December 4, 2009

Minutes Fur Harvest committee

* called to order by chairman Scott Zimmerman at 7pm
* reviewed mission statement/No changes
* Roll all members present
Conservation Hand Dave Walz replaced John Welke for this meeting

* Guest speaker
Kelley Thiel USDA wildlife services Beaver mgmt.
Distributed Hand outs
Power Pt. presentation
Spoke on costs of Beaver removal & yearly maintenance of those streams
USDA traps lots of trout stream and works with T/U
~~Sets more than~~
Traps within cooperative agreements (National Forest State Forest etc)

USDA annually traps about 1100 Beaver per year on 1500 miles of streams within their cooperative agreements and over 200 complaint Beaver (mainly roadways) and also removes all dams
Over 700 Beaver pelts were sold and between 75-100 pounds of castor

Questions raised from Trout unlimited
Doing more trapping in addition to
wildlife svcs, questions on cost of
stream maintenance and question of
donating Furr & Easton money made
should be donated to youth trapper
Projects

Kelly Thiel also related that 10
wildlife service trappers took 83
incidental otter. These otter go
to the DNR Fur Shed and data is
Being compiled on incidental otter catches
in an effort to reduce these numbers

John Olson stated 2009-10 will be
the last year for a regular Bobcat
season more information will be coming
at the next Furbearer meeting.
In 2010 $3.00 will be added to
the Bobcat application and will be
dedicated to Bobcat research
Olson also stated that they are
on the verge of trail camera research
Jon Olson also stated that they
have approved hiring a full time
Fur Bearer research Person

Olson also reported that Fisher numbers seem to be on the decline in the northern half of the northern Fisher zones

In regards to marten reintroduction 30 marten were released last year in the Clam Lake area. 30 more marten will be released in the next 2 years

3 2009 advisory questions were advanced
1. combine north & south Fox zones
2 colony traps
3 non resident starting raccoon season the same time as residents

Resolution # 190109 To obtain tags / Fisher Otter Bobcat must have valid license
Author of resolution could not attend
Resolution read by Scott Zimmerman
Motion by Pat Van Kauwenberg / Marcus Baese
unanimous M/C

Resolution # 190609 Allow Hunting of Predators over Bait
Concerns over littering, amount of bait, species to be hunted & beginning & ending dates, concern that resolution too broad and vague
Author read resolution & had Harvest talking points

Motion to table by Dan Cichantek
Approved resolution will be amended

Resolution 200109 extend muskrat season in the Winnebago zone

Secretary Dave Hrabchak chaired this resolution as Scott Zimmerman spoke on this. Shortage of muskrats now extended season will hurt population
Dan Carroll made motion to reject 2nd
Larry Vandenhoff motion to reject
carried 1 against

Resolution 500309 preseason marking of trap sites
Author read resolution claims conflicts can occur as well as unsportsman like conduct with preseason staking and that will influence young trappers
Motion to accept banning this practice
made by Jody Bigalke / Bruce Albrecht
motion carried 2 opposed

Resolution 610209 Elimination of Spring Beaver Trapping
Discussion of Beaver needing protection as population is declining this also causes loss of habitat i.e. ponds for other furbearers and waterfowl
Against eliminating spring trapping was Beaver are shot by landowners, federal Beaver eradication Bruce Albrecht motion to accept 2nd by Myron Leis motion carried 10 in favor 6 against

Tabled Resolution 190609
Resolution tabled earlier in the meeting rewritten to begin Dec 1 each year and end on the close of fox season motion made to accept Bruce Albrecht / Larry Vandenhoff motion accepted unanimously

2010 meeting planned
Due to the late hour of ending the committee meeting on a Friday night it was voted to hold the 2010 meeting August 21 10am at the Mead Wildlife center

Motion to adjourn Richard Ammon / Bruce Albrecht

Respectfully submitted
Dave Hnatychuck secretary
Furr Harvest Committee