

BYLAWS

MICHIGAN WILDLIFE COUNCIL

ENACTED 8/7/14
AMENDED 6/10/15

ARTICLE I

NAME

Public Act No. 246 of 2013 established the Michigan Wildlife Management Public Education subaccount within the game and fish protection fund and a nine-member **Michigan Wildlife Council**.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

Section 1. In accordance with the Public Act No. 246 of 2013, House Bill 4993, the statutory obligations of the Michigan Wildlife Council, hereafter referred to as the Council, shall be:

1. Develop and implement, in conjunction with a third-party marketing or advertising agency, a comprehensive media-based public information program to promote the essential role that sportsmen and sportswomen play in furthering wildlife conservation and to educate the general public about hunting, fishing, and the taking of game. That education shall include, but is not limited to, teaching that hunting, fishing, and the taking of game are any of the following:
 - (i) Necessary for the conservation, preservation, and management of this state's natural resources.
 - (ii) A valued and integral part of the cultural heritage of this state and should forever be preserved.
 - (iii) An important part of this state's economy.
2. Provide a semiannual report to the Legislature and the Natural Resources Commission on the program and expenditures.
3. Prepare an operational plan no later than 120 days after the first meeting of the Council and no later than April 30 in subsequent years.
4. Expend money from the Michigan wildlife management public education subaccount upon appropriation only to support the program in accordance with the operational plan, except that all expenditures shall be within the scope of the activities and funding levels authorized in the operational plan.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Definition of Membership

Section 1. Membership of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor in accordance with Public Act No. 246 of 2013.

Section 2. Upon vacancy, the governor shall make an appointment for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

Section 3. The governor may remove a member of the Council for incompetence, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, unexcused absences, or any other good cause.

Subcommittees

Section 1. The Council may create subcommittee(s) consisting of Council members. Subcommittee(s) may meet, as needed, between Council meetings to accomplish Council tasks.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Council shall be chairperson, vice-chairperson and treasurer. The positions shall be filled by vote of the Council and be for a period of two years.

Chairperson

Section 2. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Council and shall be an ex-officio member of any subcommittee created by the Council. In the event of a vacancy in the office of chairperson, the Council shall elect a new chairperson. And other duties as needed by the Council.

The Michigan Wildlife Council (MWC) is composed of Michigan citizens from diverse backgrounds, each contributing their own skills, expertise, and experiences. All members of the Council recognize the important role that hunters, trappers, and fishers play in Michigan's world class natural resource management. All members are equally committed to the mission of the Council. In order to facilitate the goals and mission of the Council, the chairperson will strive to engage members in the business and operation of the Council.

The Chair is responsible for leadership of the Council in the performance of certain logistical duties and to ensure that the Council acts in accordance with statutory mandates and stated goals of the Council. In addition, the Chair will engage all members of the Council by empowering, directing, and soliciting input from members whenever possible and appropriate. Open and frequent communication between the Chair and members is important and assures that members are best able to satisfy the mandate and mission of the Council. Duties of the Chair are inclusive of, but not limited to:

1. Lead and facilitate MWC meetings, including public comment period.
2. Create subcommittees and appoint members to subcommittees, per MWC approval.
3. Call special meetings, after conferring with MWC or subcommittees thereof.
4. Communicate with MWC openly and often, as to progress on council business.
5. Draft proposed meeting agendas for review and approval by full MWC.
6. Review and coordinate timelines for MWC project accomplishment and communicate these to the MWC.
7. Function as an initial point of contact and coordination for MWC business and primary conduit for communications to MWC.

The following activities may be performed by council members with the approval of the Council, but remain the responsibility of the Chair for completion.

8. Prepare draft of semi-annual report to Legislature or Operational Plan for review and approval by MWC.
9. Prepare and circulate various draft documents for input/approval by full MWC.
10. Direct webmaster to upload new content to the www.michiganwildlifecouncil.org web site after it has been circulated and approved for adding to the site by all MWC members.
11. Represent the MWC at public and private sector meetings.

Vice-Chairperson

Section 3. The vice-chairperson shall act as chairperson during the absence of the chairperson. In the absence of both the chairperson and vice-chairperson, the Council may elect a chairperson pro tempore. In the event of a vacancy in the office of vice-chairperson, the Council shall elect a new vice-chairperson. And other duties as needed by the Council.

Treasurer

Section 4. The treasurer shall track the annual budget and monitor the revenue and expenses for Council. The treasurer shall provide the Council with fund updates prior to each meeting. The treasurer shall assist in preparation of semi-annual reports to legislature on program expenditures. And other duties as needed by the Council.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

Section 1. Meetings of the Council shall be set by the chairperson with concurrence of the Council. Since the Council is a legislatively appointed body, all meetings shall conform to provisions of the Open Meetings Act PA 267 of 1976.

Section 2. After the first meeting, the Council shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the call of the chairperson or if requested by a majority of the members.

Special Meetings

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson with two-thirds of the members. Special meetings shall only be called for a specific agenda. Special meetings shall also conform to provisions of

the Open Meetings Act PA 267 of 1976. Absences from special meetings shall not be counted as missed attendance.

Notice

Section 4. Notice of meetings shall be posted by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) providing the date, time and location and shall conform to provisions of the Open Meetings Act PA 267 of 1976. For members of the Council, notice of meeting will be given at previous meeting. For members of Council absent from a meeting, a written notification of date, time and location of the next meeting shall be given by the chairperson.

Attendance

Section 5. All Council meetings shall be open to the public and conform to provisions of the Open Meetings Act PA 267 of 1976. In order to allow Council members to fully consider public input, written comments from the public are invited and encouraged; however, oral input from the public shall be accepted at Council meetings subject to time limits as determined by the chairperson. The public may present written comments to the Council chairperson at any time. The chairperson may invite guests to make presentations to the Council.

Voting

Section 6. Each member of the Council shall have one vote. A majority of the members serving shall constitute passage. The Council shall retain a written record of decisions of the Council. To the greatest extent practical, efforts shall be made to facilitate Council member participation.

Quorum

Section 7. A majority of the members serving on the Council constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Council and is required for official action of the Council.

ARTICLE VI

COMPENSATION

Section 1. Members of the Council shall serve without compensation. Council members shall be reimbursed for travel expenses at the prevailing per diem rate set by the State of Michigan for official business travel.

ARTICLE VII

FINANCIALS

Section 1. The Council budget is appropriated through the Michigan wildlife management public education subaccount within the game and fish protection account. Funding is generated through a

\$1.00 charge per base license, combination hunt and fish license and all-species fishing license or from any other source. The spending authority is approved by the Legislature as part of the Department of Natural Resources annual appropriation. The DNR shall be the administrator of the subaccount for auditing purposes; funds shall be spent by the Council using state purchasing procedures. These funds are earmarked specifically for this program and cannot be used for any other purpose.

The Council shall expend money from the subaccount, upon appropriation, only to support the program in accordance with the operational plan and in compliance with MCL 324.40501. Not more than 5% of the annual appropriations from the subaccount shall be spent on the administrative costs of the DNR.

Section 2. The state treasurer may receive money or other assets from any source for deposit into the subaccount. The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the subaccount. The state treasurer shall credit to the subaccount interest and earnings from subaccount investments.

Section 3. Money in the subaccount at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in the subaccount and shall not lapse to the game and fish protection account or the general fund.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENT

Section 1. The bylaws may be amended by two-thirds of the Council members. Proposed bylaw amendments shall be presented in writing to each Council member at least one week prior to action.