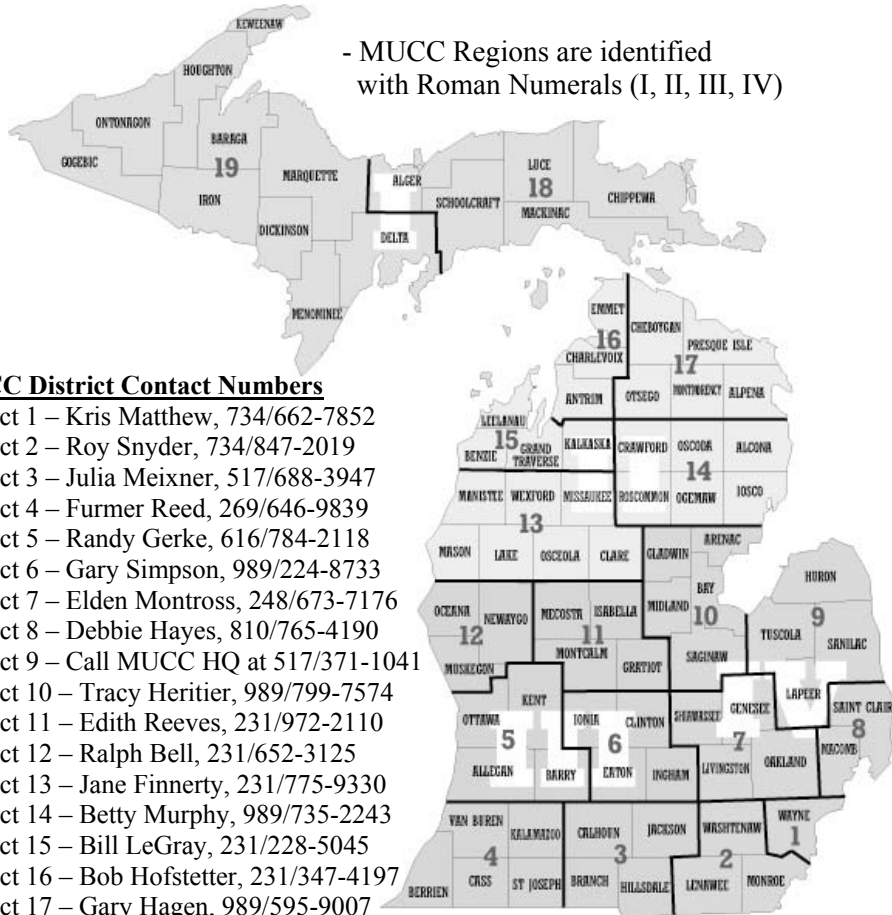


MUCC DISTRICTS AND REGIONS



- MUCC Regions are identified with Roman Numerals (I, II, III, IV)

MUCC District Contact Numbers

- District 1 – Kris Matthew, 734/662-7852
- District 2 – Roy Snyder, 734/847-2019
- District 3 – Julia Meixner, 517/688-3947
- District 4 – Furmer Reed, 269/646-9839
- District 5 – Randy Gerke, 616/784-2118
- District 6 – Gary Simpson, 989/224-8733
- District 7 – Elden Montross, 248/673-7176
- District 8 – Debbie Hayes, 810/765-4190
- District 9 – Call MUCC HQ at 517/371-1041
- District 10 – Tracy Heritier, 989/799-7574
- District 11 – Edith Reeves, 231/972-2110
- District 12 – Ralph Bell, 231/652-3125
- District 13 – Jane Finnerty, 231/775-9330
- District 14 – Betty Murphy, 989/735-2243
- District 15 – Bill LeGray, 231/228-5045
- District 16 – Bob Hofstetter, 231/347-4197
- District 17 – Gary Hagen, 989/595-9007
- District 18 – Donald Canfield, 906-293-5456
- District 19 – Jack Lehto, 906/353-6709
- District 20 – Fran Yeager – 574/264-3035

A Member's Guide to MUCC's Policy Setting Process



MUCC Policy Staff Contacts

- Sam Washington, Executive Director – 517/346-6496
- Donna Stine, Deputy Director/Policy – 517-346-6487
- Jason Dinsmore, Resource Policy Specialist – 517/346-6484
- Erin McDonough, Resource Policy Specialist – 517/346-6475

MUCC Executive Committee Contacts

- Don Meixner, President – 517/688-3947
- Bill Krepps, Statewide Vice President – 231/853-6649
- Dave Mortimer, Statewide Vice President – 269/663-7595
- Dan Radloff, Statewide Vice President – 734-736-5507
- William Malloch, Region I Vice President – 906/341-6648
- Pete Demos, Region II Vice President – 989/766-8422
- Paul Earl, Region III Vice President – 269/948-8376
- James Van Loon, Region IV Vice President – 517/423-7719
- Carl Holsinger, Treasurer – 269/651-7945
- Ron Burris, Board Representative – 269/962-6167



opinions and viewpoints that go along with that.

There were bowhunters, shotgun hunters, rifle hunters, blackpowder hunters.

Some of them cared only about deer. Others about bears.

Or ducks. Or bobcats. Or grouse.

Some didn't hunt animals at all. It was gold that they were after.

And, of course, all of them had their own opinions on the best way to hunt and manage game populations.

But in that room, on that weekend, they were all the same: They were all MUCC members.

I can honestly say that I never fully appreciated what membership meant until sitting in a convention hall with more than 200 people surrounding me as they hung on every word that United States Congressman John Dingell said.

For those that don't know (and shame on you if you don't), Congressman Dingell is arguably the finest conservation-oriented politician that this nation has seen since Teddy Roosevelt left Washington.

If you hunt, fish, hike, bike or just plain enjoy the outdoors, John Dingell has touched your life. In his remarks, Mr. Dingell mentioned that without the people sitting in the audience, his job would be impossible. He could not, without the support of voters and the collective power of organizations like MUCC, wield the power necessary to fight the good fight for conservation and he thanked us for helping him.

I have never felt bigger in my life.

Every person in that room entered as a fairly inconsequential individual. But sitting there, together as dues-paying members, we were suddenly something much, much bigger.

We were and we remain MUCC.

And, yes, that still means something - a lot more than people realize. I have always believed that debate is a healthy, necessary component of true freedom. When we are free to say what we think, feel what we feel and believe what we believe, greatness is possible.

None of us has every correct answer.

None of us has every solution.

But all of us, together, can find them. That's what struck me at the Convention.

Dozens of ideas and thoughts and opinions were voiced. And somehow, somehow, we were able to come to a consensus through the power of the vote and form a cohesive, solid voice.

Obviously, not every delegate agreed on every issue. But once the voting was complete and the results were tallied, there was no grouching. The membership had spoken. MUCC had a policy. Now, it's time to stand behind them.

2. **Protection** - Protection of our state's waters, air, and soil is a pillar of Michigan United Conservation Clubs' policy, for these are essential for healthy human being and wildlife populations. Clean water, air and healthy soil are also critical to our state's quality of life and define Michigan as a unique place. Over the year's MUCC has been a leader in fighting for clean water and opposing all pollution that would impair the function of our state's waterways. We support curbs on air pollution from ozone, acid rain, mercury and other heavy metals. We have fought for decades to reduce the emission from fossil fueled power plants. Our soil needs to stay on the land and not impair our waters with sediments. We support riparian buffers zones and grass waterways, conservation tilling and plowings. MUCC also supports controls on ballast water discharges to prevent further invasive species from entering our waters.

a. **Michigan Wetlands Watch**

To further the protection of Michigan's valuable wetland complexes and watersheds MUCC is anticipating the launch of a MUCC Michigan Wetlands Watch (MWW).

The mission of the MWW would be to act in much the same manner of as a "neighborhood watch group" keeping a watchful eye on local water/wetland systems within the areas that they live and work. By engaging the public in wetland protection MUCC would establish both a safety net by which to weigh all permitted and non-permitted activities within wetland systems and to establish a public which is engaged in the protection of wetlands and furthering legislation which will be critical to the protection of wetlands on a local, state, and national level.

Individuals participating in the regional programs will have the opportunity to receive training on wetland processes, permitting, and mitigation, as well as legislative training on how to effectively communicate with policy makers at the local, state, and national level.

February 28th, 2007 – Deadline for getting resolutions to MUCC for comment by staff, state government agencies (where appropriate), and inclusion in the MUCC Convention Book

May 1, 2007 – Convention packets are mailed out to voting delegates and clubs with all convention information including the Convention Book (all resolutions).

June 2007 – CONVENTION

Example of a Resolution from MUCC’s 2006 Convention

**Resolution No. 22
Preserving the Hunting Tradition**

1. WHEREAS, in order to preserve the hunting tradition, we must ensure
2. that hunting in Michigan is practiced in a responsible, ethical manner
3. and in a way that conforms with long-standing fair chase practices and;
4. WHEREAS, the premise of fair chase has been defined by National and
5. State organizations such as the Boone and Crockett and also The Pope
6. and Young Club, and;
7. WHEREAS, it is these sponsors’ belief that the majority of our states’
8. hunters follow the spirit of fair chase and;
9. WHEREAS, non-hunters as well accept the premises of fair chase.
10. WHEREAS, the act of fair chase, will enhance our mission to
11. preserve hunting opportunities and traditions for future generations.
12. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on this day, Michigan
13. United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) adopts the premise, spirit, and
14. ethic of fair chase as the following: Fair chase is the ethical,

4. **Sportsmen’s Heritage** - Michigan was founded by trappers, hunters, and others who could live off the land and with it at the same time. In 1937 MUCC was founded, by the descendants of those early settlers, with a mission of conservation of Michigan’s natural resources and protection of OUR outdoor resource heritage. For almost 70 years MUCC has been defending Michigan’s rich heritage and the connection every sportsman and woman has to the outdoors. Now, it seems that every day there is an attempt to weaken the land ethic and outdoor heritage that has been passed down over the last hundred years. Internet hunting, the use of tranquilizers to take game, anti-hunting ballot proposals, and many other things have threatened all that we have fought for over the years...but at every attempt MUCC has stood in the way.

a. Deer Committee

MUCC understands that deer hunters are not the only recreational user group in Michigan...but at 750,000 license buyers they are one of the largest. Within the last couple of years there has been an increasing rift developing between hunters and the Department of Natural Resources. While there’s a myriad of reasons that this rift could have developed one of the more serious ones is a lack of communication between the management agency and the hunters that it depends on for license revenues every season. To this end MUCC will be working with the MDNR to establish a committee which will be representative of Michigan’s deer hunters in order to foster better communication between the MDNR and the state’s hunters. This group will have a mission (which needs to be decided) and will be tasked with the completion of that mission and regular updates to the constituents that they represent.

b. Strengthening MUCC’s Board Committees

MUCC’s Board Committees, a valuable commodity for the policy wing of the organization, have gone unused and become somewhat deteriorated over the last couple of years. As leaders of Michigan’s conservation movement MUCC would like to reinvigorate that process and see them strengthen to the levels that they once were.

Resource Based Committees currently listed in MUCC's Bylaws include wildlife, fisheries, environmental/energy, forestry, recreation and parks, hunter education and safety, land use, policy and resolution review, and youth activities. MUCC would like the guidance of our board and convention delegates on how best to develop these committees (and any others needed) into the "policy advisors" and workgroups that would help forward the mission of the organization.

5. **Access** - Michigan boasts the largest holding of public lands for any state east of the Mississippi. We also have one of the largest sporting populations in the region. With 750,000 hunters hitting the woods every fall and millions of people enjoying Michigan's waters there is a large demand for public access to recreational lands and waters. For this reason, ACCESS has been one of MUCC's priorities since being created in 1937. Landowner disputes, privatization of Michigan's natural resources, and other emerging issues continue to threaten the recreational ability of Michigan's sportsmen and women and will require the continued involvement of MUCC's membership and leaders to continue the immense accessibility to Michigan's natural resources our sporting public currently enjoys.

a. Michigan Access Guide

MUCC understands how vitally important access to recreation lands and waters is to Michigan's sportsmen and women. To this end MUCC will be seeking the funding necessary to launch MUCC's new access guide. When the necessary funds are gathered the new program will be launched on MUCC's new and improved website at www.mucc.org.

The access guide will be an avenue for MUCC's members and affiliated clubs to converse on local issues which are having an adverse impact on recreation within their communities, search for solutions to those problems, and keep managers (State and/or National) informed regarding on the ground improvements/changes needed.

Issues which MUCC sees as being directly relevant to this proposed program include (but are certainly not limited to):

1. Proposed hunting closures (local ordinances)
2. Lake access disputes
3. Areas where access is lacking – hunting/fishing/ORV/etc...
4. Access sites in need of repair/renovation
 - a. Boating, ORV/snowmobile trailhead, etc...
5. Regulations which concern access on Michigan's state lands

NOTE: Only "emergency" resolutions, where immediate action must be taken and cannot wait until the Annual Convention, may be considered for adoption at a Board of Directors meeting. Also, a resolution referred to the Board of Directors by Convention action, may be acted on by the Board of Directors.

2. **MUCC Annual Convention**

NOTE: Only resolutions printed in the Convention Agenda that have been approved for consideration by the Board of Directors, one or more MUCC Regions, or as an "emergency" resolution under New Business.

"EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS" at MUCC's Annual Convention

Any resolution not printed in the Convention Agenda will be considered as an "emergency" resolution under New Business on the agenda, and must meet the following requirements:

"Emergency" resolutions at Convention are those that are not printed in the Convention Agenda and should be considered prior to the Next August Board of Directors meeting and/or that have not been considered at a prior District, Regional, or Board of Directors meeting.

NOTE: No more than two (2) resolutions and/or proposals under New Business may be presented by any member or member club at the Annual Convention and consideration of New Business must be affirmed by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting. Presenters of emergency resolutions shall have an opportunity to defend their resolution at this time prior to a vote on the agenda by the convention delegates.

Timeline for the Resolution Process

Summer/Fall 2006 – Individual Drafting of Resolutions

Fall/Winter 2006 – District meetings – Resolutions are proposed and voted on to send to Region Meetings (see **MUCC District and Regions Map**)

February 2007 – Resolutions are heard in Region meetings for approval before being sent to convention. Bring 75 copies of proposed resolutions along with the resolution saved on a 3.5" disk (See **MUCC District and Regions Map** located at the end of the booklet)

6. Hunter Access Program – how private lands become accessible

While MUCC’s staff has an idea of what the program can/will incorporate we would like direction from our membership on the merits of the program and what type of information should be presented and requested. MUCC’s main goal of the program as a whole is to foster a line of communication between the millions of sportsmen and women in Michigan who depend on the public’s ability to access and recreate of state owned lands and water and the management agencies in charge of managing those properties.

How MUCC’s Members Make a Difference...

Members of MUCC, through MUCC’s Board of Directors, set MUCC’s policies and priorities for the upcoming year at MUCC’s Annual Convention. Usually held at the end of June, MUCC’s Annual Convention is attended by over 150 voting delegates representing MUCC’s 500+ affiliated clubs and over 50,000 members. These delegates are charged with reviewing and voting upon resolutions (proposed policy) brought forward by MUCC members, clubs, regions, or by MUCC’s Executive Committee.

MUCC’s membership are the heart of MUCC... moreover, they are the very lifeblood of the organization. Without our members MUCC wouldn’t have the power the organization exudes at the Capitol, the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Quality, or any other forum.

In order for the process to work MUCC needs its members to take a good hard look some of the listed “emerging issues” and other items of concern and draft resolutions which seek to strengthen or broaden MUCC’s policies in those areas. Remember, YOUR organization (MUCC) is only as strong as its membership...we need your involvement and the further involvement of every one of the 500+ affiliated clubs.

If you have questions about anything along the way we’ve listed quite a few people on the cover of this booklet to help you out when needed. Feel free to call on any one of them should you need help.

Good Luck...we look forward to seeing your policy suggestions at next year’s MUCC Convention.

A Member’s Guide to the Resolution Drafting Process

Why are resolutions important?

Each “WHEREAS;” should meet the following guidelines:

1. Short concise statements that support the intent of the resolution.
2. Statements describing the current situation.
3. How the current situation is impacting the resource or recreational value.
4. Benefits to be gained by implementing the intent of the resolution.
5. All statements and facts must be ACCURATE! (Inaccurate statements destroy credibility of the resolution and the organization!!!)

Formatting the resolution

1. Give the resolution a title
2. Double space and number all lines
3. Use acronyms only where appropriate
4. Place name of sponsor and date at bottom of resolution
5. In an “emergency” resolution you must also identify the emergency at this point

Use of Acronyms

An acronym is a word formed from the first letter from several words that is used to identify a much longer name of an organization, group, or title of legislation.

When the name of an organization or group is referred to more than once in a resolution; on the first usage, spell out the full name or title followed with the acronym in brackets.

If the organization or group is referred to more than once in both portions of the resolution, the name must be spelled out on the first usage in each portion, and followed with the acronym in brackets.

Thereafter, the acronym should be used alone each time the organization or group is referred to.

How are resolutions adopted as MUCC policy?

A resolution may be considered for adoption at:

1. A Board of Directors meeting

Resolutions set the policy or position that MUCC takes on conservation issues.

Without them, MUCC would have no policy on any given issue. Or worse yet, our position would vary depending on individual interpretation of what was thought to be the desires of the members of the organization.

What is a resolution?

A resolution is a document requesting action to:

1. ADOPT new policy on state or federal legislation, management regulation/policy, or practice
2. SUPPORT a policy or practice already in place
3. OPPOSE a policy or practice already in place

Where are resolutions originated?

Resolutions can be offered by:

1. MUCC Affiliate Clubs
2. MUCC Districts
3. MUCC Regions
4. Drafting by MUCC Officer
5. Executive Committee
6. Standing or Special Committee
7. If drafted and recommended by MUCC staff

Identify the need of the resolution

1. What is the purpose of the resolution?
 - a. Will new policy be established?
 - b. Will existing policy be changed?
 - c. Is the issue site specific or of statewide concern?
 - d. Is the resolution necessary to support/oppose pending legislation/regulation?
2. Is the resolution necessary?
 - a. Has an attempt been made to resolve the issue with local officials or MDNR/DEQ personnel?
 - b. Is the resolution relevant to the overall mission of MUCC?
 - c. Does MUCC have an existing resolution (policy) on the issue?

How to write a resolution

A resolution consists of two sections:

1. The first section is known as the “WHEREAS;” section
2. The second section is known as the “BE IT RESOLVED;” section

Draft the “BE IT RESOLVED;” FIRST!

The “BE IT RESOLVED;” portion of the resolution will be the foundation and MUST contain statements describing:

1. WHAT action is to be taken?
2. WHO is to take the action?
3. WHERE? (Federal, state, county, township, etc.)

Drafting the “BE IT RESOLVED;”

The “BE IT RESOLVED;” portion of the resolution should meet the following guidelines:

1. MUCC’s role in implementing the resolution. (Suggestions; “seek”, “encourage”, “work with”, “insist”, “support”, “oppose”, etc...)
2. Which group or organization is responsible for implementing the intent of the resolutions? (Such as; MDNR, DEQ, NRC, State/Federal Legislators, etc...)
3. The specific intent of the resolution, what action is required and where?

”BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED” portions may be added to define areas of responsibilities for implementing the resolution.

Draft the “WHEREAS;” LAST!

The “WHEREAS;” portion should contain FACTS that support the action that is requested in the “BE IT RESOLVED;” part of the resolution and may consist of:

1. Current circumstances
2. Why the action is requested
3. Results if the requested action is achieved

Drafting the “WHEREAS;” portion