

Western Upper Peninsula Citizen Advisory Council (WUPCAC)

Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 16, 2013

5:30-6:00pm EST DNR Division Reports * 6:00-8:00pm EST Council Meeting

Normenco Sportsman's Club, Spalding, MI

Facilitator: Phil Wirtanen Co-Facilitator: Warren Suchovsky

Council Members Present

David Anderson
David Anthony
Ken Buchholtz
Larry Heathman

Michael Holmes
Katherine Kruse
George Lindquist
Jim Lorenson

Rory Mattson
Robert "Skip" Schulz
Travis Smith
Warren Suchovsky

Council Members Absent/Excused

Jerry Divine
Floyd Dropps
Mick Jarvi
Dave Johnson

Chauncey Moran
Jim Schmierer
Phil Wirtanen

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Staff Liaisons

Craig Albright, Wildlife Division, Marquette
Kristi Dahlstrom, Executive Division, Marquette
Bill Doan, Parks and Recreation Division, Baraga
Jessica Mistak, Fisheries Division, Escanaba
Tim Melko, Facilities, Operations & Support, Marquette
Stacy Welling Haughey, Upper Peninsula Regional Coordinator, Marquette
Jeff Stampfly, Forest Resources Division, Marquette
Lt. Pete Wright, Law Enforcement Division, Marquette

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky began the Division Report portion of the WUPCAC meeting at 5:40pm EST (4:30pm Local Time). Facilitator Wirtanen was unable to attend. He welcomed everyone for attending the meeting.

DNR Division Reports

Written staff reports were provided to Council members on September 9, 2013. The following verbal updates were provided.

- **Stacy Welling Haughey, U.P. Regional Coordinator:** Mrs. Haughey thanked Mr. Jim Moraska for use of the Normenco Sportsman's Club and she thanked everyone for attending. She plans to get the word out about the Council's as many are still unaware of the purpose and intent. She noted the Governor is expected to sign the license fee increase package tomorrow morning (9/17/13).
- **Jeff Stampfly, Forest Resource Division:** Mr. Stampfly stated there were no additions to his written report. Mr. Schulz asked if comments can still be made on the regional forest plans. Mr. Stampfly replied there will be another opportunity for public comment when the plan goes through the NRC, mostly like at their October meeting.

- **Lt. Pete Wright, Law Enforcement Division:** Lt. Wright stated there were no additions to his report. If there are questions, he will be available during the meeting.
- **Craig Albright, Wildlife Division:** Mr. Albright mentioned it is the best time of year with the youth waterfowl weekend held this past weekend, partridge season opened yesterday, fall turkey, bear, and duck seasons opened, and youth firearm weekend being held next weekend. Mr. Buchholz noted the disabled hunters' weekend is next weekend as well.
- **Jessica Mistak, Fisheries Division:** Ms. Mistak stated with the end of summer, a couple of permit projects are coming to an end. The Fisheries staff have met with several lake associations to improve fishing in their lakes, and she included a few recent press releases in the written report. If there are any questions, she is available to answer them.
- **Bill Doan, Parks & Recreation Division:** Mr. Doan stated he did not have any additions to his report. Mr. Schulz asked if Bewabic State Park is open to ORV's. Mr. Doan stated it currently is not. As connector trails are developed, they will look at parks for ORV trailheads, with Bewabic being one to be considered.
- **Tim Melko, Facilities and Operation Division:** Mr. Melko stated this is a busy time of year for customer service staff with lots of phone calls, questions and selling hunting licenses. Windows are being replaced and interviews for administrative support staff are occurring at the Baraga office. Wolf licenses go on sale Saturday, September 28 at 12 noon Eastern Standard Time. All western U.P. DNR offices will be staffed. Wildlife, Law, and office staff will be available.
 - Mr. Holmes asked about trapping tags for fur harvesting. They are on sale now.
 - Mr. Lindquist asked if the easy-to-understand deer license reference sheet with photos that Mr. Koren from the Marquette office developed could be made available. Mr. Melko replied that he will have it sent out.
 - A member of the audience asked if the wolf season included trapping. Mr. Melko stated there is no trapping; it was removed as a method of take due to concern that more aren't taken than the quota established.
 - Mr. Schulz asked if the new ORV fees will require two new stickers. Mr. Melko stated there will be a base ORV license and also a trail sticker if using a designated state ORV trail. He stated it will be a two-tiered system, but not all the details are known yet. Mr. Mattson asked if all the trails will be clearly marked once the new license system is implemented. Mr. Melko stated the Parks Division is working that out. Mr. Holmes asked how this will work with snowmobile trails; Mr. Melko stated ORV's are not allowed on snowmobile trails and the snowmobile registration as not changed. A member of the public asked about concealed weapons carried on a four-wheeler on a designated trail. Mr. Melko indicated concealed weapons laws supersede DNR laws and is not included in the DNR ORV guide. He stated a person cannot always hunt from an ORV trail; staff would need to know the specific area in order to make that determination.

Call To Order

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky called the regular meeting to order at 6:00pm EST (5:00pm Local Time). Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky asked if there were any additions to the agenda; **Mr. Mattson** suggested adding U.P. game land purchases to the agenda. It was noted that it was already listed on the agenda under follow-up items. **Mr. Schulz motioned to accept the agenda as presented; Mr. Mattson supported the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. Divine, Mr. Dropps, Mr. Jarvi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Schmierer, Mr. Wirtanen. Motion carried.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky asked if there were any corrections or additions to the July 15, 2013 WUPCAC meeting minutes; none were brought forth. **Mr. Lindquist motioned to approve the minutes as submitted; Mr. Holms supported the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. Divine, Mr. Dropps, Mr. Jarvi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Schmierer, Mr. Wirtanen. Motion carried.**

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky explained the procedure for this section of the meeting and opened the floor for public comments.

- Mr. Greg Stoll stated he would like the WUPCAC to request a complete listing of all game lands purchased in the U.P.
- Mr. Jack Herrick stated he echoes Mr. Stoll's remarks. He brought it up at a meeting last Friday. They want to see it and should've gotten it already.
- Mr. Tony Demboski stated he made this same request two months ago and no response has been received.
- Mr. Dale McNamee concurred with the request.
- **Mrs. Welling Haughey** stated a map listing all public lands in the U.P. was provided to the WUPCAC after the May meeting. **Mr. Mattson** stated it wasn't the right one. He stated Mr. Minzey sent an email out after the July meeting, and it stated "*a datadump by county can be provided, but it's not a priority for the division*". **Mrs. Welling Haughey** asked how Mr. Mattson would like this information presented; **Mr. Mattson** replied he would like the legal descriptions of what was purchased in the entire U.P. **Mrs. Welling Haughey** stated she will work on how to best get this information out to the Council. It was asked if this information can be put on the internet so the public can access it as well; **Mrs. Welling Haughey** stated she will have to check into this.

New Business

1. **Deer Herd Forecast:** **Mr. Albright** provided a description of U.P. winters over the last few years and the effects on the deer herd. This past winter was very difficult for deer. The animals are looking thin and lethargic. A major study of U.P. deer and predators by the University of Mississippi is ongoing and the fawns captured this year, about 50, had the lowest birth weights in the 3 years of the study. A couple of stillborn fawns were also found. This year's deer forecast will probably be down a little with fewer yearling bucks and fewer fawns. The good news is the bucks seen will be 2 ½ and 3 ½ year olds. Masts look good. Buck regulations are staying the same this year as in past years. For antlerless

licenses, out of the concern on what the herd is doing, 5 units have been closed and quotas have been dropped. There is only one unit left with licenses for private land licenses. Voluntary check stations will be open and the patch is very nice this year.

- **Mr. Mattson** stated that word is getting around that all of the antlerless licenses are sold out. **Mr. Albright** stated he will check into this. **Mr. Mattson** asked if anything is being done with the counts this summer. **Mr. Albright** stated they are not being done. Counts come from the deer camp survey. **(NOTE: Go to www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings to determine which areas have antlerless permits still available.)**

2. Additional Agenda Items Added by Council: There were no additional items added.

Committee Reports

1. Trails/Recreation/Law: **Mr. Lorensen**, lead member of the committee, reported the group met a couple of months ago; most of the committee members and DNR staff attended. It was a very good meeting and he was surprised at the amount of consistencies in agreement there were on a number of issues. A copy of the meeting notes were shared with Council members; he reviewed the discussion and three resolutions the committee developed:
 - **Resolution #1: The WUPCAC recommends the DNR's Recreational Safety Program offer instructor development programs in the western Upper Peninsula so to better train and retain instructors.**
 - **Mr. Lorensen** added that Gogebic Community College is working with the DNR to offer a hunter's safety program in the west end.
 - **Resolution #2: The WUPCAC recommends the DNR revise its ORV event registration fee process to differentiate between social and organized use, and reduce and/or eliminate its registration fee in recognition that ORV users are already paying a trail fee.**
 - **Mr. Schulz** stated 20 riders is the number required to have a permit. **Mrs. Welling Haughey** stated she thought the number had been changed some time ago; however, it was clarified that a change will require legislative action.
 - **Resolution #3: The WUPCAC supports the development of the Uniform ORV Trail Signing System, supporting the MDNR funding of signs, and request the signing system be in place in FY 2014. Also, to commend Mr. Schulz and the MDNR Parks & Recreation Division for seeing this issue through. (see amendment to the resolution below)**
 - **Mrs. Welling Haughey** asked if it was the ORV Advisory Workgroup who decided on the uniform trail signage. **Mr. Schulz** explained the workgroup voted it down. **Mr. Doan** further explained the recent initiative to rework the language in the sign manual for review/adoption by the ORV Advisory Workgroup that will create a uniform ORV trail signing system. He stated an update should be available at the December WUPCAC meeting. **Mr. Mattson** stated he doesn't understand why this process has been so difficult; **Mr. Doan** replied the Workgroup wanted the same

system throughout the state, however, the U.P. has different types of trails than the lower peninsula requiring the need for a different system.

- **Mr. Lorensen** stated a fourth item was discussed pertaining to the development of a western U.P. ORV park, however, it did not require a resolution.

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky asked for a vote on each resolution:

- Resolution #1: **Mr. Lorensen motioned to approve Resolution #1 as previously stated; Mr. Mattson supported the motion.** Discussion took place with no changes made in the resolution. **Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. Divine, Mr. Dropps, Mr. Jarvi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Schmierer, Mr. Wirtanen. Motion carried.**
- Resolution #2: **Mr. Lorensen motioned to approve Resolution #2 as previously stated; Mr. Holmes supported the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. Divine, Mr. Dropps, Mr. Jarvi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Schmierer, Mr. Wirtanen. Motion carried.**
- Resolution #3: **Mr. Lorensen motioned to approve Resolution #3 as previously stated; Mr. Mattson supported the motion.** **Mr. Schulz** asked that the reference to himself be stricken from the motion; **Mr. Lorensen** and **Mr. Holmes** disagreed and stated it should stay. Discussion on the motion pertained to losing riders to Wisconsin who has a high quality signage system in place, the type of signage system needed, resolving this three-year old issue, who should receive the resolution, etc. **An amendment to the motion added the recipients to the resolution to be both Director Creagh and the ORV Advisory Workgroup and that the signing system be in place in FY2014. A vote to amend the motion took place. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. Divine, Mr. Dropps, Mr. Jarvi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Schmierer, Mr. Wirtanen. Motion carried.** Mrs. Welling Haughey noted the NRC is also copied on all resolutions. **A vote on the amended motion occurred: Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. Divine, Mr. Dropps, Mr. Jarvi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Schmierer, Mr. Wirtanen. Motion carried.**

Mr. Schulz indicated the subcommittee concept worked very well and encouraged others to follow suit. **Mr. Mattson** thanked those working on the ORV issue and stated he appreciates their persistence. **Co-Facilitator Suchovsky** asked if it would be helpful to have an amendment to encourage the DNR to work with Gogebic County; **Mr. Lorensen** stated it's not needed as DNR staff on the subcommittee offered to help.

2. Fisheries: **Mr. Anthony** stated he is the lead on the committee; however, he cannot speak to the meeting as he wasn't able to attend. **Mr. Holmes** stated he will report in Mr. Dropps' absence. At the last WUPCAC meeting, the proposed slot limits were discussed and a draft resolution was presented: **The Council requests the MDNR's support for a proposal to survey all 5 Iron & Dickinson County lakes upon imposed northern pike protected slot limits (PSL's) and again after 5 years; if no improvement, PSL's would be removed.**

Mr. Holmes reported at the committee meeting, the issue was discussed and a list of items they believe are critical to the selection process for a lake to successfully provide a trophy fishery, including northern pike, were developed. The proposed 5 lakes in Dickinson & Iron

Counties do not meet any of the criteria developed. One of the items they want before starting PSL's on these lakes is a survey on each lake. He stated Ms. Mistak mentioned a lot about Minnesota (MN) in her replies to the criteria, but MN had studies done and background prior to implementation. The 5 lakes do not have this. MN found out PSL's are not working and seen very small increases in fish. On every one of the proposed lakes in the U.P., the DNR says assessment surveys will be done as work schedule permits, but they don't have enough boots on the ground to do this. The PSL's are another hardship on the anglers. **Ms. Mistak** stated the DNR does not agree with the survey schedule proposed by the committee; instead, existing baseline data would be used and the lakes would be evaluated over a 10-15 year period.

- **Mr. Lindquist** stated although the Fisheries Division may not have the time or money to do the studies right now, they have a history of past studies, and with the new fishing license fee revenue, they may have more money to do studies with a timeline. He asked if the Fisheries Committee has any alternative recommendations to get bigger pike in these lakes. **Mr. Holmes** stated the alternative was the criteria they presented, and none of the 5 lakes meet those criteria.
- **Mr. Mattson** stated he has heard about this issue for two meetings, he heard about it at UPSA when Mr. Ziegler was there, and he's heard time and time again that these lakes will not produce the pike suggested. Why not suggest the proposal not be adopted and if it is, then the current resolution be proposed. **Mr. Anthony** stated the problem is with the slot limits.
- **Ms. Mistak** stated she wasn't able to meet with the committee due to late notification, but did provide point-by-point commentary on each criteria. The big point to make on the criteria is the PSL's are restricting only 3% of the fish available for harvest, not 90% as indicated. **Mr. Mattson** asked if she would change what can be fished with lures; **Ms. Mistak** stated hooking mortality does exist and is worked into the regulations. The Warmwater Resources Steering (WRS) Committee exists and Mr. Holmes has been a part of it for a while; **Mr. Holmes** stated he has opposed the PSL's from the beginning there too. **Ms. Mistak** stated the WRS Committee is made of up stakeholders and they achieved a will-live-with consensus for a proposed suite of regulation changes. Out of 11,000 Michigan lakes, 6 have PSL's currently, and 5 more are being proposed. There are 200 lakes in Iron County and they are only recommending 5. She stated she's responded to the committee's criteria, and she responded to the MN comment from Mr. Holmes. She explained in some lakes, it does work and it will take time to work. It could be a lifespan of a pike (11-14 years) to see results. The DNR knows results won't be seen in 5 years, as the resolution suggests. The proposed regulations are allowing more opportunity for anglers, not restricting opportunity.
- **Mr. Mattson** asked what the standard size limit is for pike. **Ms. Mistak** stated the standard is 24 inches, but some lakes have no size limit. There is no size limit on Peavy Lake. **Ms. Kruse** asked for clarification on size limits on the 5 proposed lakes; **Ms. Mistak** explained. **Ms. Kruse** asked what the DNR's plan is in determining if the PSL's are working. **Ms. Mistak** stated the DNR has pre-data and will re-survey. There is a huge walleye commitment in these lakes and will be surveying these as well. MN is recommending a survey every 5 years; the DNR's plan is to recommend every 4-6 years to survey to spread the survey commitment over several years because of limited staff.

It may be 10-15 years out to determine whether it's successful. **Mr. Holmes** stated their committee is recommending every 5 years, which now seems to be the same as the DNR's recommendation. This recommendation is killing the fisheries for future generations.

- **Mr. Buchholz** stated this discussion should've been taken care of in the committee meeting so as to not take up Council time.

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky stated there is a resolution on the table. **Mr. Mattson** indicated there seems to be interest in a change to the resolution. **Mr. Anthony** agreed, adding a statement such as the committee as a whole opposes having any slot limits on these lakes. He asked if this request would go before the NRC. **Ms. Mistak** said yes. The NRC was presented the proposed slots limits for information in August and action was deferred in September. It will be up for action at their October meeting.

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky clarified with the group that the amendment to the resolution is to add the Council opposes having PSL's on western U.P. lakes. Discussion ensued regarding whether there will be a difference seen if the lakes were surveyed in 5 years. **Co-Facilitator Suchovsky** stated he was going to suggest this issue be brought back to the committee; however, the NRC is slated to take action in October. **Mr. Demboski** from the audience indicated the UPSA was a major factor in getting the NRC to table action in September. **Mr. Dexter**, Fisheries Division chief, is slated to meet with them in Iron Mountain to discuss it.

Mr. Schulz motioned to amend the original resolution to include an opposition to PSL's on western U.P. lakes, which now reads: **The WUPCAC opposes the DNR's proposal to implement northern pike protected slot limits (PSL's) on any western U.P. lakes. If the DNR moves forward and approves the PSL's on the proposed 5 Iron & Dickinson County lakes, the Council recommends a baseline survey of all 5 lakes just prior to implementation and again 5 years later. If, after 5 years, no improvement in the size structure is found, the PSL's would be removed.** **Mr. Mattson** supported the motion. **Ms. Mistak** stated that these PSL's came out of a thoughtful WRS Committee with WUPCAC representation and went before a statewide public poll. Based on those results, the WRS Committee recommended a small number of lakes be proposed. These recommendations did not come from the DNR, they came from this group. She stated she is speaking against the motion on the table. **Mr. Schulz** stated the statement by Mr. Holmes that there will be a generation of kids not fishing is what influenced him. The hard core fishermen are the only ones that do the surveys, not the novices, kids or grandparents. **Ms. Mistak** stated it is a very small number of lakes, 24-34 inch fish are what is being protected, restricting very little of the fish available. It's a regulation people wanted and the DNR proposed it.

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky ended further discussion on the issue. **Mr. Anthony** stated he commends Ms. Mistak as she has a very tough job. He represents people in a unique culture; the U.P. is different than the rest of the state. There is a subsistence approach to catching fish up here. **A vote on the amended motion was taken: Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. Divine, Mr. Dropps, Mr. Jarvi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Schmierer, Mr. Wirtanen. Motion carried.**

Old Business

1. **License Fee Package Update:** **Mrs. Welling Haughey** indicated a handout was provided in the meeting packets listing the new fee structures; it is also available online. The Governor is expected to sign the package tomorrow and it will take effect on March 1, 2014. She thanked the stakeholder groups for supporting it. The biggest change is simplifying the process by moving from over 220 different licenses to around 40. There is a new base license structure for hunting licenses. There is no base license for fishing, with the number of fishing licenses going from 17 to 5. The feedback from groups indicated there were too many combinations of licenses and it has been simplified.
 - **Mr. Mattson** stated many people think the rise in fees takes effect as soon as the Governor signs the bill and they don't understand the base license. He asked that the marketing explain heavily it doesn't take effect until March 1, 2014. **Mr. Melko** stated staff across the state have been conducting meetings in anticipation of the package to develop a marketing campaign. An effective date of March 2014 will definitely be pushed and the base license will be explained as clearly as possible to customers. Media will play a big role.
 - The DNR was congratulated for working hard to push this package through. A list of those licenses that are no longer available was asked to be shared with the Council.
 - **Mr. Lindquist** questioned the combination license for \$76, which is the same as before. He didn't feel the projections for an increase in revenue will be as much as stated. **Mrs. Welling Haughey** stated the revenue amounts are estimated.

2. **Limited U.P. Wolf Hunt Update:** **Mr. Albright** reiterated that limited U.P. wolf hunt licenses will go on sale Saturday, September 28th at 12 noon EST/11 am CST. There are 1,200 licenses available. It is not known how fast the licenses will sell. **Mr. Mattson** asked for a clarification of the hunt. **Mr. Albright** stated the hunt will begin on November 15 and will continue every day until the quota in each unit is met. Hunters will need to call and report the same day they shoot a wolf, and hunters will also need to call every day to check to see if the quota has been reached and if the hunt is still on. Wolves need to be registered at a check station within 72 hours. **Mr. Lindquist** stated it's important for people to realize how much work has gone into the research, planning and control of this hunt. This is a controlled tag. **Mr. Holmes** stated the DNR is to be commended as this is 10 years in the making and a good job was done.

3. **U.P. Deer Advisory Team (UPDAT) Update:** **Mr. Lindquist** stated the UPDAT met on July 13th. A number of items were on the agenda. U.P. buck management options were voted on and remained at status quo. He reviewed a few pages of the deer harvest report he included in the meeting packets. The report showed the U.P. being highest for satisfaction, deer hunters harvesting one buck by hunting season, greatest success rate, level of satisfaction in number of deer seen in 2012, and an increase in number of satisfied hunters, and increase in level of support. He noted, as Mr. Albright mentioned, there will be some changes this year because of last winter, but things are working at the moment with a better spread in age classes, the best in many years, and satisfaction is the highest he has ever known.

- **Mr. Holmes** asked if there has been much change in the southern U.P.; **Mr. Albright** stated the northern half was worse off than the southern half, although there are still some issues in the southern U.P.
- **Mr. Mattson** asked if there were counties downstate that had a 4-point or better requirement. **Mr. Albright** stated there is a 12-county area for 3-5 years with a 3-point or better.
- **Mr. Schulz** asked if the number of licenses sold are going up, down or staying the same. **Mr. Lindquist** stated the number of hunters is dropping. **Mr. Mattson** stated it probably went up now that kids can hunt, but once it levels off, it will probably be down. **Mr. Lindquist** noted with the different programs being offered to encourage more hunters, it may provide some help.

DNR Reports on Requested Information

The following were requests for additional information at the last meeting or prior to this meeting:

1. **Land Acquisition Map:** **Mrs. Welling Haughey** indicated that a map was provided at previous meetings and an email was sent offering a response to Mr. Mattson's request with a copy included in tonight's meeting packet. **Mr. Mattson** indicated the map is not what he wants to see. He would like the legal descriptions, not a map. **Mr. Mattson motioned to request the legal descriptions of all the game lands purchased in the U.P.;** **Mr. Schulz supported the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. Divine, Mr. Dropps, Mr. Jarvi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Schmierer, Mr. Wirtanen. Motion carried.**

Next Meeting Date/Items for Next Agenda

2. **Next Meeting Date:** **Co-Facilitator Suchovsky** noted the next meeting will be held on Monday, December 9, 2013 in Delta County (location TBA).
3. **Items for Next Agenda:** **Co-Facilitator Suchovsky** asked if there were any items for the December 9th meeting agenda. He reminded the Council to remember to review the topics the NRC will be dealing with in the future. **Mr. Mattson** stated since this is a CAC for citizens, he suggests a deer hunting recap for the next meeting. **Mr. Lorensen** suggested an update on the wolf hunt. **Mrs. Welling Haughey** stated she will also have follow-up on several items discussed tonight for the next meeting. **Co-Facilitator Suchovsky** asked if any of the committees anticipate having a meeting between now and the next meeting; no response was given. He also stated that a listing of proposed meeting dates for 2014 were listed on the back of the agenda; he asked if anyone had any changes in the composition of the meeting rotation; no changes were noted. The Council agreed to another Joint meeting in March. **Mr. Schulz motioned to adopt the 2014 meeting schedule as listed;** **Mr. Mattson supported the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: Mr. Divine, Mr. Dropps, Mr. Jarvi, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Schmierer, Mr. Wirtanen. Motion carried.** **Mr. Lindquist** asked if anyone felt the need to have a central meeting location. **Mr. Lorensen** indicated although there are some good points in a central meeting location, it does make it more difficult for the public from all western counties to attend in a central location; the Council agreed.

Public Comments

Co-Facilitator Suchovsky opened the floor to members of the audience for their comments:

- Mr. Dave Nelson stated he's asked before for a listing of what this Council has accomplished, been proposed and passed and has never received it. **Mrs. Welling Haughey** indicated she has provided the information in the past and handed Mr. Herrick another copy of the listing showing all the resolutions passed by the Council.
- Mr. Demboski asked if ground blinds are lawful as of September 1st. Discussion occurred regarding the recent order approving the September 1st date. **Lt. Wright** stated he understands the order to include all ground blinds. A copy of the signed order will be emailed to the Council members tomorrow. **Mrs. Welling Haughey** will check to see if a press release will be sent out.

Closing Comments

- **Mr. Schulz** commended the Normenco Sportsman's Club for hosting the WUPCAC meeting this evening. He also commended Mrs. Dahlstrom for providing support to the Council.
- **Mr. Lindquist** mentioned, in regards to the wolf hunt, the public needs to realize the limited hunt areas and that the hunt is not open U.P.-wide. The public needs to follow the rules established for the hunt.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:53pm EST (6:53pm Local Time).

Approved 1/20/14