

Wisconsin Conservation Congress

Bear Committee

Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	12/5/2015	9:00 AM	Mead Education Center
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Mike Rogers at 9:00 AM
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Dave Mabie, Gary Mabie, Jeff Thums, Mike Pfankuch, Arlen Heistad, Russ Hitz, Scott Strook, Denny Jones, Chris Wegner, Bruce Prentice, Connie Kadubek, David Lois, Robb Kaminskis, Randy Voegeli, Dan Vacho, Eugene Muench, Ralph Fritsch, Dale Detampel, Kelly Crotty DNR LE, Dave MacFarland, Al Lobner, Mike Rogers, Kari Lee-Zimmermann
EXCUSED	Mike Murphy, Nathan Roberts
UNEXCUSED	Jerry Huston, Jim Young, Terry Olson,
GUESTS	Laurie Groskopf, Matt Lallemond, Carmen Heard, Diane Cain, Karen Pennekamp, Rod Coronado, Keri Lewis, Agatha Maksymiak, Hans-Jurg Schaller, Frances Lauper, Melanie Weberg

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	None
ACTION	None

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	Current Mission Statement was read by Mike Rogers.
ACTION	Motion to accept as currently written by Al Lobner, 2 nd by Connie Kadubek.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	Public comments were given by Laurie Groskopf, Rod Coronado, Melanie Weberg, Karen Pennekamp, Keri Lewis.
ACTION	None

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. APPLYING FOR BEAR TAG 510215

DAVE MABIE

DISCUSSION	Resolution was read by author. Resolution would take legislative action to be implemented. There was significant discussion from the committee regarding implementation and amendments to the currently written resolution.	
ACTION	Motion was made to approve motion by Dave Mabie and 2 nd by Russ Hitz. Motion passed with amendments from Committee and approval of the author. See attached revised Resolution.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

B. BEAR PREFERENCE POINT PRICE INCREASE 050215**MIKE ROGERS**

DISCUSSION	The original author (Mathew Denis) of this resolution was not present. The resolution was read by Chairman Rogers. Resolution is statutory and would require legislative action. After significant discussion motion was brought to a vote.	
ACTION	Motion was made to approve motion as read by Russ Hitz and 2 nd by Dave Lois. Motion to forward as written was passed with Ralph Fritsch opposed.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

C. BEAR BAITING PERIOD DECREASE 270215**DIANE CAIN**

DISCUSSION	Author of resolution was present and presented the resolution 270215.	
ACTION	Motion made to reject by Al Lobner and 2 nd by Russ Hitz. Resolution rejected by Committee with Bruce Prentice abstaining.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

D. DEPARTMENT INFORMATION REPORT.**DAVE MACFARLAND PRESENTATION**

Dave MacFarland presented some information regarding the Tetracycline study which leaves some question if the Department will be allowed to use tetracycline and if not what product can be used. Currently Minnesota has transitioned to a different process that they feel is more reliable than tetracycline. There is also some thought of collaring bears again for Wisconsin.

Dave also presented the harvest information for this year regarding age, sex, zones, method of kill, and success rates. Tribal harvest of bears was 35-38 bears for this year. Aphis damage report was given along with complaints and Agricultural complaints which were up this year.

Bear Populations by zone were discussed. Tooth submissions were down this year because of electronic registration. Registrati on process was confusing for some. Quota recommendations were submitted by the DNR Bear Committee. A motion was made by Mike Pfrankuch and 2nd by Connie Kadubek to support DNR Committee recommendations. Motion carried with opposition by Ralph Fritsch.

Russ Hitz suggested that the Department look at a plan that is used to distribute hunters as it is done for deer hunting for bear hunting as well. Dave MacFarland informed us that it is a possibility but will not happen this year, the reason being that the Bear Plan would need to be reviewed and updated, and the department did not want to work on the Wolf Plan and the Bear Plan at the same time.

DNR Warden Kelly Crotty gave a report on Law Enforcement issues. Warden Crotty also reported on the Learn to Bear Hunt program as well as the Catch a Dream Hunt and other noteworthy organizations and hunts. Dave Mabie also talked about his LTBH encounters.

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	No comments given by Committee Members.
ACTION	None

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	Motion by Dave Mabie 2nd by Denny Jones to adjourn. Motion carried. 12:30 PM
SUBMITTED BY	Al Lobner
DATE	12/5/2015

TITLE: APPLYING FOR A BEAR TAG

THE PROBLEM:

As more hunters are getting involved in bear hunting, it is taking longer to draw a harvest permit. Over the past several years there have been rule changes on how many years an applicant can miss and still retain their preference points. Knowing it could take up to 10 years to receive a harvest permit yearly applying can be missed.

Be it resolved, that the Conservation Congress at its Bear Study Committee Meeting held at the Mead Education Center on Dec. 5, 2015 recommends that the Conservation Congress work with the Department to take action to correct this situation by introducing a statutory rule change to allow hunters to apply for 6 years at a time for preference points or a harvest permit.

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Dave Mabie

Resolution #510215