



Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
DISTRICT 7 SPRING MEETING  
Meeting Minutes

**WCC Meeting Minutes**  
Form 8300-026 (R 11/17) Page 1 of 5

<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	03/03/2021	7 PM	ZOOM
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**I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by	DALE MAAS at 7:09 PM
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**B. ROLL CALL**

ATTENDEES	COOK; DRAKE, KLATT, MAAS, ZIMMERMANN, O. BOWE, HAASE, LAPINE, STROOK, BOWEY, GETTELMAN, GRIM, JAMES, GOHLKE, PARROTT, WOLLENBURG, KOHL, MC HUGH, MINNEMAN, STEVE NINNEMAN, SEIDL, BESTUL, KNORR, SHELLEY, SPLITT, BOOKER, PIECHOWSKI, BROWN, ALLEN, KOCH, LOEHRKE, NELSON Chairman Maas had a moment of silence for Earl Stahl who passed away.
EXCUSED	STELZNER
UNEXCUSED	GALLANT, PUTERBAUGH;
GUESTS	DNR--ZIMMERMANN; B. ZIMMERMAN; JEAN

**C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR**

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	NO MOTION MADE

**D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT**

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	NO MOTION MADE

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	NO PUBLIC COMMENTS NOTED FOR MEETING

**II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Informational Items & Program Updates**

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	A. Department and Secretary's Office updates--Jean Romback-Bartles, NE Secretary; Sturgeon plan is expected to go to the NRB in April; Wolf Season up date, Season ran from 2/22--24, 216 registered (86% by dogs; 5% by trap; 9% other; 54 males and 46 females harvested a wolf). New contamination info out for Lake Superior and recommends eating only one meal a month of smelt from there. CWD sampling efforts 18,600+ deer tested with about 1,500 testing positive.(central farm land=19 positive; central forest=9 positive; southern farm=1,534 positive). Thank you to all the folks that helped or took care of a keosik, or CWD pickup site. Staffing and hiring freeze; still operating Have received approval to fill a limited number of vacancies. Department working on clean drinking water via various issues that are currently on the books. Jean noted that Jeff Prinsel has been a wildlife supervisor for a long time in the district and will be the state head deer specialist. Mike Arrowood noted that there are a bunch of fisheries vacancies that have been there for awhile and need to be filled ASAP. C. Review Conservation Congress Advisory Question---Dale noted that there was a change to the Great Lakes committee question 6 on page 3. The last line needs to be corrected for the Spring Hearings	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

**B. Conservation Congress Annual County Meeting and DNR Spring Hearing Logistics**

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	A. Spring Hearings will be held online in 2021 beginning at 7:00 pm on April 12 and will remain open for 72 hours. No in-person meetings will be held.
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	<p>There will again be 3 options for each question. Instead of skipping questions, it is our preference that individuals utilize the “no opinion” option if they do not have a position on the issue (this will give us better data to review), however people who skip questions will still have their input compiled. Please don't skip a question but rather mark No Opinion.</p> <p>Resolutions will be submitted online through a survey tool. Resolutions can be pasted into the online tool and staff will assign it the resolution number on our end. The requirement for resolution length has been changed from 250 words to 2,000 characters (which the program automatically counts). You can start with resolutions now through April 5th. The resolution form is on the web in the spring hearings section of the WCC. Kari sent out info on this via email and it is also on our facebook page.</p> <p><b>B. Delegate Seats</b></p> <p>Delegate terms will be extended by another year, as was done last year. If you weren't planning to run again, or wish to vacate your seat, please let Kari Lee-Zimmermann, your County Chair, and your District Councilors know. County chairs have the ability to fill vacant seats by appointing people to fill the remainder of the term. (COP X.D.2: If a vacancy occurs, the county chair or vice-chair (in the absence of the chair) may appoint someone to fill the vacancy.) <b>2 COUNTIES HAVE VACANCIES; MARQUETTE AND GREEN LAKE.</b></p> <p>Delegate profiles will be available online in the form of a survey. Delegates have until Friday, April 9, 2021, to complete their delegate profile online. If a delegate does not have email, a hardcopy will be sent in the mail to be completed and sent back. Newly appointed delegates with email will receive the informational email a few days after Kari Lee-Zimmermann is notified of their appointment and the Outreach Committee will reach out to new delegates for onboarding.</p> <p>Guidance from WCC Outreach Committee: We continue to have vacancies across the state in open WCC positions. Emphasis needs to be placed on key deficiencies. See attached information with vacant positions. We should be making room for the right new delegate. Most of these terms are not full terms so test people out to see how they do versus looking for the perfect delegate.</p> <p>How might you seek out candidates to fill these empty positions? Who within your district can you work with to ensure these seats get filled? How can Outreach assist you?</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> Report back to Outreach Committee: Terri Roehrig (troehrig@yahoo.com) or Justin Loehrke (thanksgiving1122@hotmail.com)</p> <p><b>C. Local Spring Hearing Press</b></p> <p>We will be sending the press release electronically to those delegates with email. Please decide who within your county will be responsible for taking this press release to local media outlets. We offer this press release to media for their use in order to get the word out about the Spring Hearings, but we do not have the funding to pay to have this published in local papers. If you would like a hardcopy of this press release to distribute, please contact Kari Lee-Zimmermann at (608) 219-9134.</p> <p>Guidance from WCC Outreach Committee: We will be posting Spring Hearings information on the WCC FB page and boosting the posts this year with dollars from Friends of the WCC. We would appreciate if each delegate could share the posts on their local groups, pages and personal pages. <b>THE WCC FACEBOOK PAGE IS BEING USED A LOT SO KEEP IT UP.</b></p> <p>How might you as a delegate encourage people to provide input for this year's Spring Hearings? Could you attend a local sport club meeting, a county conservation alliance meeting and share the information? Or if you are uncomfortable with attending a meeting, could you contact the President and ask that an agenda item be discussed, and you provide information about the Spring Hearings to them? Or ask if Spring Hearings information can be put in a newsletter if they have one. Could you reach out to local safety education instructors and ask for a few minutes of time to discuss the importance of participating in Spring Hearings? Could you reach out to user groups or non-consumptive user groups and share the Spring Hearings information?</p> <p><b>MIKE ARROWOOD ASKED IF HE COULD JUST FORWARD THE EMAILS FROM KARI TO HIS MAILING LISTS (THE INFORMATIONAL TYPE EMAILS) KARI SAID YES.</b></p>
<b>ACTION</b>	
<b>PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>

## C. Other Congress Business

[PRESENTER]

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p><b>A. Committee Appointments</b></p> <p>The District Leadership Councilors will discuss with their districts the advisory committee selection process and will work with their district delegates to identify the appropriate members to sit on the various advisory committees. Kari Lee-Zimmermann will be sending out links to a Survey Monkey survey to gather preferences for committee</p>
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assignments to help Councilors determine the final assignments. MEETING ATTENDANCE; THERE HAVE BEEN 2 FOLKS THAT HAVE MISSED COMMITTEE MEETINGS ONE WAS EXCUSED AND ONE WASN'T AND HAD MISSED 2 MEETINGS. HE MISSED BOTH DUE TO WORK. WE WILL BE FILLING SOME OF THE OPENINGS DOWN THE ROAD ON SOME OF THE COMMITTEES.

#### B. Youth Conservation Congress (standing item on agenda)

Be sure to engage any YCC delegates in attendance at your district meetings, ask them about any YCC activities or experiences they may want to share, and continue to encourage delegates to reach out to schools and youth in their areas to promote the Youth Conservation Congress program. Delegates on the YCC Oversight Committee may have additional information to share about the status of this youth engagement opportunity. This is an opportunity to educate new delegates (and remind long-time delegates) about this program.

Reach out to your local media outlets with the recent press release if they haven't already run it. HAROLD DRAKE OF DODGE COUNTY HAS 2 YOUTH IN LINE TO GET ON THE YCC. KATIE JAMES WHO IS ON THE YCC COMMITTEE NOTED THAT ONCE WE GET BACK TO HAVING NORMAL IN PERSON MEETINGS, IT WILL MAKE IT BETTER TO GET THE YOUTH INVOLVED. ONCE WE GET TO THIS STAGE KATIE INDICATED THAT SOME OF THE TEACHERS AT HER SCHOOL WERE GOING TO GIVE KIDS EXTRA CREDIT IF THEY WOULD PURSUE THE YCC.

#### C. Outreach & Public Relations Efforts - Delegate Resources/ Educational Material (standing item on agenda)

Continue efforts to educate the public about the WCC and their opportunity to participate in CDACs and Spring Hearings.

Delegates have a number of resources available to them under "local delegate resources" from the WCC homepage (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/about/wcc/Delegates>). Please review the guidance, trainings, and templates available to you.

There is a 1½ minute promotional video available for delegates to use when giving talks about the Congress or encouraging others to get involved. It can be found on the WCC homepage (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/about/wcc>).

There is also a WCC brochure that can be printed off the web ([https://dnr.wi.gov/About/WCC/Documents/WCC\\_Brochure19\\_20.pdf](https://dnr.wi.gov/About/WCC/Documents/WCC_Brochure19_20.pdf)) or ordered from Kari Lee-Zimmermann for use when providing informational material about the WCC to citizens.

Delegates can now get blank business cards that you can fill in with your contact information when you're speaking to others about the WCC. Supplies of these can be ordered from Kari Lee-Zimmermann or you can also get the template to create and order on your own

#### D. Shooting Sports Range Update (from Committee Chair Harold Drake)

The WCC Shooting Committee is once again requesting your assistance in updating the Statewide Shooting Range Inventory listing. The committee would like each district to do a preliminary review of the list at their district meetings. We are asking county chairs to review the list as it applies to their specific County. We are interested in making corrections to the list that reflect the current status of each listed range. Please take the time to investigate any listed range that you may have questions about.

Forward any changes to Emily Iehl: [emily.iehl@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:emily.iehl@Wisconsin.gov). If you have no changes, please respond by indicating your specific county and that no changes are needed.

Things we are looking for:

- 1) Any range that is not on the range inventory. (New or existing)
- 2) Any range that is on the Inventory that is no longer active.
- 3) Ranges that no longer offer a listed venue. (Shut down Rile Range Etc.)
- 4) Ranges that added a venue such as new pistol range, sporting clays Etc.
- 5) Range Status. Public or private?

HEROLD DRAKE GAVE A SUMMARY REPORT NOTING THAT STATEWIDE THERE WERE ABOUT 400 RANGES WITH DISTRICT 7 HAVING 69. HE SENT OUT A LIST TO THE COUNTY CHAIRS IN THE DISTRICT TO UPDATE THEIR RANGES AND GET IT BACK TO HAROLD. THESE WOULD BE NEW, INACTIVE OR CLOSED RANGES THAT NEED TO BE NOTED. EVEN RANGES THAT HAVE UPDATED THE RANGE. UPDATE ADDRESSES? GOOD WAY TO START A COUNTY ALLIANCE WITH NAMES FROM THE GUN CLUBS/SHOOTING RANGES.

#### E. Awards

☐ Nominations are being sought for organizations, clubs (either local or statewide), and educators who have made a significant contribution to conservation in the past year. Please get the word out to local organizations and individual who may have nominations. The nomination form can be found on the WCC website under "Annual WCC Awards." Nominations are due May 21, 2021.

The Executive Committee would like your help in nominating a fellow WCC delegate for the Dave A. Ladd Heavy Lifter Award. Each year the Congress recognizes one of its own for their extraordinary efforts, both within the

Congress and in other areas that enhance our communities. Please provide a brief summary of your nominee and their civic accomplishments to one of the Executive Committee members or the DNR Liaison. There is no formal nomination form for this award, but any suggestions are welcome by May 21, 2021.

☐ The Executive Committee would like your help in nominating outstanding DNR staff for the annual awards. In the past, awards were given to individuals in the specific fields of wildlife, fisheries, and law enforcement; however, as was done the past two years, the WCC will taking nominations for any deserving DNR staff, regardless of the bureau or division for which they may work. The nomination form can be found on the WCC website under “Annual WCC Awards.” Nominations are due May 21, 2021.

E. Outreach & Public Relations Committee priorities (From the Outreach & Public Relations Committee)

Delegates in Action: As delegate, we’d love to showcase the work you are involved in within your local community and county. What upcoming activities are you doing in the outdoors? Are you getting hives ready for the summer season? Are you cleaning out wood duck houses and providing new nesting materials? Are you teaching a safety education course? Are you participating in a Learn to Turkey Hunt and mentoring a kid or adult that has never gone turkey hunting before? Are you doing Spring Cleanup on your local public or county hunting grounds?

If you are doing anything related to the WCC’s mission, we’d love to showcase it on our social media page and with other delegates. If you are interested in getting interviewed for an article that we can release to the press about the great work you are doing, please let us know – we’d like to start show casing our delegates within the state of Wisconsin.

Non-Consumptive User Groups: As an organization, we really need to expand our thinking beyond the hook and bullet organizations and individuals and expand to the non-consumptive users of Wisconsin.

How might we provide ideas and actions on how to reach out? Who do you know that we can make contact with to include them in WCC related outreach?

Groups could include: Local, state, national (Examples provided by Scott Pitta of Adams County)

- Sierra Club
- Madison 350 Climate Action Team
- Midwest Environmental
- Wisconsin Green Fire
- Superior Rivers Watershed Association
- Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies
- WI Tribes Association
- Menomonic Tribe

Delegate Onboarding: The Outreach Committee has put an Onboarding document together for new delegates and we’d like to share with new delegates in your districts and counties. If you have a new delegate, please contact the Outreach Committee so we can onboard them.

Outreach will be working on more checklists and documentation to help all of our delegates. Examples include: Resolution process, Committee Chair responsibilities

If you feel there is something missing or a document that may be helpful – please let us know.

Other issues: Are there other issues, concerns or feedback that OUTREACH should be looking at? If so, let us know!

ACTION: Report back to Outreach Committee: Terri Rochrig (tlochrig@yahoo.com) or Justin Lochrke (thanksgiving1122@hotmail.com) SEND JUSTIN ANY NAMES OF WCC INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE PART OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT DOES A LOT IN CONSERVATION.

F. WCC Learn-to-Bear-Hunt Tag

The given the current situation with Covid-19, all Learn-to-Hunts have been cancelled through June 30, 2021. With the uncertainty about whether or not the LTHs will be able to be held in the fall, we are not holding the essay contest for the Learn to Hunt Bear tag at this time, but we will keep everyone apprised of any changes to the situation that may occur later this spring or summer that may allow for us to have it.

G. 2021 Annual Convention Cancelled/ May District Meetings to be held instead

Again, for the safety and health of our delegates, the WCC has decided to cancel the 2021 annual convention originally scheduled for May 13-15 in Stevens Point. In order to get the business of the organization accomplished, the Executive Committee has determined that the WCC will hold additional District Meetings for each district around the state May 10-21, 2021.

At these district meetings, the delegates of each district will review the public input received through the Spring Hearings and provide district-specific feedback to the district councilors.

	Elections for District Councilors will also be held at these May District Meetings and committee assignments will be finalized. The district councilors will then hold a DLC meeting to determine the WCC position on the Spring Hearing questions and determine what to advance to the DNR for further consideration. District councilors will elect the Executive Committee from the District Councilors elected at the May district meetings.	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

## III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	LOEHRKE-BROUGHT UP THE LETTER BY THE WCC CHAIR AND QUESTIONED THAT WE WERE GETTING IN A "P" MATCH. WE ARE AN ADVISORY TO THE NRB. MAYBE WE SHOULD PUT OUR QUESTIONS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER. WISCONSIN DIDN'T RESPOND TO THE FWS ON STURGEN STUDY. OTHER STATES COMMENTED ON THE LAKE STURGEN BUT WIDIDN'T. WE CAN'T BACK OFF ON THIS. NELSON-CRITTERS WAS APPROACHED BY AN ARCHERY GROUP WITH 12 INSTRUCTORS WITH 90 KIDS 4-12YRS. BESTUL--HAD A CWD CONFIRMATION FROM A DEER FARM, 50% OF THE DEER IN THE PAST YEAR ON THE FARM TESTED POSITIVE. THE WCC SHOULD ESTABLISH STRICTER RULES ON FENCING ON THE DEER FARMS. (DALE SUGGESTED TO GIVE TONY A CALL REGARDING AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING WITH DEPT. STAFF TO DISCUSS THIS OR DO A RESOLUTION). KNORR--THE YOUTH THAT HAD A TAG LAST YEAR WASN'T ABLE TO US HIS TAG AND WONDERED IF HE CAN USE IT THIS YEAR. IS THERE GOING TO BE A LEARN TO HUNT IN THE FALL? SPLITT--ALL CWD IS FROM THE DEER FARMS AND HAS BEEN GOING ON ALL TO LONG. IS THE NEXT MEETING GOING TO BE IN PERSON? WOLLENBURG-APPRECIATED ALL THAT JUSTIN HAS DONE; BOWEY--HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FROM THE DISTRICT MEETING THAT HE SAT IN ON. HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE. GETTELMAN--DIDN'T SEE A MAJOR ISSUE OF WHAT THE NRB SAID AS REFERENCE TO WHAT TO JUSTIN SAID. HAASE--CAN HAVE HUNTER SAFETY STARTING APRIL 1ST. ANYTHING ON THE DNR HAVING FOLKS GETTING VACCINATED. AT THIS TIME IT IS UP TO THE INDIVIDUAL STAFF AS TO GETTING VACCINATED. WONDERING ABOUT VOLUNTEERS WORKING IN THE STREAMS WITH DNR STAFF. ARROWOOD--JUST INFORMATION THAT THEY WILL BE GETTING THEIR WALLEYE HATCHERY PERMITS ISSUED THIS YEAR. COOK--MARCH 16-18 ON THE WATERFOWL PURPOSALS AND HOW TO USE THE ON LINE INSERVICE TOOL. DRAKE-ANYONE WHO WANTS THE NEWS ARTICLE THAT HE WROTE SHOULD CONTACT HIM. THE STATE GAME FARM WILL NOT HAVE THE DAY OLD CHICK PROGRAM FOR PHEASANTS FOR THE 2ND YEAR IN A ROW. MAAS--THE REGULAR BIOLOGIST WAS OUT AND ONE FROM ANOTHER COUNTY WAS THERE. THE 2 CDAC MEMBERS THAT WERE REPLACED ON THE BOARD WEREN'T GIVEN ANY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THEIR SERVICE. THE BIOLOGIST TOLD DALE THAT THEY REPRESENT THE STATE CDAC AND DALE SAID NO, THEY REPRESENT THE COUNTY CDAC. THE BIOLOGIST DISAGREED WITH HIM. WE NEED SOME CLEAR CUT CDAC GUIDLINES/GOAL FOR US TO BE AWARE OF. WE HAVE 1 \$3000 SUPPORTER FROM SHADOWS ON THE WOLF. NEED SOME FISH MOUNTS. WHEN THE ROUGH FISH REMOVAL WAS REMOVED FROM THE DNR IT MADE THINGS VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE LAKES THAT HAVE ROUGH FISH. NINNEMAN--A LITTLE HARD ON SOME OF THE FOLKS THAT HAVE MISSED MEETINGS. WE SHOULD GET BACK TO "NORMAL".
ACTION	

## IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	MOTION BY BESTUL/2ND SEIDLE MOTION PASSED 9:10 PM
SUBMITTED BY	Paul Gettelman
DATE	03/04/2021