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December 5/Madison/ APHIS
December 6/NRCS

*Bad River Band
of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians*

Meeting called to order at 1pm.

*Forest County
Potawatomi
Community*

Roll Call: Pat has the roll call hand written.

Ho-Chunk Nation

Jerry updated us on the APHIS training session held in Michigan. It went really well and got good feedback. Working on setting up Minnesota training session.

*Lac Courte Oreilles
Band of Lake
Superior Chippewa
Indians*

JoAnn Cruse – Her thought was to go through the process of how we would set up for a survey. Most funding Tribes have done is for outreach and education. Have not done anything as far as surveys.

*Lac Du Flambeau
Band of Lake
Superior Chippewa
Indians*

Farm Bill Process: JoAnn gave a presentation on the Farm Bill Process and survey guidelines. Farm Bill 10007 is the part we are talking about. There is a website you can go to on this, she went through it. To apply for a survey under the Farm Bill it needs to meet certain requirements. They like bundled surveys, so the more pests you throw together the better.

*Menominee Tribe
of Wisconsin*

Todd – EAB quarantine statewide issues, interested in what other Tribes are doing.

*Mole Lake Band
of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians*

Motion to close the meeting by Mole Lake, 2nd St Croix. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 2:53pm.

December 6, 2017

*Oneida Tribe of
Indians of
Wisconsin*

Meeting called to order at 8:05.

*Red Cliff Band of
Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians*

Roll Call: Bad river, FCPC, ho chunk, LCO, Menominee, Mole Lake, Oneida, Red Cliff, St Croix, Stockbridge

*St Croix Chippewa
Indians of
Wisconsin*

Approval of Agenda
Add Masters Program for University of MN Duluth.

*Stockbridge-
Munsee Indian
Community*

Motion to approve amended agenda by Menominee, 2nd by Mole Lake. All in favor, motion carries.

Approval of Minutes
Motion to approve by Menominee, 2nd by Ho Chunk, all in favor, motion carries.

APHIS

JoAnn Cruse – She has had consultations with both Natural Resources folks and some Council members about the proposed statewide EAB quarantine. Needs to meet with 2 tribes yet. Eau Claire County was just added to the EAB quarantine. She would like to get consultations done and feedback from the Tribes by the end of December. Gypsy moth counts are up a little but surrounding states are down. Expecting to hear about end of December/ early January to see whose Farm Bill Suggestion were selected.

Dates we are looking at are weeks of January 22, 29th and February 5. For table top exercises.

ACOE

There is a new Tribal Liaison that would like to come to future meetings. Alan will reach out to them.

DATCP

Brian Kuhn – Plant Industry Bureau – The governor signed the hemp bill into law last week. The 2014 Farm Bill allowed State Department of Agriculture allowed states to create pilot research program for hemp production in states. They have direction to write rules in 90 days. This did not allow anyone to just start growing hemp. Will need a license. They will be developing these rules. Need to prove you are producing hemp and not marijuana.

FSA

Kim – they now have a state executive director Sandy Chalmers. Trump Administration Appoints **Sandy Chalmers** to Serve as State Executive Director for USDA's Farm Service Agency in Wisconsin. MADISON, Wis. – Nov. 9, 2017-She came from DATCP and was formerly with FSA. Farm Production and Conservation Area (FSA, NRCS, and RD) are all proposed to be under this and pool some resources. FSA cannot do loans for hemp production. Looking for County Committee advisors. They have a cooperative agreement with money from the national office that goes to local organizations to promote programs. Looking into if FSA can loan directly to Tribes instead of just individuals. Alan and Keith will put together a letter to FSA and send to Pat and Nate for review.

USFS

Mary – They were able to host 2 interns again for 2018 one with Ottawa and one with Chequamegon/ Nicolet. In the midst of a centralized temporary hiring process that closes tomorrow. Send Education Department contacts for each Tribe to the federal agencies. Jennifer Youngblood is permanently in the regional office working for the regional forester in Milwaukee. Regional forester wants to beef up tribal liaison staff. Jen's old position at College of Menominee nation will be filled in some form. USFS has a new Chief, was regional forester in Region 8. There will be an increase in the amount of timber that is cut with the new administration. Tribes can access reduced rate gravel and road materials from Forest Service Pits.

Deahn Donner-Wright – She is trying to work with Alan on the internships. Working on ozone effects on culturally significant plants.

GLIFWC

Concerns about overharvesting of small birch, especially in the NW part of the state. They have been monitoring the situation. They are trying to get info out to the public about the new birch regulations.

If anyone is interested in seeing the commission order, she can get it to us. She will look into the statewide quarantine for EAB.

Midwest Environmental Advocates

Attorney was here. She is with MEA for the next 2 years on a project that is focused on creating connections with the non-profit sector in Madison and Tribal communities. She wanted to gain more of an understanding of Tribal environmental concerns. Her main goal is to focus on clean water in Wisconsin and its impacts on Tribal communities. Trying to determine how MEA can help encourage and create more clean water. Her goal is to be governed by an advisory council.

NASS

Greg Bussler – Handed out latest Ag Statistics Books. Partnered with DATCP to put that together. Also handed out some ag census brochures. Corn yield was a lot higher than expected. Final numbers will be released on January 12.

NRCS

Angela – reorg is still moving forward. They do not have a Chief yet. They are establishing a business center under FPAC. Agency is still under a hiring freeze. They had to submit a hiring strategy to USDA. They continue to have vacancies they can't fill at this time. They did advertise for several pathways positions. They are looking at reorganizing in WI because of reduced staffing numbers. Still under a continuing resolution. Doesn't anticipate much of a cut, if any, at this point. Interested in a Legal Intern from a Tribe in WI.

Chris – pleased that the EQIP program is fitting in well with Tribes. Almost all Tribes have an application in for 2018. The request is around \$400K which doesn't include the GLRI for Oneida. The number one practice is Forest Stand Improvement and prescribed grazing and associated practices. Ranking deadline is the 15th of December.

Janice – Handed out Native American History Month posters. Could you write up an article that could go in Tribal newspapers or newsletters? Send Janice contact info on Tribal newspapers/newsletters. Alan will reach out to the Tribes to collect this information.

IAC

Dan Cornelius – Annual membership meeting is in Las Vegas next week. Looking at holding the Great Lakes Tribal Food Summit in Iowa this year in May. Native American Food Sovereignty Alliance has received some foundation funding recently for seed savers network. Native Nations Partnership with UW Madison. Still working on getting support letters from Tribes for the Farm Bill.

RTCAC

Scheduled for this Saturday and Sunday in Las Vegas. Angela is part of it as well and will be attending as well as Pat.

WDNR

Shelly – New DNR Secretary – Dan Meyer. His priority has been getting up to speed on things and getting out and meeting the staff across the state. Summer Tribal Youth Program – traditionally they have had 10 of the 11 Tribes applying. Forestry headquarters will be moved to Rhinelander office. There will likely be some increased cutting on forest lands. Trying to address birch left issues. Law enforcement continues to work with Tribes, counties, municipalities to come together on this. Working

on a social media campaign. Working with GLFIWC to address the cultural connection with birch. They have not yet worked with buyers. DATCP is responsible for notifying Tribes if a new CWD find is from a game farm, DNR is responsible for wild animal finds.

Aquaculture Subcommittee

Jeremy – they had a recent meeting in Oneida to get them set up potentially for ponds in Oneida for 2019. They are looking at extended growth walleye and possible baitfish. Jeremy and Keith are going to be meeting with Jerry to discuss a CIG grant through NRCS in partnership with the Conservation Districts in Alaska for off stream incubation for trout.

Forestry Subcommittee

Paul Koll – January 17th is the next Forestry Subcommittee meeting in Black River Falls. Focus on this one will be on pesticide training potentially for this spring and discussing Tribal lands and fire and available programs through NRCS. May 15 and 16 is the tentative dates potentially in Forest County for the subcommittee meeting after that, they are hoping to bring in the NRCS Resource Conservationists and he is working on Andy and Chris on this. Looking at bringing wetlands people to this as well to give a training on identifying wetlands. Need to talk to Eric Allness with NRCS about a joint position with DNR for Forestry.

Wetlands Subcommittee

Randy – Annual Wisconsin Wetland Association Conference will be February 20 – 22 in Oconomowoc. There will be a Tribal session. WI Wetlands were successful in getting FCPC Foundation Money again to send one Tribal rep to the conference. March 6 – 8 is the State and Tribal EPA wetlands meeting in Madison. Randy has had discussions about funding the WTCAC wetland subcommittee.

Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

Erin – FCPC, Oneida, Stockbridge, Ho Chunk, and LCO would all be potentially interested in participating. Alan will check with Bad River and Red Cliff to gauge their interest. Alan will set up a doodle poll with Erin.

Farm Bill/CWD Discussion

Philomena Kebec – Gave presentation on CWD and discussion possible funding in Farm Bill for it.

EQIP

NRCS expects the funding for WTCAC to be about the same as last year of about \$450,000. We went through all of the proposed EQIP projects from each Tribe. Total request is approximately \$380,000.

Motion to screen all the presented EQIP projects as high by Menominee, 2nd by Stockbridge, all in favor, motion carries.

Farm Bill Suggestion Discussion

Pat – Discussion on new Farm Bill strategies. Pat and Chad will meet to pull something together that can be presented by Tribal legislatures. They are planning to meet on December 19 in Medford at 9 am.

Motion to defer NACP to the next meeting by Menominee, 2nd by Stockbridge, all in favor, motions carries.

University of MN – Duluth is working on a Master of Tribal Resource and Environmental Stewardship.

Motion to submit a letter of support to the University of MN – Duluth for the Master of Tribal Resource and Environmental Stewardship by FCPC, 2nd by LCO. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion to go into Executive Session by Mole Lake and 2nd by Stockbridge. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion to leave Executive Session by Menominee, 2nd by Stockbridge. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion to approve financial report by LCO, 2nd by Menominee. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion to defer Technical Letter to next meeting by Stockbridge, 2nd by LCO. All in favor, motion carries.

Next meeting February 12 and 13 in St. Croix start at 1:30 on the 12th.

Motion to adjourn by Mole Lake, 2nd by Stockbridge. All in favor, motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 2:51pm.