



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION League

July 6, 2017 Minutes
Meeting Location - Conway



MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|----------------|---|--------------|---------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------|
| P | Aliquippa | Mike Harcher | P | Five Points | Jim Farland | P | Pine Run | Rob Smith |
| | (Alt) | None | | (Alt) | Dan Losco | | (Alt) | Dick Smith |
| A | Ambridge | Bob Dormanesh | P | FOAC | Craig Holdren | A | Pittsburgh Down Riggers | Andy Theodore |
| | (Alt) | None | | (Alt) | Sam Piccinini | | (Alt) | David Holderny |
| P | Beaver Falls | Larry White | A | Green Valley | Don Spearing | P | Rochester | George Sullivan |
| | (Alt) | None | | (Alt) | Karen Laurito | | (Alt) | Ray Spolarich |
| P | B.V. Archers | Walt Ketterer | P | Koppel | Shawn Cox | A | Sewickley | Rod Cowan |
| | (Alt) | George Klinger | | (Alt) | Jerry Tillia | | (Alt) | None |
| P | B.V. Rifle & Pistol | Bob Oles | A | Midland | Mark Benzio | A | Southside | None |
| | (Alt) | Clinton DeLuca | | (Alt) | Dave Knight | | (Alt) | None |
| P | Conway | None | A | N. Boroughs | Harry Norton | | | |
| | (Alt) | None | | (Alt) | None | P | PGC | Matt Kramer |
| | | | | | | A | PFBC | Jeremy Allen |

OFFICERS

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---|----------------|---|-------------|---|-----------|
| | President | | Vice President | | Treasurer | | Secretary |
| P | Tony Rich | P | Rich Kerlin | A | Mark Benzio | P | Bob Oles |

Call to Order - 7:00 p.m.

Host Club Welcome - Bill Frishkorn, Conway Club President

Guests - Marlee Kerlin, Dick Bayer

Last Month's Minutes - Motion to approve, B.V. Archers/ Koppel. Pass.

ELECTION - Annual,

- October. Vice President and Treasurer
- Nominating Committee - Craig Holdren, Tonya Cable, Shawn Cox

COMMUNICATIONS

- Rich - Received the applications for the Goose Hunt

STATE AGENCIES

PA GAME COMMISSION - Matt Kramer

- PGC announced an increase in the size of Disease Management Area 2 into areas that have had multiple CWD-positive deer. An increase from 2,846 square miles to 4,095 square miles
- Pennsylvania hunters had one of their safest years on record in 2016. 25 hunting related shooting incidents but no fatalities.
- The Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners gave preliminary approval for lawful use of three additional electronic devices. Electronic decoys for hunting waterfowl. Electronically heated scent or lure dispensers. Electronic devices that distribute ozone gases for scent-control purposes.
- PGC gave preliminary approval to an Amendment that addresses the use of semi-automatic rifles and air guns in Special Regulations Areas.
- PGC gave final approval to add “general-class falconers” to the pool of falconers who will be able to apply for a permit to capture migrating Arctic peregrine falcons.
- Goose hunters in the 2017-18 license year must apply online at www.pgc.pa.gov or in person to enter the drawing to hunt from goose blinds at Middle Creek and Pymatuning Wildlife Management areas.
- Antlerless deer licenses go on sale for residents, Monday July 10. For non-residents, Monday July 17.
 - License allocations are, 1A = 52,000. 2A = 50,000. 2B = 60,000.
- Several bear sightings have been reported in Beaver County in late June and early July. Young transient bears looking for a place to live. They're around, they're moving, they're here to stay. We have bear in Beaver County.
- Matt complemented the league on the excellent youth camp it held this year.
- [Matt's Report](#)

PA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION - Jeremy Allen

- Absent

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOOKLET - Rob Smith

- Should be ready shortly
- rasmith10@comcast.net

GAME - Mike Harcher

- Penn State is working on restoring the chestnut tree to Pennsylvania.
- Two PGC officers were recognized by the National Wild Turkey Federation. Land Management Group Supervisor Jerry Bish was given the WTF Joe Kurz Award. WCO Daniel Murphy was given the WTF Conservation Officer of the Year Award.
- PGC still pursuing the re-introduction of Bob White Quail into Pennsylvania.
- Doris Shyda is one of the few women to have completed the World Slam of Wild Turkeys.
- The PGC has decided that artificial insemination of elk will not be pursued.
- PGC investigating tree stand accidents.
- PGC to study West Nile virus mosquitoes link to the Ruffed Grouse population decline.
- Fish and Wildlife Research Unit in University Park PA, received the Excellence of Science Award.

POLLUTION - Mike Harcher

- Penn State is studying the Chesapeake Bay area nitrogen run off from farming.
- State legislators are looking for other ways to fund environmental programs after a number of state budget cuts.
- An effort has started to save Pennsylvania's largest salamander, the Eastern Hellbender.
- Patrick McDonnell has been appointed and confirmed as the new PA DEP Secretary.

FISHING DERBY- Mike Zon

- Absent

CONSERVATION CAMP - Breanna Edmiston

- Absent

- Rich - Had some of the best campers we've had in years. The boating course points this out. Over all, the kids missed far fewer questions on the test than previous years. We had some new programs this year that were very successful. The kitchen crew was great again this year. The help was great this year too. We did lose 4 or 5 kids in the first couple of days for various reasons. Thanks to Tony for the meat he provided. Special thanks to Five Points club on the shooting day and Southside club who treated us like royalty. Thanks to all the clubs who sponsored kids. Easily over half the kids who attended were sponsored by a sportsmen's club. Biggest problem was night security. Didn't find out until the last minute that the Sheriff's department couldn't cover camp security due to county budget concerns. I don't know how Mike Zon made it all week. He worked all day on staff and most of the nights on security. This is something we have to address in the future.
- We have a camp staff member and camper with us tonight, maybe they can give us a little input.
- Marlee Kerlin, a first year staff camp counselor - I've been a camper in the past and because of my experiences I wanted to help out the camp and the Youth Foundation by volunteering to work a staff position this year.
- Chayce Cable, camper - I liked camp more this year because it seemed everyone was more laid back. I liked shooting muzzle loader, the boating course and archery.
- Dick Ward - Suggested the league send a thank you to the park staff, DCNR, for all they did. The secretary will handle this.
- Motion to give Breanna \$2,000 to pay the remaining invoices, from the Youth Foundation, for this year's camp. Aliquippa/Five Points. Passed.
- Tony is going to appoint a committee to analyze camp finances so we have a more detailed understanding of what we need to fund the camp so we aren't faced with this discussion next year after the camp is over.
- Tony - There was some confusion this year about what should be printed on shirts and or hats and who determines that. What goes on at the camp has everything to do with this league. That's not a committee decision or a Youth Foundation decision, that is a league decision. We need to make sure that happens in the future.

ARCHERY - Walt Ketterer

- Introductory Youth Archery every Thursday evening 6pm until whenever the archer wants to leave. No experience necessary and equipment will be provided. There is no charge for this program. Sometimes we have 30 kids at this shoot.
- We have our weekly 3D shoots on the first Tuesday of each month. They start at 5:00pm. Fee is \$7.
- The first Sunday of every month we have a 3D shoot. \$12 per shooter.
- Keep in mind, all of these events are open to everyone. You don't have to be a member of the club.
- <http://www.beavervalleyarchers.com>

EVENTS COORDINATOR - Craig Holdren

- The group picture from the rally with Tony's thank you on it, was added to the website. We're also going to set this picture up so it can be added to the league booklet.
- If you have photos from league and or the youth foundation events, please get them to me if you want them on the website. So far, We have not received any pictures for some of the events that have occurred this year. Please limit to 24 to 36 photos, No more - You need to pick out the Best Photos you want posted on the BCSCCL website.
- It would be helpful if the clubs could put some of this information on their own websites. Make The 2nd Amendment Great Again! Rally. The Restore Hereford Manor Lake 20 Guns for \$20.00 flyer (almost too late
- now) BCSCCL Family Field Day - Saturday July 15, 2017.
- www.bcscl.org

LEGISLATIVE - Bob Oles

- Concerns have been raised recently about the sale of a former Youth Detention Center (YDC) on 145 acres in Shenango Township, Lawrence County to an Islamic group out of New Jersey. "Hira Educational Services of North America has not communicated its intention for the property, even after repeated attempts by the area State Reps/ State Senator and local elected officials. Hira has lost its ability to do business in New Jersey after failing to file necessary paperwork for two consecutive years.
- State Reps Aaron Bernstine and Chris Sainato and Senator Elder Vogel have sent two letters of concern to try to get to the bottom of the matter. The first directly to Governor Wolf and the second to Denise Smyler, General Counsel for the Commonwealth of PA, with a cc to Governor Wolf, Curt Topper (Department of General Services Secretary) and Attorney General Josh Shapiro.
- Senator Vogel introduced Senate Resolution 154 to halt the sale of the YDC property. On June 27, the Senate approved SR-154 resolution. That same day, unknown to Senator Vogel, the Attorney General signed off on the agreement between the Administration and Hira Educational Services of North America to purchase the YDC Property. The timing of this action has raised questions as to the seemingly urgent nature with which it has been approved. This process typically takes 30-45 days but in this situation the process took only 9 business days. The speed with which the Administration has signed off on the sale is disappointing and shocking in light of the fact that so many questions remain unanswered.

- The additional information in the next bullet point and attached articles does not come from Senator Elder Vogel or the State Legislature. The focus of Senator Vogel's concern of this sale is the financial and economic viability of the company, possible collusion regarding the bids/sale, as well as the process of the sale and its rapid approval.
- The attached articles contain numerous reasons why we should be concerned about the sale of this property to an Islamic group that will not state what its intentions are for the property and the extreme speed by the Wolf administration of the sale. Some reasons are:
 - More than 15,000 Syrian refugees have found their way to the U.S. since that country's civil war broke out in 2012.
 - At least 61 people who came to the United States as "refugees" engaged in terrorist activities between 2002 and 2016, according to a new report authored by the Heritage Foundation. The report suggests that the more refugees allowed into a country, the more jihadists who will sneak in among their ranks. Although that would seem obvious, it is a conclusion that the U.S. State Department and refugee supporters in Congress have tried their best to whitewash over the last two years as the refugee program has come under increased scrutiny.
 - 40 terrorist attacks or failed attacks have taken place in the United State by Islamic extremists since the first World Trade Center attack in 1993.
 - [Link to articles](#)
 - Updated information as of 7/10/17
 - Hira Educational Services has since come forward with a brief explanation of their intentions to operate the site "similar to its former use" as a "school for troubled juveniles"
 - The Lawrence County District Attorney, Josh Lamancusa, has also initiated an investigation of the circumstances surrounding the sale of the property, which is ongoing

FISH COMMITTEE - Mike Barcaskey

- Absent
- Tony read [Mike's report](#).

HUNTER EDUCATION - George Sullivan

- Absent
- Upcoming Hunters Education Classes:

| | | |
|---------|----------------|-----------------|
| 8/5/17 | Rochester Club | 9:00am - 4:00pm |
| 8/23/17 | Pine Run Club | 9:00am - 4:00pm |

CONSERVATION DISTRICT - George Sullivan

- Absent

YOUTH FOUNDATION - Jerry Hooks

- Meeting held 6/15/17 at Aliquippa Club
- Jerry presented a plaque to Larry White, Delegate of Beaver Falls Club for his club's donation to the Youth Foundation
- The Beaver County Conservation Shooting League donated \$952.50.
- Tonya - This Saturday 7/8/17 is the Hopewell Park Fest. We're setting up a table for the Youth Foundation to pass out information to promote the activities of the League and YF.
- [Meeting Minutes](#)

FUND RAISING - Need a Chairman

- No Report

YOUTH MENTORED HUNTS - Rich Kerlin

- As I reported under "Communications," I just received the game commission grant packet and I'll probably get that sent back to the game commission next week. Do not have a date yet.

YOUTH FIELD DAY - Youth Foundation / Jerry Hooks

- Scheduled for Saturday, July 15, at Midland Sportsmen's Club. Check in starts at 6:30am.
- As of 5:30pm today there are 41 kids signed up.
- Sent a request to the Beaver County Times for a price quote for the flyer.
- Next Wednesday, 7/12/17, at 7:00pm we're having a meeting at Rochester to do some final planning.
- Set up starts at noon on Friday 7/14/17.
- If you have an item you could donate for the prize table, it would be appreciated.
- Please print out flyer and post at your clubs and other locations. [Field Day Flyer](#)
- Motion to spend up to \$3,000 for the field day. Five Points/Aliquippa. Pass.
- Any and all help is appreciated. Contact Jerry 724-601-6964 or jerryhooks@hotmail.com

BANQUET - Tony Rich

- No Report

BIG KNOB FAIR - Guy, Tonya & Chayce Cable

- Requesting \$700 for fair expenses. Motion to approve, Pine Run/Koppel. Pass.

GUEST SPEAKER - Reverend Spencer Simon Jr.

- Spencer operates an outreach ministry to the youth throughout Allegheny and Beaver Counties focusing on the outdoors and especially fishing. He complemented the League and Conway Club on its work with the youth and encouraged us to continue to reach out to the youth around us.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- On July 11, Tony will be at the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission meeting in Harrisburg, with the Commission President, Rocco Ali and State Representative Aaron Bernstine, when we'll go on record for the request of the money for the survey and construction money for Hereford Manor Lake project. This will get the process underway.
- Craig still has a couple of HML tickets, \$20 / 20 Guns.
- Bruce Pia sent a bill for the embroidery work on 80 or 100 hats for the camp for \$346.20. Motion to approve, Koppel/ Aliquippa. Pass.
- If anyone wants league shirts they are \$50/ea.
- Tony reviewed changes in fund raising for the 2nd Amendment Rally from a banquet to a raffle.
- We need to keep the individual memberships for the league fresh in our minds. We're going to continue to talk about that.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Tony - Aliquippa Club Wild Game Dinner is on 7/14/17 at 6:00pm.
- Tonya - We've sent out around 100 sponsorship letters. If you want one see me. Remember it's tax deductible.
- Shawn - Gave a preview of the slide show he created to show and introduce to others the county league and the youth foundation.

50/50 DRAWING

- None

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- Koppel/Aliquippa, 10:05pm

BCSCL 2017 Meeting Dates & Locations

| | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| January 5th | Aliquippa Bucktails | May 4th | Southside | Sept 14th | Ambridge |
| February 2nd | Rochester | June 1st | Pine Run | Oct 5th | Koppel |
| March 2nd | Rochester, North Boroughs Hosting | July 6th | Conway | Nov 2nd | Beaver Falls |
| April 6th | B.V. Archers | Aug 3rd | Midland | Dec 14th | Five Points |

Bob Oles, Secretary BCSCL