

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council

April 19, 2007 Meeting

Menominee Hotel and Casino

Keshena, Wisconsin

Welcome and call to order at 9:09am by Richie Brown

Roll call: present; Bad River, Forest County Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk, Lac Courte Oreilles, Oneida, Stockbridge

Absent, Lac du Flambeau, St Croix, Red Cliff, Sokoagon, GLIFWC

Approval of minutes from March 6, 2007 in Lac Courte Oreilles. Motion to approve by Oneida, second, by Bad River. All in favor, motion passed.

Amendment to agenda; add to new business Carrie Schneider, Dept of Ag, Census Info. Motion to approve made by Stockbridge, second by Lac Courte Oreilles. All in favor, motion passed

NRCS update: Pat Leavenworth, State Conservationist

Pat attended a meeting in Washington where they discussed the new farm bill. They expect to have a finalized version by end of May and sent to Congress to be approved by September. Budgets have received final allowance, our allocation is good.

WHIP was in suspense, due to something about fish passage. Not frozen any longer.

Earth day, Bio-fuels workshop tomorrow in Madison. Heads-up on other happenings, Aldo Leopold something on the drift-less areas ???

Work on getting another harmony session in place for next summer.

Aphis, Joanne is in South Korea-but the EAB project met in Evanston for tree peeling. Sylvia gave a power point presentation. The area of concern has increased. Joanne is working on proposal, on 106 with tribes dealing with her projects.

106 project- NRCS sent reports of practices to all Tribes as requested, it was a large package, now each Tribe has to review and decide how they want to handle this. Melanie Montano is the contact person for Red Cliff for THPO info.

Forestry committee-tabled

EQIP update-handout \$ allocated=188,173.55

Unspent or returned=251,826.45

WHIP update-Jerry Thompson has Tom Coggers' information. Headquarters sent a message that the program monies are restored, we had received work that all WHIP funding was gone. Projects were reviewed, Bad River good to go, Potawatomi, good to go. Ho-chunks, good to go on two projects, Lac Courte Oreilles, good to go. \$55, 000 total. Contracts have to be signed and obligated by June 1, 2007.

Review of small special projects Tribal grants. Reported from last year's allocation for projects;

Menominee-	\$ 9,000
Ho-chunk	\$15,000
Stockbridge	\$15,000
St Croix	\$ 8,000
Bad River	\$15,000
Red Cliff	\$13,809
Ldf	\$ 8,825.
Total	\$ 84,634.

Leaving a balance of \$65,366. for future small projects.

Pat Leavenworth distributed guidance for earmarks-standards must follow technical standards for any federal agency.

Top of list for future small projects is Lac Courte Oreilles, Oneida, Forest County Potawatomi, Sokoagon.

Small projects are tabled until next meeting due to new information about earmarks. Motion to made by FCP, seconded by Bad River. Tribes have two weeks for resubmitting revisions, which is May 4, 2007 to Richie.

Forest County Potawatomi (Carter) hosts for next meeting, May 24 or May 30.

New business-Carrie Schneider, will be visiting each reservation to verify farms on the reservation for the 2007 census of agriculture count.

Lunch

Strategic Planning Session

Discussion of strategic plan first priority is input into new farm bill. Who sits on committee for ag committee appropriations??? Look on internet for talking points about what is on farm bill. What didn't work in last farm bill and what has but needs further support.

Practices under both EQIP and WHIP don't fit into reservation lands easily, need to have changes in language.

The annual report will be sent out to Tribes and also an email will be sent out to help respond to add language to the farm bill. Richie will get this info out for all. Get something to Richie about our concerns w/farm bill.

Motion about small projects recinded.....

Short term- what about whip/equip docket

Motion to adjourn-Lac Courte Oreilles
Seconded by Forest County Potawatomi