Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council

Minutes for August 25, 2008 Meeting

Location: Mole Lake

Quorum: No quorum

Member Present: Roman Ferdinand, SCC; Jonathan Pyatskowit, Menominee; Brett Mc Connell, LCO; Tony Havranek, St. Croix; Pat Pelky, Oneida

Other Present: Jerry Thompson, NRCS; Chris Bordan, NRCS; David Armstrong, Judicare

Agenda Minutes:

I. Announcements:
   • Program Evaluation Workshop on the Oneida Reservation for September 3 & 4, 2008 in the Radisson Hotel. All are welcome.
   • American Indian & Alaskan Native Employee Association will be having their annual conference in Oneida on July 13 – 17, 2009. Excellent opportunity to showcase WTCAC and tour some of the projects we are working on.
   Action Item: share with Jerry any issues or problems the Tribes are experiencing during the 106 process with NRCS

   • Pat Leavensworth is planning on attending the October 7, 2008 Meeting.
   Action Item: Roman will scan past reports.
   Action Item: Jonathan will put Annual Report on the October Agenda. NRCS may assist with the report – maybe Renée Anderson
   Action Item: Jonathan will contact Bad River for official REP.
   • EQIP – NRCS is trying to get rules done by September 15, 2008.
   • 106 MOU Update: Forest County is done. Mole Lake is near completion. The rest of the Tribes are in progress.

II. Strategic Planning Session facilitated by Chris Bordan

Brainstorm the single most important thing WTCAC does:
   • To be the Tribal Advisory Council to the State Conservationist.
   • Fill gaps for funding projects that do not fall under NRCS programming.
   • Develop more flexibility to meet the Tribes’ conservation needs (resources concerns).
   • Seek future funding to meet the needs of the mission of WTCAC.
Federal process is simpler for the paperwork

INCORPORATED:

Wiscomin or Wisconsin should be incorporated under our own sovereignty.

Association of tribes can be formed under incorporation with the State of

Arizona. Legal assistance associated with our case.

II. INFORMAL MEETING WITH DAVID AMSTUTZ:

Versus funds coming directly to WTCA.

Action Item: Look at current funding sources or pass through funding with NRCS

Action Item: Work on activities for workshop committed #036.

people that we can send our RFP.

Action Item: Bring your ideas to the October’s meeting on possible connections or

October’s WTCA meeting

Action Item: Continue work on connection services for specific initiatives on

conferences co-sponsors.

Action Item: Talk to the tribal clients’ CEFVSC on how to conduct workshops or

Develop Event Planning SOP

• Develop to be work toward becoming a 501 (c) 3.

• Conduct partner co-sponsor workshops

• Develop an annual report

• Develop “State Contractor” report for small projects

• Develop in accordance letter for small projects

Bringing a list of activities from workshop committed #044:

#5.

5.

4.

3.

2.

1.


The next thing we need to do is review the work plans to make sure we have

alignment

with the direction of WTCA.
• Lost corporate status under the State because we did not file – may take a couple of months to get it back.
• Charter is on file with the State.
• Less likely to be personal liable.

UNINCORPORATED:
• More paperwork and more complicated.
• Form under Tribal Sovereignty.
• More as a Partnership
• More personal liable.

Information still needed:
• David will check to see if each representative needs a resume submitted or just the officers.
• Need to know all the monies that came in as revenue and all the monies that were expensed. Need a Revenue and Expense Sheet.
• Project description of all project approved by WTCAC.
• Need to get a certified person who is eligible for the Judicare card for the legal fees to be free.
• WTCAC should purchase Insurance for all the board members. Chris will get us some information on this.
• Develop a set of operating procedures to include contract writing, conflict of interest and others to minimize risks.

IV. Parking Lot

• Look into a Web page for WTCAC to get more information out.
• Develop telecommunication conferencing capabilities.
• Organize Harmony Training for the American Indian & Alaskan Native Employee Association