

**VILLAGE OF ELM GROVE**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, August 10, 2017**

**Present:** Chair Trustee Katy Cornell, Village President Neil Palmer, Trustee John Domaszek, Committee Members, and Mr. DJ Richlen.

**Members Excused:** Mr. Vrakas and Mr. Moulas.

**Also Present:** Village Manager David De Angelis and Chief Jim Gage.

**1. Call the meeting to order**

The meeting was called to order, at 6:02pm, by Trustee Cornell. Trustee Cornell introduced new committee member, Mr. DJ Richlen, thanking him for his willingness to serve on the committee. Mr. Richlen was thankful for the opportunity to serve on the committee and provided a brief personal introduction and his background to the members.

**2. Review and approve minutes from February 23, 2017.**

Trustee Cornell entertained a motion for approval. President Palmer made a motion for approval of the minutes, from February 23, 2017, with Trustee Domaszek seconding and the motion passed unanimously.

**3. Review and discuss for possible approval the draft of the village's wildlife Management Plan.**

Trustee Cornell asked Chief Gage to give a brief update on the village's wildlife management plan draft. Chief Gage discussed the draft changes to the previously establish wildlife plan, indicating that he made changes to the approval of sharpshooting sites, to better reflect the operational approval, by the police department, rather than committee approval of each site. He further indicated that he added that the netting of deer is now an approved method of culling and also indicated that the Village will seek cooperative efforts with the City of Brookfield to establish sites along the Brookfield borders that Elm Grove may fund. He also added additional information on coyotes and added turkeys to the management plan. Lastly, he indicated that he added a new section for each species that are actively controlled by the village (presently deer and geese), that provides ongoing results by way of attaching addendum documents regarding populations culled and car deer accidents rates. Chief Gage explained that the results and review section will help better explain the ongoing outcomes of the program and in turn help secure grant money for future culling efforts.

Village Manager, Dave De Angelis also provided a brief update regarding a meeting with DNR staff, in July, that yielded the following information:

- Deer culling permits may be combined with other communities, but the village will still do their own since filing jointly would eliminate grant money for the village.
- Deer culling operations do not have to be tied to deer counts for the permit process.
- Deer counts and accident statistics are a function of local communities showing the need to conduct culling and educate the public. The DNR understands that there are too many deer and will in almost all cases grant the culling permits as requested.
- If a community elects to do deer counts, the permit process is not tied to the count. A community may begin a culling process, once approved, and not have to wait for that year's count to justify the culling.
- Chronic wasting disease restrictions on culling will be enforced on a smaller number of culled deer in field/farm areas, allowing for headshots in residential settings.

President Palmer asked that the following changes be made:

- For coyote control methods, law enforcement may be called upon to eliminate sick, injured or actively aggressive coyotes, on a case by case basis.
- For coyote control methods, indicate that home owners may individually or collectively seek the assistance of privately funding a contractor to eliminate coyotes from their property. The village may assist in facilitating this process, but it will be up to the homeowner(s) to insure that all current ordinance, state and local hunting regulations are followed, as well as obtaining neighboring property owner permissions for the use of firearms or bow drawn weapons. Discussion regarding this point, identified that the firearms ordinance may need to be amended to allow for firearms use by an approved Department of Natural Resources contractor, instead of the more restrictive Village contractor language.
- For turkey control measures, make turkeys a species that the village will actively control and move turkeys to that section.

It was the consensus of the committee to make these changes and review a final draft, for possible approval and recommendation to the Village Board, at the September scheduled meeting. It was also the consensus of the committee if a property owner approaches the Village for the purpose of using their home as a shoot site it should be their responsibility to provide the property waivers from the adjoining property owners to verify the site is available.

- 4. Discuss, with possible action, pursuing discussions to partner with the City of Brookfield to establish border locations for deer culling.**

This topic was discussed, under item #3, and it was the general consensus of the Committee that village staff should establish specific sites, with the City of Brookfield, and report back to the Committee on locations and costs, for final approval and recommendation to the Village Board.

**5. Discuss, with possible action, establishing a plan to cull turkeys.**

This topic was discussed, under item #3, and it was the consensus of the Committee that staff should investigate establishing a culling program for turkeys and report to the Committee, for final approval and recommendation to the Village Board.

**6. Other business.**

The committee discussed a traffic signage concern, expressed by former trustee Mary Inden, regarding the signage and traffic flow, at Terrace Drive and Bluemound Road. The Committee agreed that staff should aggressively pursue discussions with the Department of Transportation in an attempt to mitigate the growing concerns over safe traffic flow at that location.

**7. Adjournment.**

Trustee Cornell entertained a motion for adjournment, at 7:02PM. Trustee Domaszek made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Richlen, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

James P Gage

Chief of Police