

**Wisconsin Wildlife Federation**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Saturday, August 13, 2001**

1. Meeting called to order at 8:03 by President Chuck Matyska. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **Announcements:** Introductions were made around the room as new Board Members were in attendance. Representatives of the Dog Federation of Wisconsin were introduced and welcomed. Lunch count was acknowledged as was the circulation of the attendance sheet. No agenda changes were made.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the June 2011 Board meeting were moved by Rick Lazarczyk, seconded by Corky Meyer, motion passed.
4. **Friday Business Meeting Report:**
  - A. **Treasurer's Report by Treasurer Larry Laehn**
    - a. The final setup for the Federation's Endowment Fund has been completed by Treasurer Laehn and Executive Director George Meyer. An article publicizing the Fund will be in the Wisconservation.
    - b. Treasurer Laehn briefed attendees that the Federation had received its final audited financial statement from Wegner and Associates. The statement continues to show a clean audit for the Federation. Copies are available for Board review this evening and tomorrow.
    - c. Treasurer Laehn went through the WWF cash flow for the year through July. He indicated and explained those budget lines where there may be questions. He concluded that adherence to the budget was going well.
    - d. Dennis Reinhardt moved for the acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, it was seconded by Rick Lazarczyk. The motion passed.
  - B. **Financial Requests by Executive Director George Meyer**
    - a. Rick Lazarczyk requested \$150 for the October 6<sup>th</sup> District 9 meeting moved by Larry Laehn, seconded by Lil Pipping, motion passed
    - b. Jim Huhn asked for confirmation of a print for the Rock River Rescue---no need for a vote; Jennifer is to check on this and work with Jim on this
    - c. Ralph Fritsch asked for mileage and lunch to represent the WWF at the DNR Bear Management meeting. Motion by Rick Lazarczyk, second by Dennis Reinhardt, motion passed.
    - d. Ralph Fritsch asked for \$250 to cover the costs of an October 2<sup>nd</sup> Wildlife Committee meeting. Motion by Lil Pipping, second by Bob Kirk, motion passed.

- e. Al Pribnow requested \$150 for lunch for a Shooting Range Committee meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> . Motion by Jim Huhn, second by Bob Kirk, motion passed.
- f. George Meyer requested that the WWF become a sponsor for the Wisconsin Association of Environmental Educators. The amount requested is \$300. Ruth Ann Lee is a presenter at the conference. Motion by Lil Pipping and second by Don Hammes, motion passed.

**5. President's Report by President Matyska:**

- a. The Executive Committee discussed streamlining the bimonthly WWF Board meetings. There is concern that we lose too many members after Saturday lunch. The Committee recommends that the Board start the Friday Business meeting at 7:30 pm. It is intended to have all outside speakers speak on Friday evening rather than Saturday, freeing up time on Saturday. It was also recommended that the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Requests not be repeated on Saturday. There was not disagreement with these items and a motion to move the Friday meeting start to 7:30 pm was made by Lil Pipping, seconded by Norb Moes. The motion passed with only one negative vote.
- b. President Matyska then recommended that a summary of Committee reports be included in the Wisconservation. Dan Gries, Wisconservation editor agreed that this could be done. There was strong support of the Board to do this. The Executive Director will prepare a summary after the Board meeting. The summary will include the key item or items related in Committee reports. There also was extensive discussion with no consensus on how long Committee report presentations should be at Board meetings

**6. Guest Reports: There were no Guest Reports or NWF Reports**

**7. Important Board Issues:**

In Membership Chair Jack Nissen's absence, Lil Pipping gave an update on the regional efforts to work with clubs and District Directors to contact clubs with past due memberships and get them up to date. Good progress is being made but continued effort is important.

**8. Staff Reports:**

**a. Executive Directors Reports:**

- (i) Executive Director Meyer gave an update on WWF testimony at the recent DNR meeting on the CWD contaminated deer farm. DNR

- wrote back indicating their appreciation for WWF's efforts.
- (ii) He then gave an update on public access on lands purchased with Stewardship funds, highlighting recent successes on lands owned by Dane County, Waukesha County and the Nature Conservancy in Door County.
  - (iii) Executive Director Meyer then gave background on an upcoming September DNR contested case hearing on North Lake (Waukesha County) public access. He recommended that the WWF intervene in this matter since it is one of our policy issues. A motion to do so was made by Corky Meyer, seconded by Jim Gleash. The motion to do so was unanimous.
  - (iv) Meyer then gave an update on the development of a new WWF website and encouraged Board members to fill out the available survey form on the website.
  - (v) Meyer distributed the current WWF legislative report. He went through legislative actions since the June Board meeting. He discussed issues likely to take precedence in the fall session including mining and wetland legislation.
  - (vi) Meyer then gave an update on concealed carry legislation and its implementation. He recommended that Board members use the WWF concealed carry handout to answer questions on the issue. The Wisconsin Department of Justice will come out with implementing rules in September. There was discussion that people be careful in selecting classes for concealed carry that will pass state certification.
  - (vii) Meyer then gave an update on the progress of the WWF efforts in working with the Wisconsin Green School Network.
  - (viii) A motion to accept the Executive Director's report was made by Corky Meyer and seconded by Jim Gleash. The motion passed.

**b. Office Report**

- (i) Executive Director Meyer gave the Office Report on behalf of Business Manager Jennifer Evans. The written report was distributed. There was an application for a new affiliate joining the Federation: the Grant County Outdoor Sport Alliance. A motion was made by Lil Pipping to accept the application, second by Norb Moes. The motion passed.
- (ii) The October meeting will be at the MacKenzie Environmental Education Center, Poynette. Board members are encouraged to stay Saturday evening for the MEEC Banquet.

## **9. WWF Committee Reports**

**a. Dog Committee by Chair Corky Meyer. Chair Meyer updated people on the meeting held at Bong Recreational Area with DNR Executive Assistant Scott Gunderson, Kurt Thiede and other staff to go through hunting trialing and training issues. A follow-up meeting with Kurt Thiede is anticipated in September. There was further introduction of the Dog Federation of Wisconsin and our working relationship with this new affiliate. Mr. Meyer reported that DNR is looking for a new Class 1 trial grounds to replace the current one at Bong Recreational Area that has so many use conflicts. A motion to accept the committee report was made by Lil Pipping, seconded by Jim Gleash, motion passed.**

**b. Wetlands Committee by Chair Don Hammes. Chair Hammes described the WWF and NWF efforts in supporting new policy guidance being issued by the US EPA to protect isolated and headwater wetlands in the country. Protection of these areas was called into question by two US Supreme Court decisions. Protection of these areas is important to protect fish and wildlife habitat and water quality. Secondly, Don indicated that DNR has an initiative underway dealing with invasive species in wetlands. Lastly, he advised that there was likely to be state legislation this fall streamlining and possibly weakening the protection of wetlands in Wisconsin. A motion was made to accept the report by John Wetzel, seconded by Ken Barbian, motion passed.**

**c. Endangered Resources Committee by Chair Chuck Matyska. Chair Matyska gave a brief update on DNR incidental take permits for endangered and threatened turtles and snails because of utility line construction in Wisconsin. He also gave an update on state efforts to protect Wisconsin bats from the white-nosed bat syndrome. A motion was made by Corky Meyer to accept the report, second by Dennis Reinhardt, motion passed.**

**d. Youth Committee by Chair Dave Lorentz. Chair Lorentz gave a report on the status of his work starting a Conservation Club in the Cameron High School. Corky Meyer gave an update on the WWF's two Learn to Hunt bear hunts. A motion was made by John Wetzel to accept, second by Craig Challoner, motion passed.**

**e. Calendar Committee by Chair Lil Pipping. Chair Pipping gave an update on the distribution of the 2012 WWF Raffle Calendars. We have a good start in distribution. It was recommended that every Board member recruit one new distributor of calendars. Motion made by Norb Moes to accept the report, second by Rick Lazarczyk.**

**g. Scholarship Committee by Chair Betty Borchert. Chair Borchert indicated that the first installment of WWF scholarships to UW-Stevens Point, a College of Natural Resources students would take place in September.**

- h. Bylaws Committee by Chair Betty Borchert. Chair Borchert indicated that there was nothing to report.**
- i. Environment Committee by Chair Betty Borchert. Chair Borchert indicated that she and Board members George Borchert, Chuck Matyska and Jim Evrard along with Executive Director George Meyer would be taking a field review of the proposed Penokee Mine site in Ashland and Iron counties and meeting with representatives of Trout Unlimited, the Bad River Tribe and the Bad River Watershed coalition later this month. It is also anticipated that mining legislation would be brought before the Legislature early this fall. Lastly, there are several other mines being explored in Wisconsin.**

**A motion to accept all three of the last reports was made by Lil Pipping, seconded by Jim Gleash, motion passed.**

- j. Awards Committee by Chair John Wagner. Chair Wagner encouraged Board members to start talking with the clubs in their Districts on award nominations for next year. A motion to accept the report was made by Ken Barbian, second by Dennis Reinhardt, motion passed.**
- k. Great Lakes Fishery Committee---Chairmanship vacant. Report made by Executive Director Meyer. Meyer and President Matyska will be meeting with the Wisconsin Federation of Great Lakes Sports Fishing Clubs in September and will be getting their recommendation for a new WWF Great Lakes Committee Chair.**

**Meyer made a recommendation that the Federation oppose AB 176 which would eliminate the minimum harvest requirement for commercial fishermen. Doing this would create a property right in the public fishery and would result in state payments to commercial fishermen if quotas had to be reduced. Motion to oppose the bill by Corky Meyer, second by Jim Gleash, motion passed unanimously.**

**The National Wildlife Federation is representing the WWF and some of its individual members in challenging a DNR permit regulating the discharge of ballast water with invasive species. The NWF is recommending a settlement of the appeal and ED Meyer recommends that the Board and the individual members concur. A motion was made by Don Hammes to agree with the settlement recommendation. Corky Meyer seconded, motion passed.**

**The Great Lakes Committee report was moved for acceptance by Lil Pipping and seconded by Don Hammes, motion passed.**

- l. Education Committee Chaired by Chair Ruth Ann Lee. In Chair Lee's absence, Don Hammes, who is one of two WWF representatives on the MEEC Advisory Committees, gave an update on the current status at the center. There are many new initiatives and things are going well. Derek Duane, Director of the Center has retired from DNR employment and has been rehired by WWF as Center Director. This follows the Lease Agreement that was entered into by the DNR and WWF in 2006 to operate the facility. Motion made by Jim Huhn to accept the report, second by Ken Barbian, motion passed.**
- m. Shooting Range Committee by Chair Al Pribnow. Chair Pribnow asked people to review the Shooting Range Committee display in the back of the room. It shows the competitive youth shooting program established on the WWF model at the Augusta Rod and Gun Club. There are 56 teams and 10 new instructors. Al also indicated that there would be a Shooting Range Committee meeting October 15<sup>th</sup> in Stevens Point. The motion to accept the report was made by Larry Laehn, second by Jim Gleash, motion passed.**
- n. Banquet Committee by Chair Ed Rollins. In Chair Rollins absence, George Meyer, reminded Board members of the District 7 Banquet in Watertown on September 29<sup>th</sup> and the MacKenzie Environmental Education Center Banquet at MEEC on October 10<sup>th</sup>. Motion made to accept the report by Corky Meyer, second by Jim Gleash, motion passed.**
- o. Waterfowl Committee by Chair John Wetzel. Chair Wetzel described the upcoming 2011 waterfowl season that was adopted by the Natural Resources Board earlier in the week. For the first time it allows three zones in Wisconsin with splits. The Board chose the Mississippi River zone over the Lake Michigan zone for the new third zone. John moved that the Board adopt a motion requesting the DNR to initiate studies and gather support for having a sea duck season on Lake Michigan. It was seconded by Ralph Fritsch, the motion passed. The overall committee report was moved for acceptance by Corky Meyer, second by Rick Lazarczyk, motion passed.**
- p. Wisconservation Committee by Chair and Editor Dan Gries. Chair Gries indicated that a summary of committee reports would be added to the next issue of Wisconservation.**
- q. Forestry, Parks and Recreation by Chair Jerry Knuth. In Chair Knuth's absence, George Meyer gave the committee report. At the last committee meeting, there was a report on the recent Great Lakes National Forestry Conference where there was strong support for additional harvest of trees according to sound forestry practices on the Chequamegon-Nicolet**

**National Forest. This would be beneficial for wildlife and for the economy. Secondly, there was a committee recommendation to support a DNR grant for the Door County Land Trust to purchase 500 acres in Door County. The lands would be open for hunting, fishing and trapping. The lands are currently owned by Board member Dick Baudhuin. The discussion was that there is a shortage of lands open for hunting, fishing and trapping in the county and this would be a good addition for public recreation. Lil Pipping moved to support the grant, Dennis Reinhardt seconded the motion, the motion passed. Board member Baudhuin was not in attendance for the discussion or the vote. Lastly, George Meyer gave an explanation of SB 161, which would modify portions of the Managed Forest Law. The WWF and its affiliate, the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association has been working on this bill for a couple of years. Of particular interest to the WWF is the additional public hunting access opportunities that the bill provides. It is an issue that Jerry Knuth and the Federation have worked on for six years. Corky Meyer moved, seconded by Mike Arrowood that we support the bill with the caveat that it remains true to the draft voted on by the Legislative Council, motion passed. A motion was made by John Wagner to accept the Forestry and Parks Committee report, seconded by Jim Huhn, motion passed.**

- r. Membership Committee by Jack Nissen. Committee report was handled earlier in the day by Lil Pipping.**
- s. Wildlife/State Affairs/Hunter Education Committee by Chair Ralph Fritsch. Chair Fritsch briefed the Board on the NRB adoption of the Sharp-tailed Grouse Management Plan and the discussion on predators. He indicated the WWF participation on the DNR's Beaver Management Plan. Also Ralph gave an update on turkey population information. Chair Fritsch recommended WWF support for AB 190 and SB 131 which increases the penalties for straw purchases of firearms. Moved by Ralph Fritsch, seconded by Jim Gleashe, motion passed. Ralph described AB 202 and SB 135 which designate a bear tag go to the U.S Army Wounded Warrior Program. Jim Gleash moved approval for WWF to support the bills, seconded by Jim Huhn, motion passed. A Wildlife Committee Meeting is being scheduled for October 1 in Stevens Point. Ralph moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Rick Lazarczyk, motion passed.**
- t. Inland Fisheries Committee by Chair Mike Arrowood. Chair Arrowood briefed the Board on the fact that the first documented natural reproduction from a rehabilitated sturgeon population in Wisconsin took place this spring in the St. Louis River. This is nationally and internationally significant. Secondly, the Inland Fisheries Committee is working with other sportsmen on the issue of local units of government using boat launch fees for purposes other than maintaining boat**

launches. This is a major problem in Wisconsin. A great deal of work lies ahead but this is a very important WWF initiative. Thirdly, the Committee has been working with the DNR in the Wood Habitat initiative which involves the placement of trees in lakes and streams to increase fish habitat. Good progress is being made. Fourth, Mike reported that the Wild Rose Hatchery has insufficient funds for feed to raise walleye fingerlings at the facility. Chair Arrowood discussed the problems for water resources caused by CAFOs, Combined Animal Feeding Operations. These are large farms, often with 5,000 to 10,000 head of cattle. A motion was made by Ralph Fritsch, seconded by Lil Pipping to refer the issue to the Environment Committee to look into these operations and DNR inspections and enforcement oversight of these facilities. Dan Gries asked that the Wolf River Inland Fisheries Subcommittee be dissolved. President Matyska agreed to do that. Bucky Killishek asked Chair Arrowood about the issue of sturgeon passage on two Wolf River dams.

**10. Old Business-----There was not Old Business.**

**11. New Business:**

- a. **Bob Chojnowski indicated that DNR employees with over a total of over 13,000 years of experience have recently retired.**
- b. **Bob Chojnowski asked that the WWF, after its Pledge of Allegiance, have a ten second moment of silence for both fallen military and also fellow conservationists.**
- c. **Board Member Joy Brand, representing the Dog Federation of Wisconsin, requested that the WWF support LRB 1798 increasing the Dog Breeder Regulation bill's threshold for licensing and regulation of dog breeders from the current 25 dogs sold or more from three litters to 100 dogs sold. A motion was made by Joy Brand and seconded by Corky Meyer that the WWF support this bill draft in concept, motion passed. The final bill will come back to the WWF Board for a vote when it is introduced. The problem that is caused by the current threshold is the issue of co-ownership which captures many small breeders. The Federation supported a 100-dog threshold in SB 110 in the last session of the legislature.**
- d. **Mike Arrowood raised the issue of county mowing of wild parsnip plants in ditches at a time of the year that spreads the plants. A motion was made by Mike Arrowood, second by Craig Challoner to refer the matter to the Environment Committee, motion passed**
- e. **Mike Stueck raised the issue of the Lake Michigan Badger car ferry,**



**continuing to deposit 4 tons of fly ash in the Lake, everyday of use.  
Motion by Lil Pipping, second by Larry Laehn to refer the matter to  
the Environment Committee, motion passed.**

**12. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Dennis Reinhardt, second by Jim  
Huhn, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.**