

Wisconsin Wildlife Federation
Board Meeting Minutes
11 February 2006

Members Present: Larry Vanderhoef, Mary Cassidy, Susan Foote-Martin, Bob Miller, Al Pribnow, Bob Kirk, Chuck Matyska, Dan Gries, Ralph Fritsch, David Chingway, Jim Gleash, Ruth Lee, Susan Meyer, Jim Weishan, Lori Bohm, Jerry Knuth, Mark Hoffman, Bernie Meyer, Jack Nissen, Art Seidel, Ken Zettlemeier, Corky Meyer, George Meyer, Lil Pipping, Laura Huber, Jim Baldock, Jake Macholl

Guests Present: Signe Holtz – WDNR, Bill VanderZowen – WDNR,

Members Excused: Marc Smith, Joe Zanter, Rick Laczyryk, Doug Burrows, Harry Katchur

Meeting called to order by President Meyer at 8:40 AM.

Motion by Bob Miller and second by Chuck Matyska to approve the December board meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

Executive committee minutes from 10 February were read and discussed.

Motion by Lil Pipping and second by Jim Gleash to invest the Joyce Foundation grant installment in CDs until those funds are needed for Jake's payroll. The interest will be used for the general fund. Motion carried.

Motion by Lil Pipping and second by Mark Hoffman to donate office time to help organize and conduct the DNR's CWD head donation raffle for the West Central Region. Motion carried.

Motion by Jim Gleash and second by Larry Vanderhoef to pay \$100 membership dues to WI Conservation Hall of Fame. Motion carried.

Motion by Lil Pipping and second by Bob Miller to donate 16 shrink-wrapped prints to the Channel 10/36 auction in April. Motion carried.

Motion by Dan Gries and second by Chuck Matyska to donate a \$35 prize plaque for the WI Taxidermy Association competition. Motion carried.

Motion by Jim Gleash and second by Chuck Matyska to cover expenses (up to \$275) for the Inland Fisheries Committee meeting on 4 March in Tomah. Motion carried.

Motion by Chuck Matyska and second by Larry Vanderhoef to cover Bob Miller's expenses (approx. \$100) for expenses incurred in January and February for meetings. Motion carried.

Motion by Jerry Knuth and second by Lil Pipping to pledge (an amount to be set by the full board) to be used as a reward for the capture and conviction of those responsible for cutting a hole in a CWD-infected game farm fence in Portage County. Amendment by Lil Pipping and second by Jerry Knuth to set the pledge at \$1,000 with a 3-year time limit as per the Portage County Crimestoppers plan. Amendment accepted. Motion carried as amended.

Motion by Jerry Knuth and second by Jim Gleash to donate \$100 to UWSP TWS as a thank you for assistance in obtaining a free room at the University for the gun range seminar. Motion carried.

Motion by Jerry Knuth and second by Chuck Matyska to furnish, at WiWF's expense, lodging and registration for two committee members from each active banquet to attend the annual meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Ruth Lee and second by Jim Weishan to cover expenses for a Wildlife Committee meeting this spring. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report presented by Laura Huber. Motion to accept by Lil Pipping and second by Jerry Knuth. Motion carried.

President's report presented by Corky Meyer.

Motion by Ralph Fritsch and second by Jim Gleash to support the rules package pertaining to large acreage dog training facilities. Motion carried.

DNR report presented by Bill Vander Zowen. Spring hearings questions were distributed & discussed. Deer season rules were discussed; see memo from Scott Hassett and Tom Hauge's comments to the NRB. Proposed changes to CWD Hunting rules were discussed; see memo from Scott Hassett. An update and handout regarding the Hall Farm situation was shared. See news release on the national duck hunter survey.

Special Endangered Species report by Signe Holtz, WDNR Director of the Bureau of Endangered Resources. Handouts on some of the programs the Bureau are working on were made available.

National Wildlife Federation report – see written report. Motion to accept the report by Dan Gries and second by Larry Vanderhoef. Motion carried.

Executive Director's & legislative report – by George Meyer. See written report.

- AB 131, the non-resident trapping bill is supported by WiWF and the WI Trappers Association. This issue needs a public hearing in front of the Senate Natural Resources Committee before time runs out. Trappers call Senator Neal Kedzie (608) 266-2635 early next week and ask for a public hearing on the non-resident trapping bill AB 131 on or before February 22.
- Taxpayer's Bill of Rights. George has asked to meet with both authors to clarify how the joint resolution would affect the state fish & wildlife account. Motion by Lil Pipping and second by Dan Gries to authorize George Meyer to investigate the impact of the Senate Joint Resolution (taxpayer bill of rights) on the fish and wildlife account. If the impacts are found to be detrimental to the fish and wildlife account then he should obtain permission from the executive committee to oppose and to educate the sports clubs of the state on our concerns. Motion carried.
- Susan Foote-Martin gave a short report on the progress of the Teaming with Wildlife state wildlife funding grant including updates on WI groups that have signed on in support.

Motion to accept the executive directors and legislative reports by Larry Vanderhoef and second by Dan Gries.

Office Committees & Education report – by Ruth Lee. See written report.

Motion by Jim Weishan and second by Lil Pipping to accept the office committee and education committee reports. Motion carried.

Wildlife Committee report – by Ralph Fritsch. See written report.

- Motion by Ralph Fritsch and second by Jack Nissen to support SB523. Motion carried.
- Motion by Jim Gleash and second by Jack Nissen to support the NWF's Ohio affiliate's feral cat resolution as amended by the WiWF wildlife committee. Motion carried.

- Motion by Ralph Fritsch and second by Art Seidel to support legal age limit participation of use of crossbows for hunting in Wisconsin by licensed hunters. Motion to table by Jack Nissen and second by Lil Pipping. Motion to table carried.
- Motion by Jerry Knuth and second by Bob Miller to accept the wildlife committee report. Motion carried.

Environmental Committee report – by Jim Baldock.

AB 874 – a bill pertaining to licensing of well drilling. Motion by Jim Baldock and second by Bob Miller to support AB 874. Motion carried with one abstention.

AB 878 and SB 470 – companion bills regulating open burning and disposal waste tires. Motion by Jim Baldock and second by Jim Gleash to support AB 878 and SB 470. Motion carried.

SB 425 – a bill restricting the authority of the Attorney General to bring public nuisance actions (this bill is identical to AB 278. Motion by Jim Baldock and second by Jim Gleash to reaffirm opposition to AB 278 and to oppose SB 425. Motion carried.

SB 504 – a bill pertaining to the regulation of water quality of livestock operations. Motion by Jim Baldock and second by Bob Miller to oppose SB 504. Motion carried.

Wetlands Committee report – presented by George Meyer on behalf of Don Hammes. Meeting to be held at the Mackenzie Environmental Center in Poynette next weekend.

Forest, Parks & Recreation Committee report – by Mark Hoffman
Motion to accept report by Larry Vanderhoef and second by Bob Miller. Motion carried.

Waterfowl Conference – March 3-4 at the Country Springs Hotel in Stevens Point, WI.

State Affairs Committee report – by Art Seidel.

AB 718 – sales tax exemption for gun club memberships. Motion by Art Seidel and second by Jack Nissen to reaffirm support of AB 718. Motion carried.

AB 864 and SB 464 – companion bills authorizing unloaded and uncased firearms on ATVs in sport shooting ranges. Motion by Art Seidel and second by Jack Nissen to support AB 864. Motion carried.

SB 562 – remedial legislation related to possession of firearms by juveniles while hunting. No recommendation will be made at this time.

Shooting range seminar was held last weekend and it was a great success. Motion by Jerry Knuth and second by Art Seidel to rename the State Affairs Hunter Ed. Sub Committee to the “State Affairs Shooting Range and Hunter Education Sub Committee.” Motion failed.

Report on Shooting Range Seminar - by Al Pribnow.

Motion by Lil Pipping and second by Jack Nissen to allow Al to advertise a shotgun coach certification program in *Wisconservation* free of charge, under the auspices of the Shooting Range and Hunter Education sub committee. There are no income or expense items to the Federation. Motion carried.

Motion by Al Pribnow and second by Jerry Knuth to accept the State Affairs/Shooting Range seminar reports. Motion carried.

Motion by Art Seidel and second by Lil Pipping to accept the State Affairs report. Motion carried.

Banquet Oversight Committee report – by Jerry Knuth. See written report.
Motion to accept the report by Jerry Knuth and second by Chuck Matyska. Motion carried.

Inland Fisheries Committee report – by Bob Miller. See written report.
SB 471 – relating to boating safety course requirements (companion bill already supported by WiWF).
Motion by Bob Miller and second by Larry Vanderhoef to support SB 471. Motion carried.

Motion by Bob Miller and second by Lil Pipping to accept report. Motion carried.

Inland Fisheries Wolf River Basin Sub Committee and *Wisconservation* reports – by Dan Gries. See written report.

Motion by Lil Pipping and second by Bob Kirk to accept fisheries subcommittee report. Motion carried.
Motion by Dan Gries and second by Lil Pipping to accept *Wisconservation* report. Motion carried.

Endangered Species Committee report – by Chuck Matyska.
AB 884 – admissibility of evidence relating to endangered and threatened species. Motion by Chuck Matyska and second by Larry Vanderhoef to oppose AB 884. Motion carried.

Motion by Chuck Matyska and second by Dan Gries to accept report. Motion carried.

Great Lakes Fisheries report – presented by George Meyer on behalf of Larry Freitag.

Old Business –

Addendum to Forest, Parks and Recreation Committee report.

AB 886 – use of Stewardship Fund money to acquire land around military bases. Motion to support AB 886 by Mark Hoffman and second by Jerry Knuth. Motion carried.

AB 906 – free park and trail access to disabled veterans and former POWs. Motion to support AB 906 by Mark Hoffman and second by Larry Vanderhoef. Motion carried.

New Business –

Nominations are needed for annual conservation awards.

Annual meeting 2007 date or location change issues were discussed.

Motion to adjourn.

Minutes Submitted By:
Laura Huber, Treasurer