

Friday, February 10, 2012 – Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:37pm Friday, February 10, 2012

Treasurer's Report – Larry presented the Treasurer's report and handed out a written report. Motion made by Keith Pamperin, second by Carolyn Brown, motion passed.

Financial Requests: Ken Barbian requested a frame print for WI Hunter Ed Instructors Annual Meeting, motion made by Ken Barbian and second by Rick Lazarczyk, Motion passed.

Jerry Knuth introduced Andy Lewandowske (future Dog Committee chairperson.) Andy gave some background on his involvement with Dogs. Motion made by Jerry Knuth, second by Charlie Brown to approve \$100 for a Dog Committee meeting. Motion passed.

Keith Pamperin requested 4 prints for clubs.

Ruth Ann Lee made a motion to donate a framed print to Friends of MEEC, second by Connie Pribnow. Motion passed.

George Meyer discussed a pledge for \$1000 for a full color page ad in WI State Journal and a ½ page ad in Green Bay newspaper asking for support of protecting wetlands bill. Motion made by Larry Vanderhoef, second by Keith Pamperin. Motion passed.

Presentation by Frank Trcka on Wildlife Management. He discussed wolf management and landowner permits. He discussed the spring turkey hunt and the permit outcomes and sales per zone. Frank discussed getting Elk into the Black River area of Wisconsin. Regarding the road closures being questioned by the bear hunters, there would be no need for the road closures for road activities. Frank discussed the waterfowl survey content. He mentioned the new Waukesha Area Wildlife Area that was purchased which amounted to 128 acres including wetlands, wildlife and a lake.

Chuck discussed the need for items for donations such as pelts, books and skulls for MEEC for various small mammals for the new small mammals drunk being developed.

Motion made by Connie Pribnow, second by Russ Hitz to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.

Saturday, February 11, 2012 – Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:15am

Attendance sheet was passed around and cards for Laura Huber and Norb Moes. Keith Pamperin gave an update on the status of Norb.

Motion made by Rick Lazarczyk and second by Dave Chingway to accept the December board of director meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Charlie Brown and second by Roxanne Taylor to accept the minutes from Friday, February 10th. Motion passed

Treasurer's Report – Larry presented the Treasurer's report. No questions regarding the budget or report. Motion made by Mike Meyers, second by Rick Lazarczyk. Motion passed.

President's Report – Chuck Matyska introduced the new attendees of the board meeting. Andy Lewandoske stated his involvement with Dogs and interest on becoming the Dog Committee Chairperson. Motion made by Keith Pamperin, second by John Wetzel to appoint Andy Lewandoske as an Associate Director. Motion passed. Motion made by Larry Laehn, second by Jim Huhn to appoint Carolyn Brown as associate director. Motion passed.

Chuck thanked Jerry, Jack, Keith and Ralph for their attendance at the DNR round table with Dr. Deer. Chuck discussed the need for Directors to be making club visits and interaction with our clubs. He thanked everyone for their help with the calendar sales. Chuck mentioned the updated changes for the Annual Meeting and the club affiliate invitation that was mailed out. He mentioned the breakout session topics and speakers invited. Chuck reminded the need for resolutions and award nominations for the Annual Meeting. Chuck discussed the hotel issues and resolutions to resolve the issues. John Wagner discussed the full page color poster that he requested due to a donation that the WWF gave to the Mukwonago River Project.

Introductions were made of the meeting attendees. Motion made by John Wetzel, second by Ed Rollins to accept the Presidents Report as presented. Motion passed.

Executive Director Report - George Meyer discussed the operation of MEEC and the partnership with the DNR and Friends of MEEC. Discussed the new hiring of Ruth Ann Lee for the Directors position for MEEC/WWF. George also discussed the need to hire more employees at MEEC and the upcoming changes. George discussed the Annual Meeting invited speakers and changes including the free registration and free overnight rooms to attend our Annual Meeting. George presented the Legislative Report update and submitted a written report. He discussed the mining controversy and the position of the WWF. He discussed the Wolf Management Bill, he briefly discussed the Sandhill Crane bill. George discussed the Act 21 Bill regarding hunting, trapping and fishing regulation and how these rules come into play and how they get passed and what input sportsmen and women can give. Motion made by Lil Pipping, second by Rick Lazarczyk, motion passed.

Staff Reports – Jennifer presented the new club Three Seasons Treasure Hunters from the Eau Claire area. Motion made by Jack Nissen, second by Keith Pamperin to approve the club into the WWF. Motion passed. Jennifer discussed the issues of the hotel and reservations and the Annual Meeting. Motion made by Lil Pipping, second by Carolyn Brown to approve having all hotel reservations be made by Jennifer Evans. Motion passed. Motion made by Larry Vanderhoef, second by Mike Rynearson to accept the Office Report. Motion passed.

Chuck discussed the removal of Mike Arrowood from the board of directors due to his personal schedule. Larry Vanderhoef will step up and take over the chair of the Inland Fisheries committee.

Committee Reports:

Inland Fisheries – George gave background on Bill 387. Motion made by Lil Pipping, second by Roxanne Taylor that WWF support Bill 387. Motion passed.

Wisconservation – Dan Gries discussed the postal service concerns about not receiving Wisconservation papers. Motion made by Lil Pipping, second by Roxanne Taylor to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Wildlife – George Meyer presented the Wildlife Committee Report. Motion made by Jack Nissen and second by Lil Pipping to reaffirm the WWF support for the reestablishment of an Elk herd in the Jackson County area. Motion passed. Assembly Bill 384 was discussed, the age be lowered from 65 to 55 years of age for use of a crossbow was the testimony of WWF. Motion made by Jack Nissen, second by Randy Tersenski to support the age for crossbow use to 55 years of age during the regular bow hunting season. Motion passed. Assembly Bill 502, states WWF testimony to establish a wolf management system to include a trapping and hunting season within the state of WI. DNR would set the rules including an application for that season, zones would be established up to 4 zones and within the zones would include a lottery of permits issued. Motion made by Dave Verhage, second by Larry Vanderhoef to approve Assembly Bill 502 as presented by the Wildlife Committee. Motion carried. Motion made by Jack Nissen to approve AS Bill 502 presented by Wildlife Committee but adding and amendment to change the date to October 15 instead of the November date as originally proposed and to change from using non meat bait to using meat baits as used in coyote or other furbearing trapping. Second by Lil Pipping. Motion carried. Senate Bill 415 involves the purchasing, trading and selling of non edible parts, furs and feathers of resident populated birds with the required licensing to sell and to purchase. Motion made by Jack Nissen, second by Lil Pipping to support Senate Bill 415. Motion carried. Change of rules regarding the petition to open coyote hunting season in zone 1 at times that firearm hunting seasons are open. Motion made by Larry Laehn, second by Lil Pipping to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Shooting Range – Trying to get a statewide organization started to protect shooting ranges. It was decided that Conservation Congress would partner with WWF to arrange a meeting discussing the process to start a statewide organization. Connie discussed the possibility of a gun raffle to raise money for the Shooting Range Committee. Motion made by Bill Tolldard second by Larry Vanderhoef to allow approval to entertain and explore the raffle to raise money. Motion made by Larry Vanderhoef second by Mike Rynearson to accept the report as presented. Motion carried.

Parks and Rec – Dave Verhage presented the written report and discussed the Public Land Management issue. Senate Bill 441, states when you apply for hunting, trapping, fishing, boat, atv registrations you would be given the option to donate to support habitat management, monies would go directly to the Foundation for habitat management on state lands and to create grants. Motion made by Don Hammes, second by Larry Vanderhoef to support Senate Bill 441 as presented. Motion passed. WWF gave testimony supporting bill 161 which are changes to the managed forest law which gives a property tax incentive to property owners who enroll. 62% of all managed forest law land is closed to the public for outdoor recreational purposes. Motion made by Roxanne Taylor, second by Randy Teresinski to support bill 161. Motion passed.

Wetlands – Don Hammes reported that Wisconsin's wetlands are being threatened by Assembly Bill 463 and Senate Bill 368. Wetlands committee is trying to establish a wetlands bill that could protect our Wetlands. The current bills allow damaging provisions to wetlands. The committee requested a letter to amend the bill and was rejected. Supporting groups have donated money pulled together for a full page ad in WI State Journal asking for someone to amend the bills as written. Don is asking for WWF support of contacting senators with your concerns for our wetlands. Motion made by Don Hammes to oppose AS Bill 463 and SB 368, second by Lil Pipping. Motion passed. Letter was written to the President regarding the Clean Water Act provisions. Don stated his concern with the sale of the Badger Ammunition land with USDA and DNR with the harmful chemicals and contaminations that were used on the property, such as Mercury, DNT's used in manufacturing for rockets, especially if the land will be open for fishing, hunting and trapping. Requesting a soil test on the property where contamination had previously taken place. Motion made by Lil Pipping, second by Mike Meyer to accept the report as presented. Motion passed. Don Hammes is stepping down as chair as the Wetlands Committee, WWF will be looking for another chair.

Environmental – George Borchert presented the written report focusing on the mining legislation. Although the mines would create jobs, it is harming the environment. They are looking to create a bill that would keep environmental standards intact and suggesting that we support mining as long as it's done in an environmentally safe way. Motion made by Larry Vanderhoef and second by Rick Lazarczyk that a request be made that DNR be petitioned to add Little Plover River on the impaired body of water list of the Clean Water Act. Motion passed. Motion made by Rick Lazarczyk, second by Don Hammes to approve the report as presented. Motion passed.

Banquet – Ed Rollins presented the written report. He stated that Jack has stepped in to handle the Milwaukee Banquet and was asking for some support from groups in the area. Motion made by Mike Meyer, second by Rick Lazarczyk to approve the report as presented. Motion passed.

Education – Ruth Ann Lee submitted a written report. Looking for help at the Wisconsin Outdoor Youth Expo. Motion made by Lil Pipping, second by Rick Lazarczyk to approve the report as presented. Motion passed.

Awards – John Wagner submitted a written report. Stated the banquet is April 14. March 5th is the deadline for submitting an award nomination. Motion made by Dave Chingway, second by Roxanne Taylor to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Scholarships – Betty submitted a written report listing the scholarships that were given out to the college students. Motion made by Roxanne Taylor, second by Mike Meyer to accept the report. Motion passed.

Calendar – Lil Pipping submitted a written report and thanked everyone for selling calendars. Lil expressed that we are looking for businesses to place an ad in our 2013 calendar. Pictures are due by April 1, 2012 electronically if possible. Motion made by Charlie Brown, second by Jack to accept the report. Motion passed.

Endangered Resources – Chuck Matyska stated the concern about the DNR's changes to remove species from the list, however, they are taking the time to look at the species to determine if they are endangered and/or threatened. Discussed the Phlox Moth. Motion made by Connie Pribnow, second by Lil Pipping to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Membership – Jack Nissen is requesting that the past due clubs from 2008 and 2009 be sent one final notice and if there's no renewal have them be eliminated as members. Motion made by Lil Pipping second by Jim Huhn to send one final notice to these clubs. Motion passed. Jack went through the past due club list. Discussed banquet memberships. Motion made by Mike Rynearson, second by Rick Lazarczyk to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Dog – Andy discussed the plan to move rockets to another location. Discussed meeting with the DNR about the issues, the DNR stated their interest in becoming more involved with field trials. Problem with using a field trial area being used as a dog park which has been causing conflicts at the Ottawa Field Trial in the Eagle Area. Suggested the DNR use some of their unused land for a dog park to avoid the conflict with the field trial lands. Motion made by Larry Vanderhoef, second by Charlie Brown to accept the report as presented. Motion passed.

Old Business – Lil expressed that committee chairs were going to write up reports to submit to Wisconsin to keep everyone up to date with what's happening in their committees. Mike Rynearson mentioned the Camo Coalition concerns and the fact that it's not being used properly. Discussion on the functionality of the Camo Coalition and Jennifer explained the camo coalition process.

New Business – Jim Huhn talked about the bear hunting survey, he disagreed with the questions on the survey sent out from the DNR. WI Wetlands assoc. is hosting their annual conference and Don Hammes would like to attend and approval up to \$200 for lodging and gas. Motion made by Lil Pipping, second by Connie Pribnow for Don's request. Motion passed. Jack discussed 125 acres at Paradise Valley and 135 acres of wildlife habitat and would like the DNR to purchase this land at Stewardship property. Motion made by Jack Nissen, second by Lil Pipping to have George Meyer attend the hearing and request the DNR purchase the 135 acres under the stewardship property. Motion passed. Jack stressed his concern on allowing committee chairs to be able to discuss their committee notes without having to have action items only. Lil suggested that we use our discretion who gets to report verbally if it's something important. Jim Huhn pointed out that the reports would be noted as filed instead of voting and approving every single report. Mike Rynearson suggested 10 minutes per person to share their committee reports. It was decided that the Executive Board will discuss the issue and report back to the Board of Directors. Natural Heritage is trying to purchase some wetlands and looking for WWF's support and letter be mailed out. Motion made by Don Hammes that we write a letter to the Natural Heritage board that we support their land purchase. Second by Russ Hitz.

Waterfowl – George Meyer reported on the Sand Hill Cranes that there is a bill being introduced to authorize the hunting of Sand Hill Cranes in the state of Wisconsin. Water fowl committee asks the Federation board to work with DNR and other stakeholders to resolve stakeholder differences, to get educational materials out to the public and that we strive to try to have a sand hill crane season introduced and passed during the next legislative session. Motion made by Russ Hitz and second by Jack Nissen to support the request of the waterfowl committee. Motion passed.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 1:30pm by Roxanne Taylor, second by Lil Pipping. Motion passed.