



Wisconsin Conservation Congress
 District 10 Spring Meeting
 Meeting Minutes

WCC Meeting Minutes
 Form 8300-026 (R 11/17) Page 1 of 4

ORDER OF BUSINESS	05/17/2021	7:00 P.M.	Remote Zoom Meeting
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I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by	Ken Risley at 7:00 P.M.
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	Jayne Meyer (Dane), Paul Reith (Dane), Tim Gorski (Dane), Mary Ellen O'Brien (Dane), Brad Wagner (Dane), Ken Risley (Green), Ryan Schutte (Green), Scott Lettman (Green), Jeff Winn (Jefferson), William Kehoe (Jefferson), Dennis Jones (Jefferson), Lowell Wright (Jefferson), Larry Meyer (Rock), Charlie Brown (Rock), Ryan Stahl (Rock), Curt Jacob (Rock), Oscar Mueller (Walworth), Ronald Earnest (Walworth) Kari Lee-Zimmerman (DNR)
EXCUSED	Cody Gadow (Green), Thomas Schwefel (Jefferson), Martin Sands (Walworth), Rich Marti (Green) Kathleen Tober,
UNEXCUSED	Unexcused/status unknown: Kenneth Balestrieri (Walworth)
GUESTS	None

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	Not Applicable to 5/17/21 meeting
ACTION	

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	Not applicable to 5/17/21 meeting
ACTION	

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	Not applicable to 5/17/21 meeting
ACTION	

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Election of District Councilors

[PRESENTER]

DISCUSSION	The group agreed to nominate and elect the District 10 councilors through voice vote. Jayne Meyer noted that she will be vacating her current district councilor seat. Jayne Meyer nominated Paul Reith; seconded by Mary Ellen O'Brien, and passed by unanimous vote. Paul agreed to accept the district councilor seat that will be vacated by Jayne Meyer. Scott Lettman nominated Ken Risley; seconded by Ryan Schuette, and passed by unanimous vote. Ken accepted the nomination and agreed to continue in the district councilor position.	
ACTION		
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE		DEADLINE

B. Review results of 2021 spring hearing and provide district perspective for district Councilors.

Jayne Meyer and Ken Risley

DISCUSSION	The group agreed that it wasn't necessary to go through all of the spring hearing resolutions individually, but rather, to note and discuss those that may have raised issues or questions based on the results of county or statewide input. Ken Risley noted that only two resolutions failed at the statewide level. Spring hearing item #33 (Resolution #720120) regarding a white deer hunt failed by a total of 164 "votes" from Wisconsin residents. The specific spring
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	<p>hearing question was "Would you support legalizing the harvest of white (not albino) deer statewide?" It is currently illegal to hunt white deer statewide, except for piebald deer. The issue raised in the preamble to the hearing question was that deer with predominantly white markings (whether truly albino, piebald, or otherwise white) put them at a disadvantage for predators because they lack protective coloring, and because they may also have recessive traits and physical maladies such as poor eyesight. From a strictly biological perspective, there is no reason to protect white deer from hunting.</p> <p>Jeff Winn noted that Jefferson County residents "voted" in favor of the white deer season resolution (96 in favor, 65 opposed). He stated that he would like to see continue effort to move this resolution forward. Bill Kehoe noted that this issue comes up frequently at CDAC meetings, and there is consistent support for a white deer hunt. Charlie Brown stated he also supports finding a way to move this item forward for further consideration. Jayne Meyer posed a question to the group as to whether there was overall support for continuing to pursue this resolution. See action item below for disposition.</p> <p>The other resolution that failed was spring hearing item #36 (Resolution #090220 and #510120) regarding allowing hunting with dogs without having the dogs be on an 8-foot leash. This resolution failed by a total of 900 "votes" from Wisconsin residents. The specific spring hearing question was "Do you support the allowing of dog training, trailing, and hunting on state-owned land from April 15-July 31 without requiring the use of an 8-foot leash?" The preamble to this hearing question notes that current regulations limit the training and trailing of dogs between April 15 and July 31 of each year due to concern on the impact on nesting birds. Dogs must be on an 8-foot leash at all times.</p> <p>Currently, dogs can be trained on private land, county land, and federal lands, but not on state-owned land during April 15 to July 31 without the 8-foot leash restriction. This is inconsistent with allowing hunting seasons on state-owned land during this time period. If hunting on state lands is allowed, dog training should also be allowed.</p> <p>Dennis Jones noted that this resolution is somewhat confusing because it doesn't apply to class 1 field trials. Larry Meyer stated that the main concern with non-leashed dog training on state land is with potential impacts on nesting birds. Paul Reith stated that lack of class 1 training areas could be one of the main issues at play. There is growing interest in having more designated dog training areas. If it was agreed that no further action would be taken by the group on this resolution.</p> <p>Ken and Jayne reminded the group that typically, the position taken by the county you represent on a particular resolution is the position you should support at the district meetings, annual meeting, etc. even if it's different than your personal preference.</p> <p>There were no other resolutions identified for discussion.</p>
ACTION	Jeff Winn made a motion to advance Resolution #720120 (white deer hunt) to the District Leadership Council for further consideration. The motion was seconded by Charlie Brown and passed by voice vote.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

C. Provide input on Code of Procedures changes to district councilors

Jayne Meyer

DISCUSSION	Jayne briefly reviewed the types of changes being made to the Code of Procedures (a copy was made available to district delegates prior to the meeting). The changes do not represent any substantive procedural changes. Rather, they are editorial in nature to account for remote meetings and the types of electronic devices being used to conduct these meetings.
ACTION	Jeff Winn made a motion to accept the Code of Procedures changes as written; seconded by Paul Reith and passed by voice vote.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

D. Finalize District committee assignments

Ken Risley

DISCUSSION	<p>Kari Lee-Zimmerman sent out a survey in April, 2021 to gather preferences for committee assignments. This was done to help the district councilors in determining final assignments.</p> <p>Ken reviewed the current committee assignments and asked the group to let him know if there are any desired</p>
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	<p>changes. He will then get the final list to Kari Lee-Zimmerman. The committee assignments will be posted on the WCC website.</p> <p>Ken also suggested that once the committee assignments are posted, committee chairs take the responsibility for notifying their committee members about their assignments.</p> <p>Ken also noted there have been requests to have county chairs notify their delegates about upcoming meetings. As it now stands, delegates are responsible for checking the WCC website and/or receiving notifications from Kari Lee-Zimmerman. Paul Reith said he would look into possible use of electronic calendar invites (such as Outlook calendar) to notify delegates about upcoming meetings.</p>
ACTION	Paul Reith will check into possible electronic calendar options for notifying county delegates about upcoming meetings.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

E. Update on county leadership position elections

Kari Lee-Zimmerman

DISCUSSION	<p>Kari Lee-Zimmerman asked attendees to let her know if they wanted to hold elections for vacant county delegate positions. she also noted that current delegates up for re-election have been extended by another year (second time this has been done).</p> <p>Jayne Meyer stated she will send an e-mail to the Dane County delegates to let them know the current status of the delegates and about the opportunity to hold an election if desired.</p>
ACTION	Jayne Meyer will contact Dane County delegates regarding current positions and election opportunities.
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION	<p>Paul Reith would like to see more opportunities for off leash hunting dog training; there are not many acres of Class 1 training grounds available. This would be an issue for the Land Use committee.</p> <p>Larry Meyer noted there is a shortage of DNR personnel in the service departments across the state - need to find a way to get more revenue into DNR so positions can be filled. Lack of wildlife biologists has also affected some ongoing research such as reduction in grey fox populations and the experimental badger hunt season which would have produced some data on badger populations.</p> <p>Curt Jacob noted that the Rock County CDAC committee members are recommending a statewide antlerless harvest to help control deer populations.</p> <p>Scott Lettman, YCC oversight committee, noted there will be a summer program in Hayward (August 6-8) to learn about the Namekagon River, trout fishing and watershed ecology. A survey was recently sent out to obtain input on what activities the YCC members would like to see.</p> <p>Ryan Schutte would like to see more DNR dollars allocated to research badgers and grey fox..</p> <p>Dennis Jones asked Kari when the DNR service centers would be open again. Kari said no date has been set yet, but the plan is being worked on.</p> <p>Lowell Wright noted that he has two sons in the YC and that Kyle Zenz, DNR YCC Coordinator, is doing an excellent job of recruiting members and coming up with interesting programs such as goose banding and fishing opportunities.</p> <p>Oscar Mueller noted concern about the continued shortage of ammunition.</p> <p>Ron Earnest conveyed his appreciation and thanks for the leadership of Jayne Meyer and Ken Risley.</p> <p>Jayne Meyer stated she has enjoyed being a WCC member and serving on several diverse committees. She is planning to retire, but will continue with WCC through the rest of 2021.</p>
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	Ken Risley enjoys being a WCC member and leader, but would like to take more of a supporting role rather than continuing his long run as District Councilor. He would like to see more youth get involved in the WCC, and in outdoor activities.
ACTION	

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	8:00 P.M. Motion to adjourn by Dennis Jones, seconded by Paul Reith. Passed.
SUBMITTED BY	Ken Risley
DATE	05/25/2021