

State of Wisconsin  
 Department of Natural Resources  
 PO Box 7921, Madison WI 53707-7921  
[dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)



Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
 Fur Harvest  
 Meeting Minutes

**WCC Meeting Minutes**

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<b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	08/19/2023	9:30AM	Marathon County Library
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**I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

<b>Meeting called to order by</b>	Ed Harvey at 9:34AM
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**B. ROLL CALL**

<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Scott Zimmerman, Justin Loehrke, Ed Harvey, Dana Herman, Larry Meyer, Scott Lettman, Brian Haydin, Jason Gonzales, Jessie Espeseth, Duane Butler, Bill Ruder, Tom Bartz, Richard Clark, Aaron Olson, Hugh Hatch, Scott McAuley, Mike Nicholson, Ben Anderson, Matt McHugh, Tom Savage, Dan Chichantek, Michael Gould, Wayne Stietz, Miles Narveson  Shawn Rossler, Lydia Margenau, John LE-Waupaca
<b>EXCUSED</b>	Pat Quiintance, Andy Angus, Ted Eisenbacher
<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	Charlie De Smidt, Jerid Rankila
<b>GUESTS</b>	13 registered guests

**C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR**

<b>DISCUSSION SUMMARY</b>	[Summarize subject of comment, position (if stated)]
<b>COMMITTEE ACTION</b>	Brian Haydin motion to approve, second by Bill Ruder. MP

**D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT**

<b>DISCUSSION SUMMARY</b>	[Summarize subject of comment, position (if stated)]
<b>COMMITTEE ACTION</b>	[Main motions, seconds, results of motions]

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

<b>COMMENTOR (NAME; AFFILIATION, IF APPLICABLE)</b>	Steve B - song birds - feral cats - oppose bounty resolution; Cynthia S doesn't like fur harvest. oppose bounty resolution and support coyote season; Gene V - oppose bounty resolution, support coyote season; Lois L - support coyote season, oppose bounty; Celestial G oppose bounty; Kelly - oppose bounty resolution; Linda H - oppose bounty resolution; Kathy W -oppose nesting bird resolution; Patrice P - Support coyote season, oppose nesting bird resolution; Fransico -oppose nesting bird resolution, support coyote season; Linda H Support coyote season, oppose nesting bird resolution; Sprin V - Oppose nesting bird resolution, support coyote season; M Bradley - oppose nesting bird resolution; support coyote season
<b>TOPIC OF COMMENT</b>	

**II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS**

**A.1. 030123 Nesting Bird Bounty Program**

Author not present

CHECK ONE	<input checked="" type="radio"/> [ACTION ITEM] OR <input type="radio"/> [INFORMATION ITEM]	
DISCUSSION SUMMARY	Bounty have traditionally never worked. Only exception was wolves and have to do outside of normal season framework. There are benefits from having a consistent harvest and having trappers doing their part. Feral cats are a big problem but this resolution doesn't address them.	
COMMITTEE ACTION	Motion by Dan C to reject, Second by Wayne. Motion Passes	
FOLLOW UP ACTION & PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE (if applicable)		DEADLINE (if applicable)

**A.2. 130523, 560123 Coyote Season**

Lois Lehmann

CHECK ONE	<input checked="" type="radio"/> [ACTION ITEM] OR <input type="radio"/> [INFORMATION ITEM]	
DISCUSSION SUMMARY	Author doesn't like to removal of coyotes during spring/summer but that will likely still occur with nuisance issues. That is the only reason why individuals are out there shooting them at that time. Folks are not harvesting on public ground. Right now with poor fur market, we really need more pressure, not less. Disease comes with over abundance.	
COMMITTEE ACTION	motion to advance by Richard C, second by Miles N. Motion failed to advance on 19-4 roll call vote	
FOLLOW UP ACTION & PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE (if applicable)		DEADLINE (if applicable)

**A.3. 220123, 330123, 540123, 680223 Muskrat Start 6AM**

Larry Meyer

CHECK ONE	<input type="radio"/> [ACTION ITEM] OR <input type="radio"/> [INFORMATION ITEM]	
DISCUSSION SUMMARY	Has been widely popular with the public based on number of resolutions that have passed. Gives the kids a better opportunity at the start. Might be better to make it even later on first day to avoid waterfowl hunters. 6AM does put you in proximity at peak flying	
COMMITTEE ACTION	Tom B motion to advance, second by Mike G. Motion passed with only Mike N in opposition.	
FOLLOW UP ACTION & PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE (if applicable)		DEADLINE (if applicable)

**B. Department information Items**

Shawn

CHECK ONE	<input type="radio"/> [ACTION ITEM] OR <input checked="" type="radio"/> [INFORMATION ITEM]	
DISCUSSION SUMMARY	Bobcat canine tooth used to age and sex bobcat Fisher pop has changed over time. NE pop dropped but showed up more in farmland. Increase for trapper ed is moving forward. Trapper Ed continues to do well with over 1000 graduates in 2022. Fur School October. 21 agency staff and 9 LE Updates for Trappers Ed Manuals. John gave update for LE. Noted class of 20. New wardens have limited to no experience with trapping. Encourage members to take them under their wings. Incidents remain low. Dog at large tend to be main driver.	
COMMITTEE ACTION	No action needed	
FOLLOW UP ACTION & PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE (if applicable)		DEADLINE (if applicable)

C. Old Business- COP

Ed Harvey

CHECK ONE	<input checked="" type="radio"/> [ACTION ITEM] OR <input type="radio"/> [INFORMATION ITEM]	
DISCUSSION SUMMARY	<p>1. Need authors to show up and hear from their county on resolutions. Helps flesh out good/bad ideas. Also can provide good feedback on what it would take to advance in future. Committee acknowledged some good has come from new resolution process, but missing the in-person requirement. Discussion on how to blend.</p> <p>2. Discussed cage trap being illegal to use where animal can reach water. Need to explore how/if to fix in future</p> <p>3. Foot snares for bear. Likely will need support from Bear Hunters before pursuing. Could be a good tool for private property where they want less bears but deal with nocturnal bears.</p> <p>4. Policy should be reviewed and see if we need to try to change any of it.</p>	
COMMITTEE ACTION	Motion by Richard C, second by Mike N to advance position of support for in-person resolution submission. Friendly amendment to support requiring authors to present resolution in-person at spring hearing. Motion Passed	
FOLLOW UP ACTION & PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE (if applicable)		DEADLINE (if applicable)

III. MEMBERS MATTERS

DISCUSSION SUMMARY	Idea of salvage tags for incidentals, committee appreciated effort of Ed to address some of the challenges with resolutions/process Question about T85 trap, Hunting contests, and need to continue to manage resource even with lower fur prices.
COMMITTEE ACTION	None

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	<b>Motion by Scott Z, second by Justin L to adjourn. Motion passed</b>
SUBMITTED BY	<b>Justin Loehrke</b>
DATE	<b>08/19/2023</b>

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	[Committee Chair]
DATE*	[Date]
<b>*Must be approved within 14 days of meeting</b>	