

Wisconsin Conservation Congress

Deer & Elk Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes



ORDER OF BUSINESS	August 9, 2014	9:00 AM	Elizabeth Inn, Plover, WI
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY	Al Phelan at 9:02 AM
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ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Alan Horvath, Al Gerber, Jay Koenig, James Morning, Roger Sabota, Mark Noll, William Yingst, Allen Jacobson, Stan Brownell, Larry Gohlke, Doug Seidl, Wright Allen, Larry Bonde, Tony Grabski, Al Phelan, Charlie Brown, Martin Haas, Dave Poff, Kevin Wallenfang-DNR, Dan Storm-DNR, Dustin Bronson-DNR
EXCUSED	Tony Janecek, Arold Ninneman, Terri Roehrig, Joe Helwig, Mike Riggle (Joined us at 2:59 PM), Marlin Laidlaw, David Pagel, Larry Hazen, Joe Caputo, Melvin "Bud" Walker, Jerry Aulik, Kevin Mickelberg-DNR, Dave Zebro-DNR
UNEXCUSED	
GUESTS	Bob Knorr, Gerald Disher, Diane Ruenger, Paul Smith, Arlyn Splitt

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Motion by Yingst, 2nd by Bonde to approve agenda

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	The mission of the Deer and Elk Committee of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress is to represent the citizens of Wisconsin by blending the social and biological concerns of hunters, citizens and the Department of Natural Resources to provide successful management of Wisconsin's deer and elk populations and address the interests of all parties.
ACTION	none

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	none
ACTION	

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

Resolution 030314 Antler point restrictions in Barron and Polk Counties

BRETT MARAVITZ-AUTHOR

DISCUSSION	Some members expressed the desire to let this play out through the CDACs of each individual county. However, there were other members that expressed concern over trophy management that may affect how others hunt.
ACTION	Motion by Bonde to advance, 2nd by Yingst, Motion by Grabski, 2nd by Bonde to amend to give the option of antler restrictions to each individual CDAC. Amended motion carried by voice vote.

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Resolution 100314 Antler point restrictions in Clark County **LOGAN SCHMITZ-AUTHOR**

DISCUSSION	Kevin Wallenfang and Dan Storm discussed the biology of fawn survival with the author and committee members
ACTION	Motion by Grabski to include with the previous resolution #030314, 2nd by Seidl. Carried by voice vote.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Resolution 480114 Ban baiting and feeding of deer from Sept. 1 - end of hunting season **HAROLD HALVERSON-AUTHOR**

DISCUSSION	The author discussed the deer baiting situation in Wisconsin. Haas felt the disease transmission argument doesn't carry water if a ban is not year-round. Gohlke felt the year that baiting was banned, hunting was much more fun. Sabota felt feeding and baiting must be split in order to handle the situation. Horvath felt that public resources are being tied up on private land by baiting. Jacobson felt we should promote this to the public vote.
ACTION	Motion by Brown to advance, 2nd by Seidl. Carried by voice vote.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Resolution 110114,130814,131114, 290314, 300214, 400214, 440114, 490414, 570514 Change legal definition of albino and white deer **AMY SPRECHER-AUTHOR**
RON RUENGER-AUTHOR

DISCUSSION	The first author discussed the current legal definition of white deer. The 2nd author, Ruenger, talked of the respect and morals that need to be preserved in the hunting community. Chairman Phelan read a letter he received from resolution author Brian Gurske of Pardeeville, WI. Members were concerned over the % definition in the resolution. Some questioned why there was any need to protect white deer, others spoke to the exact opposite.
ACTION	Motion by Brown to support, 2nd by Seidl. Hand vote passed 8yes, 6 no
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Resolution 370714 Create new elk zone in reintroduction area, increase predator permits **DAVE POLSTER-AUTHOR**

DISCUSSION	The author expressed his desire to protect elk from predators. Kevin Wallenfang discussed actual predator impact on elk. He explained on-going efforts to grow the elk herd.
ACTION	Motion to reject by Gohlke, 2nd by Allen. Motion to reject passed by voice vote.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Resolution 520114 Allow counties to implement antler point restrictions **[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	Motion by Yingst, 2nd by Grabski to combine 520114 with 030314 and 100314 and defer in the same manner. Passed by voice vote.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Resolution 720114 Allow white deer hunting in Wood County**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION		
ACTION	Motion by Grabski, 2nd by Brown to reject. Motion failed by voice vote. Motion by Gerber, 2nd by Horvath to accept. Passed by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

Resolution 040114 Divide Bayfield County DMU**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	We already have a new unit system based on counties. CDAC can target antlerless tags to various areas within their county.	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Gohlke, 2nd by Seidl. Passed by voice vote	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

Resolution 490514 Remove CWD designation from Polk County**[PRESENTER]**

DISCUSSION	Current rules allow no mechanism to get out of CWD designation.	
ACTION	Motion to reject by Gohlke, 2nd by Yingst. Passed by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

Resolution 060114 Wanton waste of deer**MARK NOLL-AUTHOR**

DISCUSSION	Noll discussed the need to strengthen wanton waste statutes, especially with deer. Members felt that the image of hunters is important.	
ACTION	Motion to advance by Gohlke, 2nd by Yingst. Passed by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

Agenda Item: Use of Drones for Hunting**PHELAN & NOLL**

DISCUSSION	Discussion centered on the need to perhaps kill this seed before it begins to grow.	
ACTION	Motion to accept by Yinst, 2nd by Brown. Passed by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

Agenda Item: Return DNR authority to implement EAB**MARK NOLL**

DISCUSSION	Noll provided his line of thinking regarding the need for the DNR to have the EAB tool again. Some counties in the Farmland Zones have current populations that require high antlerless harvests just to sustain their current population levels. Such harvest levels have only been accomplished during previous EAB seasons. Members had a lengthy discussion weighing the negative effects of EAB and the political reality of getting the legislature to return the ability to the Department.	
ACTION	Motion to advance by Gohlke, 2nd by Yingst, That the Wisconsin DNR be allowed to use an Earn-a-buck deer hunting season again provided it is only within Central Farmland or Southern Farmland Zones of Wisconsin and provided it is only with the annual consent and positive approval of the County Deer Advisory Council (CDAC) in the individual county and/or counties within those previously mentioned zones that require such a season. Passed by voice vote.	
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

Wildlife Management Update**KEVIN WALLENFANG**

DISCUSSION	Kevin discussed 2013 Deer Harvest, new rules for 2014, and the CDAC system. Several members had a variety of questions about CDAC for Kevin. He also spoke on developments in the DMAP program and changes in deer registration. About 45 elk calves were born this spring. He announced that the elk re-introduction process is really heating up right now. Negotiations with Kentucky may bring 150 elk into Wisconsin over a three year period.	
ACTION		

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

Deer Research Update

DUSTIN BRONSON AND DAN STRONG

DISCUSSION	Dustin reported on the possible development of a research project on DNR land in Vilas County regarding forestry and how it relates to deer population levels. Dan discussed Deer Monitoring Metrics. There is an effort to develop a method to determine deer density on an individual property level, and what effect it has on forestry characteristics. Both researchers answered questions from several committee members.	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	Larry Gohlke commented on Deer Fest. Koenig wished everyone a safe season. Brown expressed concern over the many committee members that are in absense. Gerber mentioned problems with noise from the adjacent room. Jacobson commented on the excitement in Jackson County over the Elk Introduction. Bonde thinks we need to prioritise where we want to spend research efforts. Horvath had concerns over the CDAC training that took place in June. Chairman Phelan expressed that the CDAC process is going to be exciting, but it will be a challenge at first.
ACTION	

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	4:09 PM
SUBMITTED BY	Mark Noll - Co-Chairman & Acting Secretary
DATE	August 9, 2014