Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 7, 2014
Ho-Chunk

Meeting called to order at 8:15am by Pat Pelky.

1. Roll Call
Present: FCPC (Nate Guldan), LCO (Brett McConnell), Lac du Flambeau (Gus Theobald, Scott McDougall), Menominee (Jeremy Pyatskowit), Mole Lake (Tina Van Zile), Oneida (Pat Pelky), St. Croix (Tony Havranek), Bad River (Lacey Hill – phoned in)

A quorum is present.

Others Present: Randy Gilbertson (WTCAC), Tom Melnarik (NRCS), Keith Sengbusch (WTCAC), Jimmy Bramblett (NRCS), Chris Borden (NRCS), Tony Bush (NRCS)

2. Approval of Agenda
MOTION: Motion to approve agenda. Motion by Menominee, seconded by St. Croix. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes
MOTION: Motion to approve the November 20, 2013 WTCAC Meeting Minutes. Motion by Menominee, seconded by LCO. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

4. NRCS Update
Jimmy Bramblett – He has a request for us, he was contacted by Juan Hernandez, Maine State Conservationist, and he would like to participate in a future WTCAC meeting. We would definitely be open to that. March 4 is the meeting in Madison. Jimmy will also reach out to the New York State Conservationist. They have about a 7% reduction this year, last year it was an 8% reduction so 15% over the last 2 years. Even with that, the WTCAC funding if there is a reduction may only be about 1%. They are meeting on the EQIP allocations across the state tomorrow.

Pathways – they are under a microscope as far as hiring is concerned right now. They hire through merit and delegated exam (this is how they advertise outside of government). USDA is giving up authority to hire from outside. Right now they are at the mercy of the USDA reorganization effort. They were told the priorities for hiring of the street are 1) students 2) entry level 3) need high level of justification for anything above that. So Pathways may be an option. We should make our students aware of these opportunities. There are potential NRCS pathways positions in Oneida, Rhinelander, Shawano, Onalaska, Balsam Lake, Spooner, and Ashland. They are looking at hiring 4 – 8 students for pathways.

Working Effectively with American Indians Course – they submitted an official proposal and they are trying to have the state conservationist version of that course. They should find out next month what the schedule is going to be.
5. EQIP Projects Review and Approval
Chris Borden – Thanked WTCAC for all the work we have done over the years taking a hard
look at the standards and scenarios. There were significant questions regarding resource
concerns in the past year and they really appreciate all of the Tribal folks that asked hard
questions of them. Stockbridge-Munsee does not have any applications coming in this year; they
are using this year as a catch up. There is $686,574 in EQIP Applications on Tribal lands (see
attachment). Of this, there may be some additional request made by Bad River up to around
$10,000. $300,000 is a request for aquaculture ponds and practices from Lac du Flambeau.
Jimmy indicated that it is safe to approve $450,000 today until they figure out the final
allocation. Oneida has Agriculture Energy Management Plans that will be separate from the
WTCAC allocation.

MOTION: Motion to give Lac du Flambeau’s aquaculture application a low ranking and to
give all other applications a high ranking. Motion by Menominee, seconded by Lac du
Flambeau. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

6. Heating the Midwest
Mike Troge – Oneida is exploring bioenergy ideas for the future and they are also involved with
Heating the Midwest a, 501c3 out of Minnesota that promotes bioenergy. He has been at their
last 2 conferences. This year the conference will be in Oneida. The conference will be April 29
– May 1.

7. Science in the Northwoods
Conference being held September 15 – 17 at Camp Manitowish and they are looking for
presenters to highlight all the work the Tribes are doing, contact Gretchen Watkins at Lac du
Flambeau.

8. Forestry Subcommittee Meeting
They met with the USFS yesterday (minutes attached).

9. Personnel Subcommittee Meeting
Discussion on 1 full time program manager position or 1 – half time program manager and 1 –
half time grant manager/writer.

It was decided to hire 1 full time position to replace Jerry. Personnel Committee will work on a
job posting and then circulate and then make motion to post. Chris Borden will help with job
announcement.

10. EPA GLRI Report
Randy has the revised budgets to pull money to put into administration because Jerry was
spending so much time on it. Rules are the same this coming summer as they were last year.
Randy has ones from FCPC and Red Cliff. He will be working on preparing for the next GLRI
RFP. Randy will send out information on next proposal. When do we want to start GLRI staff
this summer? Jerry will send out updated GLRI accounting spreadsheet.
11. AmeriCorps Grant
Keith – they are moving right along. They have made a lot of site visits and have more coming up. They had the tour at Nelson and Pade. FCPC was selected for the WTCAC plan. Planning to do more of a generic community garden project with AmeriCorps than just aquaponics.

MOTION: Motion to approve the Nelson and Pade contract for $4,500 to develop a project plan for FCPC and to authorize Pat Pelky to sign the contract. Motion by Menominee, seconded by LCO. All ayes, zero opposed, FCPC abstains, motion carried.

12. APHIS Grant
They are working with APHIS to put together a training plan. APHIS wants Jerry and Randy to travel to Fort Collins, Colorado from January 27 – 30 and February 24 – 28.

MOTION: Motion to approve Jerry and Randy’s travel and travel expense for January 27 – 30 and February 24 – 28 to Fort Collins, Colorado. Motion by Mole Lake, seconded Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

13. NRCS Grant
Jimmy would like WTCAC to set up a meeting with him and the BIA Director. Chris Borden suggested we wait until an MOU that was developed between NRCS, FSA, and BIA rolls out.

When Randy and Keith work with the Tribes these are deliverables, WTCAC meetings are deliverables, the Technical Recommendations Meeting is a deliverable. A lot of these deliverables we are also delivering to the other agencies.

14. Audit
MOTION: Motion to approve audit expenses of $3,000 through January 3, 2014. Motion by Mole Lake, seconded Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

He needs everything for all the special projects that were paid.

15. Small Projects
LCO requested the reminder of their small project award for their floating raceways.

MOTION: Motion to approve payment of $419.26 to LCO for their Floating Raceways small project. Motion by Mole Lake, seconded Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, LCO abstains, motion carried.

16. Aquaculture Subcommittee
Tony – He would like a copy of LCO’s special project to put it in their files. They would like to move onto the floating raceways at some point. Chris Borden – They need to make sure the resource concerns are taken care of in a lake then they would be able to make requests for expansion of existing ponds and the construction of new ponds. It would be good to have an aquaculture subcommittee meeting in February.
17. **Action Items**
- Jerry will draft memo with Tony, Scott, and Keith’s help for the aquaculture costs
- Forestry Subcommittee will develop a spreadsheet
- Personnel subcommittee will develop a program manager job posting with the help of Chris and then email out to WTCAC for approval
- Get information for small projects – Red Cliff, SBM, Ho-Chunk, Mole Lake, LCO
- Review task list and provide Nate with updates
- Anything for technical recommendation issues and such please send to Randy and Keith
- Tony set up an aquaculture subcommittee meeting

18. **Task List**
Please go through and send updates and to Nate.

19. **Executive Session**
No Executive Session was requested.

20. **Next Meetings**
The Aquaculture Subcommittee Meeting will be held sometime in February.

March 4th is Technical Recommendation Meeting in Madison, with a meeting to prepare the afternoon of the 3rd.

21. **CSP**
CSP sign up deadline for application is February 7th. It would be an awfully good year to get one funded.

**MOTION:** Motion to adjourn. Motion by St. Croix, seconded by Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm.
ATTACHMENTS
## 2014 Tribal EQIP

### Oneida

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Practice Name</th>
<th>Practice No.</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Practice Scenerio</th>
<th>Payment/Unit ($)</th>
<th>Payment Years</th>
<th>Estimated Payment ($)</th>
<th>WTCAC Rating</th>
<th>Ranking Score</th>
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<td>Stream Crossing</td>
<td>Stream Crossing</td>
<td>578</td>
<td>3640 sq ft</td>
<td>Rock-surfaced</td>
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<td>CAP 1</td>
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<td>1 ea</td>
<td>Livestock-medium</td>
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<td>CAP 2</td>
<td>Ag Energy Mgt Plan - CAP</td>
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<td>Livestock- small</td>
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<td>1,456.00</td>
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<td>Cover Crop &amp; Residue Mgt.</td>
<td>Residue and Tillage Mgt.</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>18.3 ac</td>
<td>No-Till</td>
<td>17.04</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>312.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cover Crop</td>
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<td>212 ac</td>
<td>1 - 2 species</td>
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### Bad River

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<th>Estimated Payment ($)</th>
<th>WTCAC Rating</th>
<th>Ranking Score</th>
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<td>Upland w/Wildlife Hab. Mgt.</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>6 ea</td>
<td>Bat Boxes</td>
<td>91.96</td>
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<td>552.00</td>
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<td>Woody Residue treatment</td>
<td>384</td>
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<td>Orchard Pruning</td>
<td>172.14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Herbaceous Weed Control</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>3 ac</td>
<td>Spot Treatment, Chemical Aquatic</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Herbaceous Weed Control</td>
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<th>Payment/Unit ($)</th>
<th>Payment Years</th>
<th>Estimated Payment ($)</th>
<th>WTCAC Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eagle Bay Wetland Enhancement</td>
<td>Structure for Water Control</td>
<td>587</td>
<td>1200 in.- ft.</td>
<td>Flashboard Riser</td>
<td>4.27</td>
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<td>Wetland Restoration</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>1600 cu. yd</td>
<td>Embankment</td>
<td>6.44</td>
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<td>Critical Area Planting</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>1 ac</td>
<td>Into Seed - mod. Grade</td>
<td>839.75</td>
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<td>840.00</td>
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### Menominee

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower Bass Lake</td>
<td>560 Access Road</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>125 ft.</td>
<td>Gravel over Base Course</td>
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<td>1,327.00</td>
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<td>Vigue Ponds</td>
<td>Aquatic Organism Passage</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>300 cu.yd</td>
<td>Earthen Dam Removal Fill Height 8’ or Less</td>
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<td>Spoil Spreading</td>
<td>572</td>
<td>300 cu.yd</td>
<td>Spoil Spreading, wide area</td>
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<td>Stream Habitat Improvement</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>3 ea</td>
<td>In-stream Rock Placement</td>
<td>400.66</td>
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<td>1,202.00</td>
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<td>Critical Area Planting</td>
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<td>1 ac.</td>
<td>Introduced Seeding - normal tillage</td>
<td>180.21</td>
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<td>$ 4,734.00</td>
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### Livestock Pipeline

- **516 PE Pipe for Filling Aquaculture Ponds**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 2500 ft.
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 14.06
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 35,150.00

- **620 8-12" Pipe Conduit**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 1300 ft.
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 12.20
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 15,860.00

- **500 Removal/Disposal of Brush/Trees > 6" diam.**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 0.5 ac.
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 2,220.07
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 1,110.00

- **342 Introduced Seeding - normal tillage**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 1.5 ac.
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 180.21
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 271.00

**Total Estimated Payment:** $52,392.00

### Forest County

- **N & S 666 Forest Stand Improvement**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 114 ac.
  - **Practice Scenario:** Marking Only, Uneven Aged Stand
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 89.20
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 10,169.00

- **Cloud Lake 666 Forest Stand Improvement**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 93 ac.
  - **Practice Scenario:** Marking Only, Uneven Aged Stand
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 89.20
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 8,296.00

**Total Estimated Payment:** $18,465.00

### HoChunk

- **578 Stream Crossing**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 600 sq ft
  - **Practice Scenario:** Rock Surfaced Stream Crossing
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 1.58
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 948.00

- **560 Access Road**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 100 ft
  - **Practice Scenario:** Gravel over Geotextile
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 10.86
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 1,086.00

- **314 Brush Management**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 7.5 ac.
  - **Practice Scenario:** Mechanical, Large Shrubs
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 329.46
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 2,471.00

- **327 Conservation Cover**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 7.5 ac.
  - **Practice Scenario:** Native Grasses and Forbs
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 563.44
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 4,226.00

- **394 Firebreak**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 3500 ft
  - **Practice Scenario:** Constructed – Light Equipment1
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 0.04
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 140.00

**Total Estimated Payment:** $10,693.00

### Lac du Flambeau

- **Walleye Rearing Pond Renovation**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 224.9 ac.
  - **Practice Scenario:** Thinning – Hand Tools
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 252.34
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 56,752.00

- **Irrigation Water Management**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 1 ea
  - **Practice Scenario:** Soil Moisture Sensors1 & YR 1 of IWM
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 1,201.13
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 1,202.00

**Total Estimated Payment:** $57,954.00

### Sokaogon

- **Forest Stand Improvement**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 39.5 ac.
  - **Practice Scenario:** Marking Only, Uneven Aged Stand
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 89.20
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 3,524.00

- **Tree/Shrub Establishment**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 20.5 ac.
  - **Practice Scenario:** High Density Planting
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 433.53
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 8,888.00

- **Tree/Shrub Site Preparation**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 20.5 ac.
  - **Practice Scenario:** High Density Planting
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 87.59
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 1,796.00

- **Forest Trails and Landings**
  - **Quantity:** 1
  - **Unit:** 1450 ft.
  - **Practice Scenario:** Trail and Landing Installation1
  - **Payment/Unit ($):** 1.19
  - **Estimated Payment ($):** 1,726.00

**Total Estimated Payment:** $52,392.00
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<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Practice No.</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Practice Scenerio</th>
<th>Payment/Unit ($)</th>
<th>Estimated Payment ($)</th>
<th>WTCAC Rating</th>
<th>Rating</th>
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<td>655</td>
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<td>Grading and Shaping with Vegetative Establishment</td>
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<td>Danbury</td>
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<td>Mechanical, Small Shrubs</td>
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<td>Blueberry</td>
<td>Woody Residue Treatment</td>
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<td>ax</td>
<td>Rest./cons. tmt following catastrophic events</td>
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<td>Steep Terrain, Volatile or Woody Fuels</td>
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<td>ac.</td>
<td>Medium Density, Conifer</td>
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<td>Firebreak</td>
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<td>Constructed. Medium equipment, steep slopes</td>
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<td>3,844.00</td>
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<td>Tree/Shrub Establishment</td>
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<td>Med. Dens., Hand Plant Conifer, w/Wildlife Prot.</td>
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<td>Gravel over Base Course</td>
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<td>1,061.00</td>
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<td>&gt; 1000 acres</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Not out of WTCAC fund pool

Applications by Ranking Score

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<th>Score</th>
<th>Funding Request</th>
<th>Running Total</th>
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Meeting Commenced at the Menomonee Casino Motel at 1:00 PM

Present: Forest Service: Mary Rasmussen, Deahn Donner, (By Phone Mike Conner & Barb Torhmenlien), Lac Du Flambeau, Menomonee, Oneida Present, Bad River by Phone

Forest Service Presentations:
A presentation was given by Deahn Donner regarding potential Experimental Forest Designation for Forest Service lands near Rhinelander. There are currently 80 other experimental forests around the U.S., including on near Argonne, WI.

Deahn is soliciting possible involvement by WTCAC in the development and operation of this project. Possible roles for WTCAC include: Proposing a name for the forest, Proposing Projects, Review of the Management Plan, Possible membership on the Project Review Committee.

Much discussion followed the Presentation.

Working with the Forest Service:
The team introduced a possible course for developing a more formal relationship with the Forest Service, and suggested Three Major areas of cooperation that WTCAC would like to pursue.

1. Technical Assistance
2. Funding Opportunities
3. Partnerships and Tribal Relations


Partnerships: WTCAC becoming a formal advisor to the Forest Service. Sort out issues that result from Rule-Making versus those that are part of Policy. Working with the Forest Service to accommodate Tribal needs and concerns to the extent possible.

Action Item: The tribes will develop a spreadsheet for WTCAC identifying their Forestry related needs in the above three categories and will provide this list to the Forest Service.

Action Item: The Forest Service will develop opportunities in all of the above three areas, from all three branches active in Wisconsin.
**Funding Opportunity:**

**Action Item:** The Forest Service will also identify road blocks to Tribal Access to Programs, as well as at what level these roadblocks exist (local, regional, national)

**Action Item:** Based on the WTCAC Spreadsheet and the Forest Service Program analysis, the Forestry Sub-Committee of WTCAC will identify short and long term goals to work more effectively with the Forest Service

**Adjourned:** 2:30 PM