

January 23, 2019 WTCAC Meeting Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

Roll Call

Bad River, FCPC, LCO, LDF, Menominee, Oneida, St. Croix, Red Cliff, St. Croix, Mole Lake, Ho-Chunk (on phone)

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda by Menominee, 2nd Stockbridge, all in favor motion carries.

Approval of minutes

Need to add date of the meeting to minutes.

Motion to approve minutes with addition of date by Stockbridge, 2nd by Menominee, all in favor, motion carries.

Farm Bill Updates

Angela Biggs – Cannot talk about the Farm Bill yet, nothing she can share at this point. She does not even have a copy of it. They are working on rule making. They are looking at setting up some Tribal consultation in regards to the new Farm Bill. She is waiting for information on this. They have authorities in place to continue to run some programs as they have such as EQIP. They are going to try and have the consultation completed by June but she only has a draft plan. Pat – there were things in the Farm Bill that were good for Tribes. Industrial hemp was legalized.

Alan just received a copy of the Farm Bill and will email a copy to everyone.

NRCS Update

Angela - She has set aside \$500,000 for WTCAC in EQIP for this year. We only have \$142,910 in requests for the first EQIP sign up. May 17 would be the sign up deadline for the 2nd signup. WTCAC would screen them after. Contracts wouldn't be out until late summer for 2nd sign up. Along with Pat, she has been serving on the Central Region Tribal Advisory Council. They have been discussing consultation. She would like to do the consultation with each of the Tribes, she would like to try and schedule something like that with each of the Tribes, and she would like to meet with each of the Tribes. They will have an opportunity to submit for competitive funding. The info will be out and posted on grants.gov. This will be an opportunity to submit a proposal to receive funding to actually put boots on the ground. Could be from WTCAC or from individual Tribes. Competitive Conservation Grants and Agreements – no match is required. These are ranked at the state level. Could possibly fund the internship program.

EQIP – Chris Borden – Went through EQIP projects. Asked if we had info on areas where wells need to be deeper due to arsenic. Pat just forwarded something to Keith and Chris. Unavailability of liner material came up with fish ponds across the nation, they are trying to work through it.

Motion to rank all submitted EQIP projects as high by Stockbridge, 2nd by Mole Lake. All in favor, motion carries.

Pat – At University of Arkansas is someone that replaced Janie Hipp, Colby Duren. Pat thought we should invite him to WTCAC. Pat and Alan will reach out to him.

Annual Report – Only two Tribes have provided updates for the new annual report. Chris Borden offered to assist with writing them for each Tribe. Chris will send an email to Tribes that have not responded. Chris will shoot to have something done in 3 weeks. Alan will follow up with the agencies once the shutdown is over. We need to have subcommittee information in it as well.

2501 – Handed out flyer for the first workshop under the 2501 program, Menominee College and IAC are working together with us on it. Tribal Food Producer and Farming 101 Workshop – February 15 and 16 in Keshena. Hard to move this forward due to shutdown, may need to ask for an extension because of the shutdown. In this grant, we have funding for 3-6 apprentices. They would land with Oneida, FCPC, and LCO. There are travel scholarships available, Alan will send out an email on it. Fourteen more trainings after this one.

Fishery Update – Jeremy- there last meeting was in November. Discussed new liner material. Discussed stream restoration practices. Took a tour of the construction at LCO.

Forestry Update – Paul – not much going on with government shutdown. Had to postpone the Forestry Subcommittee Meeting due to shut down. Paul and Lacey attended a TSP training that was supposed to be part of the meeting.

Wetlands Update – Randy – Wisconsin Wetland Association Conference in February in Madison. Need to book by January 28 to get your room covered. There will be a Tribal Wetland Working group on the morning of the 20th.

By laws –

Motion to authorize Brett McConnell, WTCAC Treasurer, to issue all checks, drafts, or orders for payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of WTCAC for the duration of his current term as Treasurer by FCPC, 2nd by Mole Lake. LCO abstains, everyone else in favor.

Motion to authorize Innovative Funding to process payroll for WTCAC Staff by LCO, 2nd by FCPC, all in favor, motion carries.

Motion to direct the Executive Director to hire a consultant to complete an audit of WTCAC within 30 days by LCO, 2nd by Red Cliff, all in favor, motion carries.

Next Meeting at Lac du Flambeau – February 12 as 1st choice, February 11 as back up.

Motion to adjourn by Mole Lake, 2nd by St. Croix. All in favor, motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 3:41.