



*Bad River Band  
of Lake Superior  
Chippewa Indians*

*Forest County  
Potawatomi  
Community*

*Ho-Chunk Nation*

*Lac Courte Oreilles  
Band of Lake  
Superior Chippewa  
Indians*

*Lac Du Flambeau  
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*Menominee Tribe  
of Wisconsin*

*Mole Lake Band  
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*Oneida Tribe of  
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*Stockbridge-  
Munsee Indian  
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## October 29th, 2020 WTCAC Board Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order: 9:00**
2. **Roll Call**
  - a. **Tribal Representatives**
    - i. **Bad River** - Jessica Strand and Naomi Tillison, Gena Abramson, Loretta Livingston
    - ii. **FCPC** - Ben Koski
    - iii. **Ho-Chunk** - Randy Poelma and Tina Brown
    - iv. **LCO** - Brett McConnell
    - v. **LdF** - Ethan Sennett
    - vi. **Menominee** - Jeremy Pyatskowitz
    - vii. **Mole Lake**- Tina Van Zile
    - viii. **Oneida** - Pat Pelky
    - ix. **Red Cliff** - Alissa Stutte
    - x. **St. Croix** - absent @ roll call
    - xi. **Stockbridge** - absent @ roll call
  - b. **WTCAC Staff:** Jeff Mears, Lacey Hill Kastern, Jon Pruitt, Tom Melnarik, Keith Sengbusch, Jerry Thompson, Tom Melnarik,
  - c. **Partners:** Chris Borden (NRCS), Christopher Deegan (APHIS PPQ), Melissa Bartz (NRCS), Amy Trowbridge (UW-Madison), Paul Peterson (BIA), Jessica Mancel (RD), Katie Demrow (FSA), Kiera Kaufman (USFS), Sunny Lucas (USFS), Brian Kuhn (DATCP), Shelly Allness (WDNR), Ashley Andre (DATCP), Bill Barker (UW-Madison), Dan Cornell (IAC), Patrick Goggin (UW-Lakes), Rob Croll (GLIFWC), Tricia Gorby (UW-Ext NRI), Albany Jacobson Eckert (BIA), Nancy Komulainen-Dillenburg (ACOE), Leslie Day (ACOE), Phil Townsend (UW-Madison), Sharon Riley (GLITC),
3. **Approval of the Agenda:** Menominee (Jeremy) motions, Mole Lake (Tina) seconds, seven ayes, no objections
  - a. approved with changes
4. **Approval of the Minutes:** Menominee (Jeremy) motions, Mole Lake (Tina) seconds, seven ayes, no objections
5. **Agency Updates:**
  - a. **DATCP** - Ashley Andre, Brian Kuhn
    - i. **Hemp Update (from Brian)**



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- ii. Action at the federal and state level that resulted in the publishing of additional rule; new rule to allow for a pilot program in the state in June (much like previous rule that expired); the pilot research program was set to sunset in September due to interaction between federal and state requirements, so the states had to submit information to USDA to continue their activities; 10/1/2020 continuing resolution from Congress that allows states to continue to operate under 2014 Farm Bill which is another option to moving to operate under the 2018 Farm Bill
  - 1. One tribe has USDA approved hemp plan to operate their tribal-authority hemp farms under the 2018 Farm Bill
  - 2. Wisconsin (DTCAP) is choosing to extend work under the 2014 Farm Bill due to the continuing resolution to provide the most opportunity to Wisconsin growers and processors
    - a. DATCP is about to open renewal period on November 1 for Tribes and others to continue operation as-is (though they can also choose to pursue getting an approved plan from USDA under the 2018 Farm Bill if they want)
- iii. Sharon (GLITC) has a question: question about licensing allowing interstate commerce under the DATCP Program? Brian says, yes. How about international commerce? Brian says they can provide a certificate that it is legal hemp, but not sure about each country's requirement about imports.
- iv. Pat (Oneida) wonders if they are expanding their list of certified seeds? Do we have a better idea of what seeds we should be planting in WI so that they have low THC? Brian says UW is working on this but that he doesn't have the details. The failure rate for three years is at 10% of the crop exceeding THC content. There are different THC rates produced in plants here than in states where the seed was developed sometimes, still researching seeds.
- b. **UW-Madison** - Amy Trowbridge (Entomologist), Bill Barker (Farms), and Phil Townsend (Biological Institute NSF)
  - i. **The Causes and Consequences of Plant Biodiversity Across Scales in a Rapidly Changing World** (by Phil)



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- ii. Looking to develop collaboration with Tribes throughout WTCAC, this is the initial introduction to what they are up to. Questions they are trying to address:
  1. How does life variation at each scale influence processes all other scales up to the biosphere?
  2. And how do global changes influence biological variation at all of these scales?
  3. How do we manage the earth sustainably?
- iii. They use spectral biology to detect and understand biological variation at all scales with a common currency and models. Goes over hyperspectral imagery for a bit. He goes over different collaborators for the project. Try to link from genes to leaves to plants to species to neighborhoods to ecosystems to the biosphere. Measuring emergent properties allows us to understand plants in the landscape using new methods of hyperspectral detection. Specific applications can be for oak wilt, EAB, conifer response to pests, etc. This is all put together to ensure human well-being. This is a five-year project that they want to bring in Tribal collaborators on.
  - iv. Email Phil or Amy with questions about the project.
- c. **UW Extension** - Tricia Gorby (Natural Resource Institute Director) & Chad Cooke (Land and Water Program Manager)
  - i. More of an introduction. They both have been in the role of the UW extension for the last two years. They are looking for opportunities for continued and expanded collaborations in various areas. The division of extension when through a reorganization several years ago, and out of that came the Natural Resources Institute. This is intended to build more collaborations across the UW -extension programs across the state. Ten programs and multiple centers. Two main place-based programs one out of Superior and one on the Wisconsin River.
  - ii. Areas of Focus - What does the extension do? Natural Resources Economics, land stewardship, water stewardship, environmental literacy
  - iii. Reserves and centers: LS-NERR, Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center, WI Geological and Natural History Survey



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- iv. Extension Programs: AIS program, Conservation Professional Training Program, North Central Region Water Network, Regional Natural Resource Education Program, Water Action Volunteers Program, Wehr Nature Center Outreach Programs, Wisconsin Master Naturalist Program
- v. Natural Resources Affiliate Programs: Center for Land Use Education (UW\_SP), Center for Watershed Science and education, Extension Lakes Program, Wisconsin Center for Wildlife
- vi. Professional Services: evaluation, instructional design, marketing, and communications
- vii. Program categories: agricultural stewardship, citizen science, environmental education, minerals and geology, sustainable forestry, water resources management, wildlife management.
- viii. Numerous projects working with Tribes but want to continue to broaden their reach. G-WOW, LS NERR, Wild Rice Symposium, LCO Community Farm, Bad River Youth program DOTS kits,
- ix. Tricia will share her presentation.

**d. American Bird Conservancy (ABC) - Absent**

**e. Wisconsin Wetlands Association (WWA) - Absent**

**f. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Absent**

**g. Farm Services Agency (FSA) - Katie Damrow, Kiera Klein**

- i. Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP 2) - How can this apply to bison, aquaculture, maple syrup, and wild rice?
- ii. Deadlines: begins Sept 21, 2020 ends: Dec 11, 2020. This is an entirely different program than CFAP 1, so if you received CFAP 1, you could still apply for CFAP 2.
- iii. Eligibility: producers are in the business of farming at the time of application and have a risk in the production...
- iv. applicable forms include: AD-3117- CFAP 2 Application, CCC-902 Farm Operating Plan for Payment Eligibility, CCC-901 Member information for legal entities, CCC-94 Average Adjusted Gross Income Certification, CCC-942 Certification of Income Farming, Ranching, and Forestry Operations, AD-1026 HELC & WC Certification
- v. Payment Limitation - optional for corporations, LLCs, LPs, trusts, and estates.



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vi. Sales Commodities: Aquaculture, maple sap, bison - 3-CFAP Part 7

1. Aquaculture includes mollusks. The definition provides a lot more than it previously did but needs to be in a commercially controlled environment.
2. Specialty crop - maple sap
3. Livestock grown for food, fiber, fur, or feathers
4. Basing all payments from 2019 eligible sales. Include only sales of raw commodities grown by the producer. Value added is in-eligible (Boughs eligible; wreaths ineligible or maple sap eligible; maple syrup ineligible)

vii. How to apply, go to [www.farmers.gov/cfap](http://www.farmers.gov/cfap).

1. There is a CFAP eligibility tool on the website.
2. Need level 2 E-auth access to complete the application online. You can request this access by contacting your local FSA office. It is more common now with the pandemic.

**h. Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC) - Sharon Reiley (Grant Writer)**

- i. Applied to the Native American Agriculture Fund, and it was awarded. They will be helping Tribes in Wisconsin during the pandemic regarding agriculture. Agriculture in the broad sense. Anyone interested in partnering with GLITC, let them know. She has been working with Jon Pruitt to seek more funding to expand food sovereignty programs with the Tribes. GLITC does have a small business advisor that can be of assistance, and please reach out if you know someone who needs assistance.

**i. Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) - Christopher Deegan**

- i. They wrapped up field season. Things are quiet in the office at the moment.
- ii. Deregulation - Pine Shoot Beetle 30-day comment period is up and should occur this upcoming Sunday. Impacts Christmas tree distributors and removes quarantine in Wisconsin. Federal rule rescinded on Sunday. EAB deregulation should be coming soon.





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- iii. Maybe there will be more of an update at next month's meeting. This will impact our timber industries.
- iv. International markets and exports - remind folks that if you are moving any type of ag commodity internationally, please check with his office to check on the rules and make sure they have the right certificates and documentation.
- v. Soybean sampling program - third and final year of surveying. They were ensuring that soybeans are free of federally regulated noxious weed seeds. In the last couple of years, sampled 12 elevators and sent on to federal inspection service—this provided quality control.
- vi. EAB Biocontrol - WDNR forest health staff is typically involved. This year Christopher's team took over and will continue to do the work in 2021. If Tribe's are interested in participating in the program, let him know. The site needs to be a minimum of 40 acres, no logging plans, and more than 20% ash would be ideal candidates.

**j. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) - Leslie Day (Mitigation Coordinator w/ St. Paul District)**

- i. **Mitigation Banking Coordinator Presentation** - presentation provided. Three Compensatory mitigation options: permittee responsible mitigation, mitigation bank, and in-lieu fees. There is a preference hierarchy, but it is case-by-case.
- ii. Every mitigation site is assigned an interagency review team (IRT). These can vary from site to site. ACOE decides who is on the IRT. You have the right to dispute the decisions that the Corps has made. Public notices are on the website. You can also request notifications directly.
- iii. Credits range depending on the mitigation method (restoration 100% to Buffer 10-25%). They are intended to capture the benefits being provided. Enhancement is considered vegetation only management.
- iv. Preservation Eligibility Criteria: resource provide essential functions to the watershed, contributes significantly to the ecological sustainability of the watershed, preservation is appropriate and practicable, under threat of destruction or adverse



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- v. modification, permanent protection through a proper instrument (conservation easement).
  - vi. Other general considerations: timing, excess credits on a PRM site, watch for potential site selection pitfalls, presence or development of watershed plans, use of federal funds.
- k. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) - Albany**
- i. RFP for Wildlife and Parks will be coming out today or tomorrow. Endangered Species, Fish Hatchery Maintenance, COF,
  - ii. Due January 15th, 2021
  - iii. Noxious Weeds due sooner RFP not released yet, possibly next week.
  - iv. Revised GLRI framework document will be circulated in about a week. GLRI half-day meeting on November 10th. RFP was released mid-December and Due mid-February.
- l. College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) - Bill Barker - Brian Kuhn** had mentioned their Hemp research earlier. They have a new program trying to breed new strains that are more favorable to the WI climate. They would like to add more ditch weed to the research program, so please let them know if you know of any. They were pleased to hear Amy and Phil's presentation. The college is still under semi lockdown. They brought back 220 undergraduates into the research area.
- m. Dept. of Ag, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) - Ashley Andre** - DATCP has put up three spotted lanternfly billboards in the state. DATCP is concerned and conducting surveys for SLF and Tree of Heaven and still learning a lot about this pest right now. We are starting outreach about this pest. She is sharing additional resources in the chat box.
- i. Cyber Security personal accountability
  - ii. Consumer protection 101 links in chat
  - iii. DATCP is offering virtual food safety training - 2 - 8-hour full days training in November and December. Link in chat for both.
  - iv. In-person pesticide applicator exams are now taking place again. Waukesha, Wausau, and Eau Claire.
  - v. DATCP is currently working on diversity, equity, and Inclusion plan and will be posted on the website when available, and there will also be staff training in November.
  - vi. From Ashley Andre, DATCP to Everyone: 11:48 AM



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- vii. Cybersecurity Awareness Month:  
[https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News\\_Media/DATCPEncouragesConsumersToParticipateInCybersecurityAwarenessMonth.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News_Media/DATCPEncouragesConsumersToParticipateInCybersecurityAwarenessMonth.aspx)
- viii. Consumer Protection 101:  
[https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News\\_Media/DATCPLaunchesConsumerProtection101Program.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News_Media/DATCPLaunchesConsumerProtection101Program.aspx)
- ix. Produce Safety Rule Training:  
[https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News\\_Media/DATCPProduceSafetyRuleTrainingOnline.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News_Media/DATCPProduceSafetyRuleTrainingOnline.aspx)
- x. Commercial Pesticide Applicator Certification Exams:  
[https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News\\_Media/20201002PesticideExam.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News_Media/20201002PesticideExam.aspx)
- n. **The US Forest Service (USFS)** - Kiera Kaufmann (Tribal Relations Specialist), Sunny Lucas (Forest Health Group Leader)
  - i. Kiera - submitted information for the WTCAC internship. Send out open grants information that Kiera sent in advance.
  - ii. Next month is the first anniversary of WTCAC USFS MOU. USFS is performing an annual review of this MOU, and please contact USFS with any questions.
  - iii. Rita Mills sent a birch map that was shared with the group and attached it to minutes.
  - iv. Sunny Lucas - New entomologist - Patrick Engleton started on a gypsy moth program.
- o. **Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC)** - Daniel Cornelius - Big news is that the virtual IAC conference from December 7-10 will be no cost this year, and we are also waiving the \$200 annual Tribal dues
- p. **National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)** - Absent
- q. **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** - Melissa Bartz (Asst. State Conservationist), Chris Borden (State Tribal Liaison)  
Melissa Bartz discussed the importance of meeting with NRCS Tribal Liaisons as soon as possible if a Tribe is interested in developing an application for the 2021 EQIP program. The deadline for sign up is November 20, 2020. Melissa stated that it is not necessary to have the planning completed, but it is best to have things advanced to the point where a cost estimate can be drawn up. She also mentioned that it is a good time to let us know if a Tribe is interested in signing up for the





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Conservation Stewardship Program. Melissa mentioned that our staff can work in the field with few limitations

- r. **Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE) - Absent**
  - s. **Rural Development (RD) - Jessica Mancel (PR Officer)**
    - i. Provided 2019 Rural Development Tribal Report included in the chat box.
    - ii. Over \$2 million spent working together with the Tribes. They are working to provide more homeownership opportunities on tribal lands.
    - iii. A couple of tribes applied for and received the housing renovation grant to improve housing and leverage other grants.
    - iv. Rural business development grant
    - v. The tribal land grant was received by Tribal of Menominee Nation and LCO college to maintain campus buildings.
    - vi. Water and environmental programs and tribal partners are working on their 2018 funding to get to their project's end.
  - t. **Central Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (CRTCAC) - Pat Pelky - No update.**
  - u. **Risk Management Agency (RMA) - Absent**
  - v. **US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) - Absent**
  - w. **WI Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) - Shelly Allness (Tribal Liaison) - Not present for morning update.**
  - x. **Wisconsin Lakes Partnerships (WLP) - Patrick Goggin (UW Ext Lakes) - Shared 2021 Wisconsin Water Week March 8-12. Going to try and get Dr. Robin Kimmerer to give a plenary presentation. The question to WTCAC is if WTCAC can be a co-sponsor. No money exchange is expected. Can the folks on this call want to help promote WTCAC at this event? More information on the handout provided.**
6. Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame Request: Jeff Mears - Would like someone from WTCAC to be on the committee? Tina was on the committee. She called Jerry back yesterday. She never attended a meeting. She thinks Alan was participating. Tina told Jerry she could be on the November 5th meeting from WTCAC. Tina would prefer someone with a little more time could be on the call. Jeff said he could participate on the call. Jeff forwarded an email to Tina with all the information. If board action is needed, we will bring it back to the November meeting.



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**Break for Lunch at 11:54 until 1 PM.**

**Afternoon attendance:** Melissa Bartz (NRCS), Lacey Hill-Kastern (WTCAC), Keith Sengbusch (WTCAC), Tina Van Zile (Sokogan Mole Lake), Erin Hoffman (Innovative Funding), Jerry Thompson (WTCAC), Jeff Mears (WTCAC), Chris Borden (NRCS), Nathan Podany (Sokogan Mole Lake), Brett McConnell (LCO), Jessica Strand (Bad River), Tom Melnarik (WTCAC), Elyza Jordan (WTCAC), Jeremy Pyatskowitz (Menominee), Pat Pelky (Oneida), Bill Barker (CALs), Gena Abramson (Bad River), Jon Pruitt (WTCAC), Sharon Reilly (GLITC), Randy Poelma (Ho-Chunk), 6155171096 Paul Peterson BIA?, Sunny Lucas (USFS), Tina Brown (Ho-Chunk), Loretta Livingston (Bad River)

We have a quorum.

**7. WTCAC Business Meeting**

**a. NRCS Updates & EQIP: Melissa and Chris** (*Missed first 10 minutes on the recording*)

- i. Chris Borden mentioned that the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians in North Dakota were interested in discussing the CSP program with Tribal Staff from Wisconsin. Bret McConnell and Pat Pelky volunteered to hold this discussion with Turtle Mountain Representatives.
- ii. Brett McConnell reported that the first walleye harvest at the new Lac Courte Oreilles walleye rearing pond facility was successful. Brett shared his thoughts regarding some of the shortcomings of the how the EQIP program funding worked.
- iii. Chris Borden asked the WTCAC Reps if they were aware of any Tribal laws requiring the application resource conserving practices on Tribal Lands. The FSA had asked Chris this question regarding the Conservation Reserve Program. Nathan Podany and Jessica Strand offer to send info on their Tribal Ordinances.
- iv. Chris surveyed the Tribal staff regarding plans Tribes had for making EQIP application for 2021. There was a general discussion regarding what types of conservation planning activities are possible given current circumstances.



v. ~~They are still completing work outdoors and doing Teams meetings related to getting projects moved forward.~~

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vi. Brett's update on walleye rearing ponds: first harvest in September went well, Tom and Keith helped, everything worked perfectly, and the system was great; plan on production be higher in subsequent years; getting buy-in from lakes associations, etc. so he's trying to find ways to cost-share feed so that they can operate at full capacity. They stock publicly accessible lakes--none of them are controlled solely by the Tribe. Only lost a single fish.

1. Tom is always looking at these field visits to improve his engineering designs.
2. Tom reports that the new liner appears to be more durable, much slipperier. Ropes installed at LCO corners to help people out; Mole Lake removes slime before they walk on the liner.
3. Overlying concerns that Brett identifies are cost-share rates that lag. People need to understand what they are getting into when they move forward with any changes of their facilities, no matter how close costs seem to be when they start a project--he suggests that there be some particular talks with those who have done the work already before anyone proceeds with work—way below the 75/25 expected cost-share rate due to changing costs.
4. Chris says data LCO will help NRCS look at for the next fish hatchery project they undertake. Chris reports there might be some land clearing cost-share now since there is a new practice that LCO didn't have available to them.

vii. EQIP 2021 Applications. Chris expects a relatively low level of request for WTCAC funding, but they might be surprised. However, there are no big projects on their radar.

1. Brett (LCO): going to do 200 acres of TSI work and red oak release projects; paperwork for this has been submitted. They are working with Jarrod Elm from the Ruffed Grouse Society, who is excellent to work with.
  - a. Chris thinks that they might get Jarrod and Dan to come to a WTCAC meeting to introduce what he
  - b. does. Brett asks Jeff or Lacey to coordinate this for the next meeting.



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2. Ethan (LdF): not on call now, but Chris reports they have a lot of interesting things going on
3. Jessica (BR): reports they might be going after EQIP funding for obstruction removal in streams for beavers; new staff mean that BR is less familiar with EQIP but will be having an internal meeting soon to discuss; Chris B. to send BR 2020 EQIP Cookbook and are willing to participate in a discussion to help BR identify practices
4. Tina (Mole Lake): hasn't heard of anything they are interested in yet, but needs to check internally with other staff to confirm
5. Jeremy (Menominee): doesn't think that they have anything they anticipate for this year.
6. Tina (Ho-Chunk): Chris has talked with Tina and Brandon about forestry practices on their lands  
Pat (Oneida): Not planning on anything new at this time

viii. **The deadline for application is November 20, 2020**

1. As long as planning has started taking place, then an application is all that they need on file at this time; don't need everything finalized at this point (though a site visit is required for those projects where one is needed)
2. Expect that \$500K will be devoted to the WTCAC EQIP pool this year, similar to it was in the past.

ix. Tom asks if NRCS funds can be used for wetland mitigation banks; Chris doesn't think so, but he could get a firm answer on it and follow-up with WTCAC; Pat wonders if the easement could be more of a collaborative

- x. Conservation Stewardship Program deadline coming up
1. Chris asked if anyone who does CSP would be willing to talk with Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa (in South Dakota) to share tribal perspectives?
    - a. Pat will ask TJ
    - b. Brett would be willing to be on a call.
  2. CSP Renewal Sign-Up for 2015 and 2016 contracts is ongoing; December 4 is the ranking deadline with funds obligated by the end of January
  3. Applying for classic sign-up (probably in March)



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4. Development of farm records is something NRCS promotes, and it isn't a lot of work for the Tribes and should only happen on lands Tribe is interested in

xi. FSA CRP (Ian Krauss?) contact is interested in presenting to WTCAC on opportunities

1. Nathan (Mole Lake) and Jess (Bad River) might have some examples of tribal laws and regs that generally require agriculture BMPs that they can share with Chris, something Ian is interested in

**b. Stream Crossing Inventory - Chris Borden with Keith & Tom**

- i. Jonathan set up training for November 6th to learn the protocol for inventory crossings.
- ii. There is a lot of inventory on the protocol for design through this work; USFS willing to help with setup.
- iii. Collaboration to get everyone across agencies to start inventorying the same way across jurisdictions
- iv. Chris asks if there are priority areas for getting this inventory completed? NRCS suggests looking at what data is already out there.
- v. Jonathan will send Jessica an invite.

**c. Conservation Collaboration - Tom Melnarik**

- i. reminds everyone that he and Jonathan are available out of the Rhinelander NRCS office to help with projects
- ii. some of the fieldwork that he and Jonathan have been doing were discussed earlier in the meeting
- iii. Tom and Jonathan are helping Bad River with beaver issues and have been following-up with WDNR on this issue, too; they put it in the tracking matrix
- iv. Tom and Jonathan are completing NRCS training to brush up on skills over the winter
- v. Are going to be looking closer at payment schedules in the EQIP cookbook to see if they are fair

**d. Tracking Matrix- Keith & Tom**

- i. They continue to add and update items on the tracking matrix
- ii. Keith said just let them know what to add to the list





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- iii. Pat suggests that Keith and Tom create some guidelines on how the board should interest in the matrix
  - iv. NRCS can put in writing a response to the progress on their matrix items each month
  - v. Looked at new items on the bottom of the list together during the meeting
  - vi. Chris reports that Angela has elevated some of these items to state conservationist already
- e. **Sub-Committee Updates** - There is a separate Google Drive created just for the board. There are currently two different folders: one for board meetings and one for committee meetings. Let Lacey know what email account you use to access google drive, and I will make sure everyone has access to these folders. All the presentations, recordings, handouts, and minutes are in those folders.
- i. **Agriculture** - Kelly is not on, update from Jerry
    - 1. They have reached 858 people through FB page (facebook.com/wtcac) and had engagement from people on 31 posts that they put on
    - 2. Jerry has been posting a lot of stuff on FB instead of sending out emails
    - 3. Wondering if there are additional representatives that would be appropriate for the agriculture subcommittee
    - 4. 2501 Project got approved for three years but not at the funding level expected, so they had to redo some of the deliverables; the focus is on food sovereignty (from individuals to producers to tribal level projects); Jerry has one-pager summarizing the project that he will distribute
      - a. Let Jerry know whether you want to participate in Youth Sugarbush Training this year; they are providing kits
      - b. Jerry, Jeff, Ashley, and other DATCP staff had a meeting about this grant; Wisconsin is hurting for USDA certified slaughterhouses, so DATCP would be interested in helping Tribes set up these facilities, including all training
        - i. Pat requests Jerry send him this information
      - c. 2501 focuses on training for tribes



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- d. Also includes farmer apprenticeship still like previous grant
- e. Looking at value-added grant writing workshops with USDA

5. Bringing Pathways Training from southwest to us and getting people familiar with the process; trying to set up a good student outreach program for our region

- a. Chris encourages Jerry to share his opinion on the short 5-day timeframe to apply for the positions advertised; the 5-day timeframe is ridiculous and hampering to most students

**ii. Fisheries - Jeremy Bloomquist**

- 1. November 17th meeting with ACOE

**iii. Forestry - Paul Koll - email update sent out**

The committee has not been meeting regularly, but we have an expert planning committee meeting every two weeks planning an EAB web series. The planning committee consists of tribal foresters, BIA, USFS, NRCS, APHIS-PPQ, and university staff from around the country that are experts in the realm of EAB. The web series will be on Thursdays at 1 PM starting January 21st, and the target audience for these webinars will vary pending on the topic. This series will be open for all to join. We are also creating a handout of resources to accompany the series and discussing having everything available through the EAB University Website. Please let me know if you are interested in learning more or want to join the planning efforts.

**iv. Wetlands - Randy Poelma - email update will be sent out**

- v. **Wildlife – Lacey** – We have met twice now. Abi Fergus from Bad River has volunteered to co-chair the committee. There is interest from tribes in MI and MN to join the discussions, depending on what we are discussing. GLIFWC also has a strong presence on this committee. The last two discussions have centered on wolf delisting since a lot is going on there, with more developments occurring while preparing this update! So far, everyone on both calls saw this committee's value, especially discussing what everyone is doing and providing resources for each other regarding



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vi. ~~wolf delisting and CWD. There are also many valuable EQIP discussions about habitat restoration, pollinator habitat, beaver bafflers, bat houses, etc. that can occur at these meetings. Goals and objectives still need to be mapped out for this committee when more tribal technical staff can attend. The next committee call will~~

vii. be on the WTCAC Zoom line on Tuesday, November 17th, 2020, at 10 AM.

Some questions that came out of that call:

- Can we request that USFWS provide a document that outlines their consultation process with the Tribes? Who do they contact when requesting consultation?

- Can we request that the WDNR provides a document in writing on how they form their different species committees? Recommend that the science committees are separate from stakeholder committees or the importance of balance.

How are tribal technical staff notified of changes occurring in the state?

**f. Internship/Seasonal Worker Update - Lacey**

Oneida has hired a seasonal worker on the APHIS PPQ Investing in our Future opportunity to work on education and outreach surrounding ambrosia beetles and oak wilt, EAB, not moving firewood, and jumping worms. Eliza Jordan was on the call listening yesterday. She is a member of the Oneida Nation and will also be going to school while working virtually for WTCAC. She will be working through the first week of January.

Lacey will be working on planning for the FY2021 field season. If you know of someone interested in an opportunity in the upcoming year, please send me their contact information. We will have positions available through APHIS PPQ survey and education and outreach, USFS visitor center and engineering, NRCS, APHIS-WS, and WSB. Other agencies could not commit yet due to the uncertainty with budgets and the pandemic.

WTCAC Newsletter Article Submission October 31st



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Below is the outline for the Fall and Winter newsletters, as discussed at prior meetings. I have only received one article so far, from Joey Billyboy on the last day of her internship with WTCAC. I will extend the deadline, but please get me items before the November 19th meeting. I know there is a lot of great work happening. Please do not feel overwhelmed by the article; they can be brief with a quick picture.

Fall 2020 WTCAC Article Submission Deadline ~~October 31st~~ November 19th, 2020

- g. WTCAC/NRCS Report - Jeff Mears**
- h. WTCAC Board Presidential Election - Pat Pelky**
  - i. Opened up nominations for president
  - ii. Randy Poelma (Ho-Chunk) nominates Tina VanZile (Mole Lake), Brett (LCO) seconds; Tina accepts (for now because she has less on her plate than Pat does, but things might change after the tribal elections): Ayes from Bad River, Ho-Chunk, LCO, Menominee, Oneida
  - iii. Next month: Vice President election; Pat willing to step into that role if people want
- i. Director Tasks - Jeff Mears**
  - i. He will work with Pat D. on 2021 Water Week
  - ii. He will help with the WI Conservation Hall of Fame
  - iii. He will distribute the 2020 Cookbook once he receives it from Chris
  - iv. Jeff and Jerry going to meet with Pat about the farmer apprentice program
  - v. Will follow-up to MN Tribe's request for help setting up a MN TCAC; meeting set up for November 16th @ 2 PM via Zoom
    - 1. If someone is interested in participating to talk about WTCAC, let Jeff or Jerry know; Tina might be able to join on this. She will check her schedule
- j. Executive Session**
  - i. Motion to enter by Menominee (Jeremy Pyatskowitz), Ho-Chunk (Randy Poelma) seconded, all ayes
- k. Lost quorum during executive session, the following items will be approved by email; Jeff will send out email:**



- 
- i. ~~Motion to leave executive session by Bad River (Jessica Strand), second by Oneida (Pat Pelky), 5 ayes (Bad River, Menominee, Mole Lake, Oneida, and Ho-Chunk)~~
  - ii. Motion to accept financials submitted by Erin Hoffman on October 29, 2020 WTCAC Meeting made over email e-poll by HoChunk (Randy Poelma), seconded by Oneida (Pat Pelky), 6 ayes (Bad River, Menominee, Stockbridge, LCO, LdF)
  - iii. Motion to approve laptop agreement
    1. During the meeting by Oneida (Pat Pelky), Bad River seconded (Jessica Strand), 5 ayes (Bad River, Menominee, Mole Lake, Oneida, and Ho-Chunk)
    2. over email e-poll by Ho-Chunk (Randy Poelma), seconded by Oneida (Pat Pelky), 6 ayes (Bad River, Menominee, Stockbridge, LCO, LdF)
  - iv. Motion to approve TPSS job description update as presented including salary adjustment for Lacey Hill-Kastern
    1. during the meeting by Ho-Chunk (Randy Poelma), Menominee (Jeremy Pyaskowit) seconds, 5 ayes (Bad River, Menominee, Mole Lake, Oneida, and Ho-Chunk)
    2. over email e-poll by HoChunk (Randy Poelma), seconded by Oneida (Pat Pelky), 6 ayes (Bad River, Menominee, Stockbridge, LCO, LdF)

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**Adjourned at 3:09 PM Central due to lack of quorum  
Next Meeting: November 19th, 2020 9 AM**

**Minutes submitted by Jessica Strand, WTCAC Secretary on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020**