans use of dogs, against compensation; Samuels, in favor of resolutions, farmers should have donkeys to deter wolf attacks, against use of dogs; Lehmann, opposed to use of dogs to hunt; Starr, in favor of all resolutions; Giles, Against use of dogs to hunt wolves; Hendrix, against using dogs to hunt wolves; Swanson, against trapping and use of dogs; Ciolieri, against hunting and trapping of wolves; Pratt the past wolf harvest was not good, take a look at fish treaty protocol. Also written comments provided to the committee from Jill Giencke, Scott Pitta, Randy O'Connell, Carol Hardin, Anne Nirva, Patricia Randolph, Mark Giese, Ned Gannon
ACTION	

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A.

1.	resolution 130622	[PRESENTER]
	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
	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
	motion made to reject 1 - Steve Ninnem, 2 - Bill Yingst MC	

2.	Resolution 180422	[PRESENTER]
	DISCUSSION	
	ACTION	motion to reject 1-Dave Lois, 2 - Mike Lane MC
	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

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3.	Resolutions 040422, 130822, 160422,320422,410622,440222,460222,580122,640322,660222,680422	Authors presenting Amy Mueller, Maraya Ba
	DISCUSSION	the resolutions were to eliminate hunting wolves with dogs.
	ACTION	motion to reject 1 - Lowell Wright 2- Matt McHugh
	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
	motion carried (MC)	

4.	Resolution 412822	Jason Maloney
	DISCUSSION	
	ACTION	motion postpone action indefinitely
	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
	1 - Scott McAuley, 2 - Mike Rogers, MC	

5.	[DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]	[PRESENTER]
	DISCUSSION	
	ACTION	
	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

6.	[DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]	[PRESENTER]
	DISCUSSION	
	ACTION	
	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

B. Wolf manager's report

Randy Johson

DISCUSSION	Randy Johnson, Large Carnivore Manager, gave a report on the status of wolves in WI. Much of this information is available on line under the management report. 18 collars are currently on wolves, but some are not working.
ACTION	none
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

C. Conflict management

Brad Koele

DISCUSSION	Randy gave the group information about the damage program
ACTION	none
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

D. [DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC]

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	Jennifer Price-Tack from the science section - Gave information about the wolf estimate, and some current and future research that will increase our knowledge of wolves in Wisconsin. Collaboration between scientists in other states to determine eastern US wolf potential habitat and corridors.	
ACTION	none	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

E. Group discussed response to WI Draft Wolf Management Plan [PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	Committee discussed including three items of opposition to the plan. 1) A numeric goal of 350 is the voted position of the Congress and affirmed by 69 counties in the 2022 Spring Hearings motion by Bill Yingst, second by Jeff Giese to include this reason. 2) People living in wolf range need more input into the plan. motion by Bill Yingst, second by Steve Ninneman, MC. 3) The extreme expansion of wolf habitat in the proposed plan is not supported by science, motion by Laurie Groskopf, second by Jeff Giese. For these three reasons, the Congress Wolf Committee will not support the proposed draft wolf management plan	
ACTION	motion to oppose wolf management plan	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE
1 - Laurie Groskopf 2 - Bill Yingst MC		referred to DLC in January.

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	zone 1A farmers and pets are impacted by wolves and controls are needed. Jeff Willson - proud to be part of this committee, but disappointed in the outcome of the votes today. Scott McAuley - we are the "sifters" not just here to pass the resolutions. Mike Lane - agrees with Scott, We need to make sure members can hear all that is going on in the meeting. Steve Ninnemann - I don't see how you can manage wolves without having a target number. Lowell Wright - the plan is a good idea, but the DNR dropped the ball in 2021. Jeff Giese, our committee is important to make these decisions. Matt McHugh - thanks for the ideas to help make the plan better. Ed Harvey - thanks for working through a large agenda.
ACTION	

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	4:28 motion by Paul Witalison, second by Ron Krueger
SUBMITTED BY	Laurie Groskopf
DATE	12/12/2022