

Western Upper Peninsula Citizen Advisory Council (WUPCAC)

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

5:30-8:00pm Eastern

Baraga Lakeside Inn, Baraga, MI

Chairman: Phil Wirtanen Vice-Chairman: Warren Suchovsky

Council Members Present

Floyd Dropps
Joan Duncan
Dave Hall
Mike Holmes
Dave Johnson

George Lindquist
Jim Lorenson
Mary Peterson
Horst Schmidt
Robert "Skip" Schulz

Bob Stinson
Warren Suchovsky
Phil Wirtanen

Council Members Absent/Excused

Mick Jarvi

Chauncey Moran

Travis Smith

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Staff & Guests

Kristi Dahlstrom, Executive Division, Marquette
Stacy Haughey, UP Regional Coordinator, Executive Division, Marquette
George Madison, Fisheries Division, Baraga
Don Mankee, Forest Resources Division, Baraga
Terry Minzey, Wildlife Division, Marquette
Doug Rich, Parks & Recreation Division, Baraga
Sgt. Marc Pomroy, Law Enforcement Division, Iron Mountain
Jeff Kakuk, Parks & Recreation Division, Norway

Call to Order

Chair Wirtanen called the meeting to order at 5:35pm Eastern and welcomed the Council, DNR staff, and public attendees. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Adoption of Agenda

Chair Wirtanen provided an overview of the Council's history and purpose. He asked the Council if there were any additions or revisions to the agenda. **Mr. Schulz motioned to accept the agenda as presented; Mr. Suchovsky supported the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: See attendance on page 1. Motion carried.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Chair Wirtanen asked if there were any changes to the November 2018 meeting minutes. None were brought forth. **Mr. Lindquist motioned to accept the minutes as submitted; Mr. Suchovsky supported the motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: See attendance on page 1. Motion carried.**

DNR Reports from Division Staff

Written staff reports were provided to Council members on January 9, 2019. The following verbal updates were provided.

- **Stacy Haughey, UP Regional Coordinator:** Ms. Haughey introduced herself and welcomed everyone to the meeting, including Ms. Katelyn Rader from Senator Peters' office. **Ms. Haughey** provided a quick overview of

the Citizens' Advisory Councils 10-year history. She asked Council members to introduce themselves to the audience and indicate the groups they represent. She provided an update on the following items:

- Mr. Dan Eichinger, former MUCC Executive Director, is the new Director of the DNR, effective January 1. He previously worked for the DNR several years ago. He is planning a trip to the UP in early February. Many people know him from his MUCC role and she feels he will do a good job. She also mentioned past Director Keith Creagh is the newest Natural Resources Commissioner filling the position held by Commissioner JR Richardson whose term expired.
- There has been a slight delay in reviewing new applicants for open positions on both the East and West Councils to allow time for the new administration to learn more about the CAC's prior to selecting new members. There is a total of 27 applicants; 20 for the West CAC and 7 for the East CAC. New members should be selected within the next month.
- Follow-up has occurred on two items that were brought up at the last WUPCAC meeting. Details regarding trail signage was provided to Mr. Schulz and after meeting with Ms. Duncan regarding equestrian trails, she provided additional information to her as well.
- **Don Mankee, Forest Resource Division:** Mr. Mankee stated they are taking steps to move ahead with 15 bridge projects on forest roads around the state. There will also be a number of forest road improvements starting this summer with additional funding that was received. Mr. Schmidt asked if these improvements are a result of PA288. Mr. Mankee replied the funding came from capital outlay improvements submitted a year ago and was recently approved. A majority of these projects are in the UP. Mr. Suchovsky asked about the status of the Good Neighbor Authority. Mr. Mankee stated Forest Resources Division is preparing several timber sales under that contract.
- **George Madison, Fisheries Division:** Mr. Madison stated he did not have any further updates to add to his report.
- **Sgt. Marc Pomroy, Law Enforcement Division:** Sgt. Pomroy indicated he did not have any further updates. Mr. Schulz asked about ORV usage on snowmobile trails. Sgt. Pomroy stated ORVs are allowed on state-owned multi-use trails. He added the state trail system goes through a variety of property ownerships and riders could encounter different regulations that apply to those ownerships throughout their ride. He stated officers educate people on the trails as best they can.
- **Doug Rich, Parks & Recreation Division:** Mr. Rich added two updates. The Houghton County trail team is still working on submitting FEMA grants, now due within the next two weeks. He stated Mr. Kakuk, DNR trails specialist, and the Houghton County Incident Management Team are working many hours and weekends to get the information needed to submit the grants. Approximately \$2-10 million is coming back to stabilize the trails in that area from summer flooding incidents. In addition, Mr. Rich reported as part of legislation coming out of lame duck, the western UP Parks and Recreation Division was fortunate to have an opportunity to receive a \$1 million appropriation to hire individuals from the Gogebic County area to help those laid off from the Ojibway prison system. The division would be looking to hire 11 full-time benefited state jobs for Lake Gogebic, Porcupine Mountains and Bewabic State Parks and the Baraga Field Office. These positions would be part of a traveling team, rather than contracting out work. The DNR will know if this \$1 million opportunity is fully funded after March 1, 2019.

Mr. Schulz took this time to ask about the status of the ORV trails signing program, which he has been asking about and working towards the last 10 years or so. He indicated he realizes an update was provided at the last meeting in November and he received a summary email recently from Ms. Haughey, but he would like to again confirm the current status. Ms. Haughey agreed this topic has been talked about for a long time, remembering discussions from years ago. She stated despite any individual efforts, however, the governor-appointed Michigan Trails Advisory Council (MTAC) has the authority, by statute, and plays a large role in advising the DNR

Director and the Governor on any trail-related business. The DNR relies on this group to research the issues and provide recommendations for consideration. To this regard, the current chair Mr. Tom Dunn of the ORV Advisory Workgroup (ORVAW)—a subcommittee of the MTAC—responded to this signage issue/request recently indicating a pilot program in the UP would be instituted if funding for it could be found. Mr. Dunn further stated a majority of the ORVAW members would not support statewide implementation. Mr. Kobasic at the November WUPCAC meeting indicated the pilot program was in progress as funding had been secured. She indicated further discussion should be between those who want the signage, i.e. Mr. Schulz, and the MTAC/ORVAW. She mentioned to Mr. Schulz he should be aware of this process as he was a member of ORVAW a few years ago. She noted there is no disconnect with staff, rather MTAC/ORVAW needs to be in support of the program. **Mr. Lorensen** asked if staff have any influence on the issue, since the UP trails staff have shown their support and have encouraged approval. **Ms. Haughey** stated staff have given their input/support and the WUPCAC has given its support, but ultimately, it is MTAC's role to consider all aspects and make a recommendation, and they do not currently support it. **Mr. Lorensen** stated he is dismayed by all the hours spent on this topic by the WUPCAC and its trails subcommittee, which may have been avoided if this information was known up front. **Mr. Schulz** disagrees that users do not support it and stated the funding requirement was not brought up before the November WUPCAC meeting. **Ms. Haughey** stated there are several members on the MTAC and ORVAW that are from the UP and suggested an invitation to involve them in the discussion, including new member Mr. John Matonich. Discussion ensued between Council members (**Mr. Johnson, Chair Wirtanen, Mr. Lindquist, Mr. Suchovsky, Mr. Dropps, Ms. Duncan**) and eventually turned to a broader discussion about forest road signage and PA 288. **Ms. Haughey** stated a helpful tool/map that can be used to locate forest roads and routes became active late last week and demonstrated online how to use it.

- **Terry Minzey, Wildlife Division:** **Mr. Minzey** reported about a 100 deer will be collared in northern Gogebic County for the Deer Movement Study, with most of them replacing those deer lost from mortality. 30 deer will be also collared in Dickinson County in the area where CWD was found. He stated the biennial moose survey is about 75% completed; the goal is to complete the survey by the end of January, weather dependent. He introduced Ms. Erin Johnston from the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC), who was present to provide an update on a Grouse Enhancement Management Site (GEMS) partnership project between the KBIC and the DNR at Pt. Abbaye on a former game farm that recently had an old fence removed. She shared the plan for the GEMS site, which will be open to the public and include interpretive signs on different animal and plant species to provide an educational component to grouse hunters. Electricity will be added to the site which may allow camping pads to be installed. **Mr. Minzey** indicated this will be the 14th GEMS location in the UP. Although not all work will be complete by September 15th, it will be open to hunters. **Mr. Lindquist** asked about the deer check stations reports; **Mr. Minzey** indicated he hasn't reviewed the report yet and will get back to him.

Old Business

1. **Proposed Marquette County Shooting Range Update:** **Ms. Haughey** stated this item was on the agenda to provide a report on the results of the Sands Township planning commission meeting scheduled for last evening in which they were to consider a use permit; however, due to a lack of quorum, they postponed it until January 29 at 6:30pm. She indicated this would be the first safe public DNR shooting range in the UP, funding has already been secured, and the location is a spot that people have been shooting at for years on Cliffs property. She indicated if the decision is denied, the funding will most likely be lost. **Mr. Hall** indicated he feels optimistic that it could be approved.
2. **UP Wildlife Habitat Workgroup Update:** **Mr. Suchovsky** noted the minutes from the last Workgroup meeting on December 7 was in the meeting packets. The most important takeaway from the meeting was the

Workgroup received a wildlife habitat grant for \$71,800. Two other organizations also received grant funding for UP projects. The intent is for the Workgroup to apply for this grant yearly. The grant recipients have two years to implement each grant and spend the money. Discussion ensued regarding the potential benefits of wildlife habitat projects in the UP.

3. Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI): **Ms. Haughey** displayed the MNFI website up on screen while **Mr. Minzey** explained that the site is a comprehensive database for the location and condition of Michigan's rare species and habitats. At the last meeting, the Council had wondered if there was a similar central clearinghouse for lakes and this website was mentioned, but it is not what the Council was looking for. The MNFI is more of a reporting site, used by DNR forestry and wildlife and other agencies as a resource to research, input and evaluate scientific information on rare species. **Mr. Madison** mentioned that some lake data is available through the Fisheries Division, although it may not be inclusive to invasive species, water quality, etc. **Ms. Haughey** indicated water quality for inland lakes was available through the DEQ website, which she displayed. In summary, one all-inclusive database for inland lakes was not known to be available; instead, information seemed to be segmented and available through several different sources.

New Business

1. Snowmobiles/Loud Exhausts: **Sgt. Pomroy** stated DNR officers have stepped up enforcement of loud snowmobiles with the use of sound test meters at various locations where complaints have been received. He stated the complaints have led to private property owners revoking their permission to route snowmobile trails across their land and it is diminishing the trail connectivity in the UP and decreases riding opportunities for everyone. Patrols across the entire UP, on different days and times, have increased. He mentioned that snowmobiles with stock or original manufactured exhausts can pass the sound test; however, many riders are modifying their sleds with loud exhaust pipes and cans. Michigan law has a noise emission maximum and the penalty for violating sound levels for snowmobiles is a civil infraction, carrying fines at an average of \$200 and snowmobiles may be impounded. **Mr. Schmidt** asked if this was a fad; **Sgt. Pomroy** stated it is more common than one thinks. Ms. PJ McCaughn from North Country Snowmobile Club (in the audience) stated more users tend to be younger and are off trail riders, but they ride state trails to get where they want to go. She noted a big section of Trail 5 was lost because of noise, and a re-route hasn't been found yet. **Mr. Schulz** stated loud machines have been around forever, but fines are being given and the citation is holding up in courts now. He stated he is glad to see the enforcement. **Ms. Haughey** stated there has been a recent press release about the issue which has been getting good coverage in the media.
2. US Senate Bill 3644 (Peters) – CWD Transmission in Cervidae Study Act: **Chair Wirtanen** welcomed Ms. Katelyn Rader and asked her to update the Council on this bill. Ms. Rader indicated Senator Peters co-sponsored the bill which would authorize a special resource study on the spread vectors of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in Cervidae and for other purposes. She stated she has listened to the public and attended many citizen advisory meetings. Everyone wants to eradicate CWD, including the Senator, and he would like to see this bill, which would encourage a federal presence, to move forward. She read the bill which would *"have the Secretary of Agriculture enter in to an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences who would conduct and submit a report describing the findings of a special resource study to identify the predominate pathways and mechanisms of the transmission of CWD in wild, captive, and farmed populations of cervids in the US."* She indicated it would include the significant knowledge from the DNR as well. She asked the Council for their input on what they would like her to take back in regard to CWD. **Mr. Lindquist** stated he would like to see federal funding to study CWD, which ended in 2011, re-established. He would also like to know about the vector order, what can be done to prevent or control the spread of CWD, and if live animal testing could be done, perhaps through a

grant funding process. **Mr. Johnson** stated he would like interstate movement of captive cervids and bait be examined. **Mr. Suchovsky** stated he would like to know more about absorption of prions in the soil and human interaction. Ms. Rader thanked the Council for their contributions.

3. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) & UP CWD Taskforce Updates: **Ms. Haughey** indicated an update was provided at the NRC meeting last week. Over 29,500 animals have been tested for CWD and TB this year and a total of 72,000 have been tested since 2008. The testing cost for this year is \$3.5 million and since 2008 is \$8.64 million. The effort put forth for testing has been significant and the expertise in the lab has been phenomenal. UW-Madison has also helped with lab testing to get the results on time. **Mr. Minzey** noted UP wildlife staff were trained to pull lymph nodes to help expedite the process. The amount of testing Michigan has done is more than any other state in the nation. He stated the core and expanded surveillance areas surpassed testing goals and another positive case has not yet been found. A total of 58 positives have been identified to date statewide (1/16/19); 5 new suspects (in Jackson County) are currently being evaluated with 2 of those showing clinical signs which means they have been infected for 18 months or more. He added the DNR will be reviewing the field work process for improvements and cost-effectiveness.

- **Mr. Schulz** asked if moose in western states with CWD are being affected. **Mr. Minzey** replied CWD can be found in any Cervidae family such as moose, caribou and deer. One moose in the Rocky Mountains has been found with CWD, reindeer in the country of Norway, and a subspecies of caribou in Finland. He noted the strain of CWD in Montana mule deer is not the same strain as in Michigan whitetail deer.
- **Mr. Johnson** stated he is concerned with the collection of deer carcasses that are thrown out to let animals feed on it. **Mr. Minzey** stated there is a concern; however, there is no solution yet. He spoke about the CWD opinion survey that was released today and was forwarded to Council members this morning. Meat processor issues in relation to CWD are looked at. The survey indicates the public wants the DNR to do something about the disease; however, what the DNR knows will work is not well liked by the public. There is some educational work to be done and everyone will need to work together to address it. He also mentioned that Wisconsin has only tested 3 deer in the concentric circle surrounding the UP CWD case in Wacedah Township that crosses into Wisconsin. He is hopeful for new collaborative efforts with Wisconsin.
- **Mr. Suchovsky** stated over the last half dozen years or so hunters in his area have come across a dead deer with characteristics of CWD with only bones left and asked if the soil at that location could be sampled for prions. **Mr. Minzey** stated it probably can be done but it would be very expensive and difficult.
- **Mr. Lindquist** stated those that don't believe CWD exists state there has never been a case of a deer dying from CWD in Michigan, that all have been killed and then tested. **Mr. Minzey** stated this is not true. The first one found with CWD was found dead. Two in Jackson County died from it. There have been 5 animals that were neurologic and very close to dying. He mentioned Wyoming and Colorado are seeing real world declines in their deer population and have lots of deer dead from it. A member of the public stated there are other problems in Colorado that is contributing to the deer decline as well.
- A member of the public asked if there is any place where CWD was and then disappeared. **Mr. Minzey** stated this happened in New York where they killed all the deer in the area and it hasn't come back.
- **Mr. Lindquist** asked if any of the corporate landowners located in the core surveillance area where there are holes in testing would be willing to let hunters in to get more samples. **Mr. Minzey** indicated one corporate landowner had 300 permits from the DNR and encouraged hunters to use those permits.
- **Ms. Peterson** asked how long after a deer dies does it have to be tested for CWD and if a deer carcass was found out in the woods, would the DNR be interested in testing it. **Mr. Minzey** stated if the carcass had evidence of it being extremely emaciated or other clinical signs and it was not rotted, they would be interested in testing it.

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- **Sgt. Pomroy** asked if there were any scheduled meetings coming up soon that he can share with people as everyone would like to give their input. **Mr. Minzey** stated opportunities for public comment will be determined in the spring.
4. Deer Season Recap: **Mr. Minzey** provided a recap on the recent deer season, which was also highlighted in the Division Reports under the NRC report. The yearling buck segment was very low at about 17%. According to the Deer Movement Study, 82% survived until December. He believes the April 2018 winter season prevented the development of antlers due to poor nutrition. He indicated the Mackinac Bridge count suggests the deer harvest numbers will come back as the same as last year. **Mr. Suchovsky** stated many hunters are getting their deer processed before traveling, so they are not visible on vehicles as much. **Mr. Johnson** asked about the number of hunters; **Mr. Minzey** indicated the official statistics will not be available until June. A member of the audience verbalized his dismay with the lack of deer seen in the woods this season and stated changes need to be made.
 5. Additional Agenda Items Added by Council: There were no additional items added.

Reports from Committee Meetings Held

Chair Wirtanen opened the floor for Committee reports:

1. Fisheries: **Mr. Dropps** reported the Committee met on January 7th with Ms. Johnson, fisheries biologist from Crystal Falls, regarding the muskellunge/trout fisheries on the Paint River. They have spoken with Mr. Kramer, fisheries biologist from Escanaba as well. He reviewed the meeting notes that were also in the meeting packets. A map was displayed on screen to indicate the river sections referenced during the review. He indicated the Committee is recommending a resolution for a special regulation changing the size and possession limits on muskellunge and northern pike in a designated area of the Paint River for at least three years to enable the DNR to conduct a survey to test for muskellunge. **Mr. Madison** indicated the Fisheries Chief was in agreement with this suggestion and a resolution was not needed. **Mr. Holmes** stated the Committee wishes to have a resolution passed regardless. Discussion ensued. **Chair Wirtanen** asked the Council if they wished to pursue a resolution and the Council agreed. **Mr. Johnson motioned to recommend to the DNR that the NRC implement a no size limit on muskellunge and northern pike and a no maximum or daily high possession limit should also be put in place. The special regulation on the Paint River should begin at the power dam in Crystal Falls and take in all upstream river waters. If, after three years, the Fisheries Division develops a good muskellunge survey method and all fisheries seem back in balance, normal regulations would resume. Mr. Hall supported the motion. Discussion took place; Mr. Lorensen stated he'd like to amend the motion to reinforce the joint direction with the DNR Fisheries Division and the WUPCAC Fisheries Subcommittee. Mr. Lindquist motioned to amend the current motion to include Mr. Lorensen's statement; Mr. Holmes supported the amended motion. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: See attendance on page 1. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Schulz commended the Committee for their work on this resolution.**
2. Trails/Recreation/Law: No report.
3. Wildlife: No report.
4. Forestry: No report.

Next Meeting

1. 2019 Meeting Dates (Date Change): **Chair Wirtanen** stated the Joint UPCAC meeting will be held in September instead of June as the UP NRC Meeting changed similarly as well. As a result, a July meeting was also added to keep with the normal meeting rotation. The Council agreed with the changes.
2. Next Meeting Date: **Chair Wirtanen** noted the next meeting will be on Thursday, March 21 in Dickinson County beginning at 5:00pm central/6:00pm eastern at Bay College West in Iron Mountain.
3. Items for Next Meeting Agenda: **Chair Wirtanen** asked the Council if there were any topics to be considered for the next agenda. The Council provided the following suggestions: discuss implementation of a moose management plan (**Mr. Lindquist**), identify rustic camping sites for horses in the UP for the purpose of trail riding and having overnight rest areas for horses (**Ms. Duncan**), and a develop a plan to eradicate pike in order to promote other fish species, which are seeing a significant decline, in certain Marquette County inland lakes (**Mr. Hall**). After a discussion about Mr. Hall's suggestion, **Chair Wirtanen** stated he'd like the Fisheries Committee to review it and report back at the next meeting in March.

Public Comments

Chair Wirtanen explained this portion of the meeting and opened the floor for public comment.

- *Mr. Burt Mason of L'Anse/Friends of the Huron Mountains* provided a brief summary of the mission of the Friends of the Huron Mountains and then spoke about several disadvantages to the development of the Summit Lake Wind Farm in Baraga County: degrading the natural resources, threatening to moose, bear, eagles and blue ribbon trout streams in the area, threat to the ecosystem, fragmentation of forest lands, decrease in property values and impact on tourism. He brought a model of a wind turbine and area forest to view. He noted signatures were obtained to get a referendum on the May ballot allowing the residents of L'Anse township to vote on it. A variety of questions were asked by Council members regarding the use of private land, support of renewable energy, massive road system needed to haul in equipment, height of turbines (58 feet), commercial forest act implications for enrolled property, potential fire hazard to surrounded forested land, hazards from ice buildup on turbines, research on impacts to similar landscapes, federal subsidies, impact studies, and legislative support. **Chair Wirtanen** thanked Mr. Mason for his interest and passion on the topic and indicated the Council cannot take any action for or against the issue in an official capacity. Council members can act on their own opinions on an individual basis. He stated he appreciates the groups' concern for the state's natural resources.
- *Mr. Dean Dallavalle of Iron River* provided a slide presentation on a proposed youth bear hunt in the UP, which he stated will reward students who attend hunter's safety, bring young hunters into an aging hunting community, and provide an opportunity they otherwise would have to wait years to experience. He indicated he presented the proposal at the NRC meeting in September and at the December bear forum and has support from UPSA and MUCC. From input he's received at these meetings, he has revised his proposal to include only 14 permits/year for a two-year trial period. His presentation touched on who would qualify, which UP counties would participate, effect on current quotas/tags, and the assignment of permits by county. He indicated the bear regulations may be reviewed by the NRC next month and is asking for support from the WUPCAC. Questions were asked by the Council with the overall concern that the 14 permits would be taken from the existing quota (not extra), which could prevent some hunters who have waited a long time from getting a tag.

Chair Wirtanen stated that due to the time parameters for support needed prior to the next NRC meeting, he asked the Council if they wish to vote to consider an emergency resolution which requires a majority approval. **Mr. Schulz motioned to consider an emergency resolution on a youth bear hunt; Mr. Lorenson supported the**

motion. Vote by show of hands: Ayes: 10. Nays: 3. Absent: See attendance on page 1. Motion carried by majority vote. Mr. Schulz then motioned to support, as an emergency resolution, the proposed youth bear hunt as presented by Mr. Dallavalle; Mr. Lorenson supported the motion. Vote by show of hands: Ayes: 10. Nays: 3. Absent: See attendance on page 1. Motion carried by majority vote. (Note: Mr. Johnson stated after the meeting that he'd like his dissent for this resolution noted in the minutes and with the resolution forwarded to the DNR and NRC.)

- *Mr. Larry Mellstrom of Iron River* distributed a copy of and reviewed his recommendations for changes needed to deer regulations. **Chair Wirtanen** stated he will refer the recommendations to the Council's Wildlife Committee for further consideration and thanked him for his contribution.
- *Mr. Jeremy Applekamp of Gwinn* stated he spoke at the recent NRC meeting in Lansing and recommended those interested to review their discussion on CWD. He stated it was mentioned that a lab in Wisconsin is being used for some testing and feels that perhaps a college in the UP should be used for testing to alleviate concerns with transporting infected heads. He also spoke about a CWD vaccine that has been tested on deer. He encouraged everyone to get young people involved in natural resources and thanked the Council for doing a great job. (NOTE: Mr. Minzey has made a correction that the CWD vaccine mentioned by Mr. Applekamp was tested on elk only.)
- *Ms. Linda Kinnunen of Friends of the Huron Mountains* thanked the Council for listening to the Friends of the Huron Mountains and the deliberation of the wind farm project.
- *Mr. James Haun of Skanee/Friends of the Huron Mountains* spoke about his disagreement with the proposed wind farm being subsidized with taxpayers' money and the clearcutting of the forest that will take place.

Council Closing Comments

- **Mr. Lindquist** stated MUCC recently distributed a report on a review of the impacts from hunting, trapping and fishing compared to other states. He indicated the \$11.2 billion impact from these sports on Michigan is the largest impact of any of the Great Lake states. It is great information that stores and business people can use to promote their services.
- **Mr. Schulz** noted his dismay with the current status of the trails signing program discussed earlier, of which he has worked on for 15 years, stating people from lower Michigan who have not worked on a trail should not be making the decisions for the UP.
- **Mr. Dropps** ended this portion of the meeting stating there is progress on issues from time to time and this was a very good meeting. He thanked everyone.

Adjournment

Chair Wirtanen thanked everyone for their contributions. The meeting adjourned at 8:44pm Eastern.