

Wood County Wildlife Area Advisory Committee (WCWA AC)

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: April 7, 2025 5:30pm

Meeting Location: Sandhill Wildlife Area Outdoor Skills Facility, Babcock, WI

Members Present: Figueroa, Isensee, McAuley, Polach, Weis, Winkler, Wipfli

Members Absent: Kedrowski, Pluke, vacant (Schmutzer)

Advisors & Partners Present: Zak Khab (WI DNR)

Public Present: none

Agenda & Minutes:

1. Call meeting to order

- Meeting called to order by Weis at 5:30pm.

2. Declaration of Quorum

- Seven members present; quorum declared by Weis.

3. Approve minutes of February 10, 2025 meeting (see Attachment A)

- **MOTION** made by Winkler to *Approve the 2/10/25 Minutes*; seconded by McAuley. No discussion. Unanimous vote in favor; **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Correspondence

- No correspondence received.

5. Public Comments

- No public comments.

6. Sandhill – Meadow Valley - Wood County Updates

- Knab presented his report (see Attachment B)
- Weis noted that Weisner Rd is underwater and asked where Weisner ends and Ditch Bank starts. Knab: At the Corner.
- Winkler asked if timber sales have improved. Knab: They are about the same as usual.
- Knab added that some of the provisions of timber sales have been changed to attract more interest, such as increasing the minimum tree diameter from 4” to 6”.
- Knab added that some forestry companies have abandoned their bids, sometimes after starting them.
- Isensee asked how payment for timber bids work and what the impact is when someone abandons their bid. Knab: Successful bidders must pay a bond (like a security deposit). If they abandon their bid, they lose this bond. Then, as trees are harvested, bidders self-report the amount of timber taken and they make payments accordingly.
- McAuley asked about the Little Yellow River project and Knab gave an update.
- Knab added that Sandhill hosted an 8-day Women’s Trap Camp last week. The event was very successful; one wolf was caught.

7. Discuss Wilderness Cranberries Issue

- This topic was postponed until the next meeting.

8. Member Matters

- Polach noted that board terms are expiring soon for Kedrowski, McAuley, and Wipfli. These members can expect to be contacted by Schubert soon about applying for another term
- McAuley reminded members about upcoming Conservation Congress and CDAC meetings.

9. Set next meeting date

- Next meeting is set for Monday, July 14, 2025, at 5:30pm at Sandhill Wildlife Area Outdoor Skills Facility, Babcock, WI.

10. Adjourn

- **MOTION** made by Winkler to Adjourn; seconded by Isensee. No discussion. Unanimous vote in favor; **MOTION CARRIED**. Meeting adjourned at 6:27pm.

Minutes Taken By: Isensee, Secretary

Minutes Validated By: Weis, Chair

These minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting.