

**Table 1: Top Ten Environmental Priorities**

#	<i>PRIORITIES</i>	<i>SOLUTIONS/OPPORTUNITIES</i>	<i>RESOURCES NEEDED</i>
1	Sustainable Development, Ecology & Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Community driven planning</li> <li>-Data gathering</li> <li>-Resource independence</li> <li>-Economic Diversity</li> <li>-Maintain and expand land base</li> <li>-Support sovereignty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Staff</li> <li>-Funding</li> <li>-Land</li> <li>-Community input</li> <li>-Regulations</li> </ul>
2	Cultural Traditions, Environmental Stewardship, Manage Lands for Cultural Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Document preserve knowledge</li> <li>-Utilize teachers</li> <li>-Youth involvement</li> <li>-Education of staff and community</li> <li>-Designate traditional cultural resource zones</li> <li>-Development of policy, codes, laws, programs/plans, and regulations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Traditional indigenous knowledge</li> <li>-Identify cultural resources</li> <li>-Funding for staff, equipment, development, etc.</li> <li>-Coordination with other agencies, tribes and communities</li> </ul>
3	Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Sessions at conferences on funding opportunities</li> <li>-Educate government entities on tribal environmental priorities</li> <li>-Educate congressional representatives on funding needs for environmental priorities</li> <li>-Tribes need to be involved at all levels in regional and national groups</li> <li>-Sessions at conferences for sharing information among tribes on how internal tribal funds are/can be managed for environmental priorities</li> <li>-Tribe's education on fiscal responsibility</li> <li>-Questions on how base STAG funding is allocated and the equity of the allocation</li> <li>-Questions on ability of tribes to meet match requirements</li> </ul>	

<b>#</b>	<b><i>PRIORITIES</i></b>	<b><i>SOLUTIONS/OPPORTUNITIES</i></b>	<b><i>RESOURCES NEEDED</i></b>
4	Education & Outreach to Community, Agencies, and Government	-Funding -Eligible environmental education grants -Tribal set asides for education in all programs -Locations	-Partnering with community groups, schools, individuals, community events, newsletters, general council -Funding -Educators -Training -Participation -Coordination and support
5	Protect Watershed Quality & Quantity, Lakes & Streams		
6	Clean, Safe, and Adequate Drinking Water Supply		
7	Protect Ecosystems & Natural Resources		
8	Climate Change		
9	Improve Solid Waste & Recycling Programs		
10	Clean Energy		

**Potential Next Steps:**

1. Complete the solutions and resources for the last six priorities.
2. Formal adoption of Region 5 priorities by the stakeholders or appropriate body.
3. Set-up routine review of environmental priorities, using a facilitated method.

**Evaluation:**

The facilitators used two methods to evaluate the process;

1. Fist to Five Exercise: Each participant was asked to gauge their comfort level with the process and the end product by show of hands. Holding up no fingers meant they were not comfortable with the process or the end product. Holding up five fingers indicated that they were very confident with the process and end result. The majority of participants held up 4-5 fingers.

## **Attachment B: List of all environmental priorities.**

Coordinating activities with all agencies, groups, governments  
Cultural traditions & environmental stewardship/Managing lands for cultural activities  
Emerging Contaminants  
Protecting Mother Earth—all the resources  
Watershed management plan (2)  
Clean water (2)  
    Water quality program/Protect and improve groundwater quality (3)  
    Protect and improve groundwater quality—community and on-site wells  
    Water quality standards  
    Protect quality of surface waters  
    Work towards cleaner water; NPS pollution, etc.  
    Clean water/streams, creeks and rivers  
    Ground water protection  
    Protecting surface water via stormwater management and wastewater treatment  
    Protect surface & groundwater & associated ecosystems/habitats  
Aquatic invasive species management  
Develop a strategic plan (policy and regulations)  
Mercury reduction (Policies, strategies, clean up, etc.)  
Restoration (NRDA)  
Healthy ecosystems (fish & wildlife)  
    Develop wildlife program  
Resources solutions  
Air quality  
    Protecting air quality indoor and out  
    Protect air resources  
Protect cultural resources  
Protect our wild rice  
Capacity development  
    Capacity (money, people, expertise)  
    Build capacity as a Class 1 area manager  
Clean up  
    Brownfield clean up  
IWMP (Integrated? Waste Management Program) development  
Integrated Plan  
IRMP  
Hazardous waste disposal  
Reduce solid waste stream to landfills  
    Recycling—solid waste management, expand solid waste/recycling program (4)  
Sustainability (people, money, environment)  
Maintaining developed programs in air, water, etc.  
Education (2)  
    Environmental education/outreach (2)  
    Education/outreach—tribal council and community (2)  
    Community member involvement and awareness, education and outreach (2)  
Youth involvement  
Natural resources management  
    Resource conservation/preservation of natural resources (3)  
Conserve existing wetlands  
    Preservation of watershed function  
Staff  
Cultural preservation  
Nation building  
GTC input  
Priorities must be fundable  
EPA priorities

Energy conservation  
    Energy efficiency  
    Energy conservation via home construction and alternative energy  
Sustainable economy with culturally appropriate landscape  
Habitat restoration  
Maintain/improve on pristine conditions  
Environmental Protection ordinances and enforcement  
Regulation  
Recognition by state and local governments  
Public relations  
Land acquisition  
Engage community in environmental and natural resources  
Work with tribal members to ensure priorities are addressed. What do they want?  
Preservation of culturally important resources  
Protect cultural resources  
Culture  
Tribal lands  
Monitor and/or collect verified data and use it  
Early and often policy making involvement  
Protect, maintain and improve air quality  
Clean air  
Be involved at all levels  
Proper solid and hazardous waste disposal  
Sustainable solid waste management program and composting  
Solid waste management  
Pollution prevention  
Renewable energy  
Manage lands to promote a healthy environment  
Land use planning natural resource protection  
Environmental Health/Healthy indoor environment  
Healthy homes, businesses and enterprises (indoor air)  
Environmental health of community (drinking water, waste water, and solid waste)  
Safe drinking water and proper wastewater treatment  
Combat invasive species  
Environmental Compliance  
Have a community safe from adjacent nuclear power plant  
Hazardous waste collection and disposal  
Environmental education  
Protection of traditional food sources  
Solid waste management  
Solid waste management  
Making sure community recycles  
Recycle  
Clean water  
TAS water program  
Protect priority waters  
Enforcement of water quality standards (tribal)  
Making sure we have clean water  
Storm surface H2O drinking  
Improvement of water quality  
Protect wild rice  
Fish biology  
Walleye  
Health  
Air monitoring

**Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, October 6 and Thursday, October 7, 2010**  
**St. Croix**

**Wednesday, October 6**

Eric Chapman, WI RTOC Representative, welcomed everyone and thanked St. Croix for hosting the meeting.

*Meetings Attendees:* Nate Guldan (FCPC), Brett McConnell (LCO), Kevin Gunderson (Ho-Chunk), Jason Ritter (Bad River), David Spaffend (St. Croix), Katie Stariha (St. Croix), Tony Havranek (St. Croix), Kathy Mayo (US EPA), Eric Chapman, Sr (Lac du Flambeau), Jonathan Pyatskowitz (Menominee), Jeff Mears (Oneida), Bob Frank (Stockbridge-Munsee), Roman Ferdinand (Mole Lake), Jerry Thompson (WTCAC)

**1. US EPA IEO Update**

Willie Harris has been extended as temporary director. The IEO Director Position is going to be reposted and sent out to as many Tribal organizations as possible consistent with R5's newly developed recruitment strategy. The position will be open nationally and any US citizen can apply. Eric Chapman asked if there was any input from Tribes on the recruitment strategy and the answer was no.

EPA personnel actions involving the permanent WI Tribal Liaison position were completed on September 24, 2010. The permanent position is now officially vacant and may be posted in a few weeks. It is a GS 13 and is open to any US citizen. It will go on USA jobs.

Jeff Mears is now one of the WI RTOC alternates for Oneida. Tribal Caucus Bylaws need to be developed for the representatives but they are not complete yet, terms for representatives have not been set. The overall purpose of this meeting is for Environmental Directors and staff to bring WI Tribes' environmental concerns to the attention of the WI RTOC representatives. The WI RTOC representatives will then present the most important concerns to the IEO Director for placement on the RTOC agenda. Some issues that emerged from Kathy's visits with Tribes were grant and project officer issues. These issues were discussed by multiple Tribes so it may be something the RTOC reps could present to IEO for potential discussion at RTOC, or for use by the Regional Grants Consistency Workgroup.

Katie Stariha asked if we should also work on Wisconsin issues that do not need to necessarily go up to RTOC. It was agreed that this was a good idea.

## **2. NTOC Update**

Jeff Mears gave the update for Tehassi Hill who is on NTOC. Lisa Jackson wants to reinvigorate NTOC. Jeff discussed a document that the workgroup had developed and indicated more tribal input was needed to better balance the document. Recommendation 1 was to “Streamline NTC membership.” To that, Jeff indicated that we need more participation from EPA as well. Wisconsin Tribes should contact Tehassi Hill, Eric Chapman or Jeff Mears if they are interested in obtaining a copy of the document and providing input on the reinvorgation effort. This could be one issue to take to RTOC.

NTOC attendance cannot be funded by the GAP grant, which is different from RTOC representatives. The RTOC representatives get covered by EPA, but for NTOC if technical/support staff wants to attend meetings, the travel cannot be charged to any grant because NTOC is considered a lobbying effort. Back in early 1990s it was all Tribal chairs at RTOC meetings but since then that has slipped away. As the tribe’s attendance fell, EPA attendance dropped off as well. Why can’t grants pay for NTOC support staff being they are not lobbying, they are they to provide technical support to tribally elected officials? Jerry Thompson indicated that he heard about an Executive Order to pay for Tribal staff to meet with government staff.

## **3. Issues for RTOC**

1) Issue was raised about IEO getting GAP grants out on time. Kathy gave a report that it was due to EPA having to focus on getting the GLRI grants out on time. Kathy also reported to Willie Harris that Tribal staff may be laid off if the GAP grants are delayed because some Tribes do not have general funds to cover the gap in funding, or are not willing to risk pre-award costs. Willie Harris worked with the EPA grants office to ensure that quicker action would be taken. All WI Tribes’ GAP grants have been processed except for 2.

2) GAP conference is now called Tribal Environmental Manager Conference. Why were Tribes not asked about the change in name and format? It will now be more of an environmental conference instead of focusing on GAP issues. They are looking to have a whole track on mining because it is a big issue and environmental justice, plus more on environmental projects, etc. It was noted that it sounds like a good idea to expand it, but why were tribes not asked about it? Kathy indicated that evaluation forms from the last GAP Conference may have been used to provoke this change. There was a concern voiced that hopefully it doesn’t go too far out of the realm of GAP. Another thought was that it would be nice to see the conference held in Indian Country as well. Also, they could have an entire session on PPGs alone. Another idea was to bring GAP project officers from other regions to talk about how other Indian Offices function across the country.

3) Issues with grants starting at different times, PPGs, etc. Make sure the tribes AND EPA

project officers are proficient in using GAP online. Could Regional Grants Council work on that? We missed out by not having a liaison to educate us about PPGs, changing fiscal years, etc. Is there internal EPA software they can pull up something to see if the grants are late or behind? That way we could see if stuff is being entered as well.

4) Climate change. Not talked about much with EPA, concerned that our grants will not add up being we are not integrating climate change issues into our grant programs.

5) There needs to be a tribal set aside for GLRI. There are many issues with GLRI funding process. Kathy reported that she spoke to GLNPO staff about GLRI issues gathered during site visits. GLNPO responded that they'd heard the same concerns from other Tribes as well so they will hold a Great Lakes Caucus call on 10/29 to address all the GLRI questions at once.

6) Issue with letters going just to Tribal Chairs/Presidents and the support staff does not get it until it is too late. They need to copy support staff as well.

7) Katie Stariha indicated that it was very appalled watching the EPA staff on their Blackberries during the last RTOC. There were a lot of Tribal dignitaries there and she thought it was appalling. Tribal leaders should not be treated that way.

8) On CWA Section 106 conference calls there have been discussions about changing how CWA 106 funds are allocated to each region.

#### **4. Environmental Priorities**

Katie handed out the priorities that were developed at the last GAP conference (attached). She asked if people could fill out the 5 – 10 and send to Jeff Mears.

#### **5. Logistics for Future Meetings**

- 1) The purpose is to give environmental issues to WI RTOC representatives so that they can be elevated to RTOC agenda
- 2) Kathy Mayo will give update at each meeting
- 3) Kathy Mayo will contact state folks as needed
- 4) Let Kathy know a couple of weeks ahead of time if we want EPA staff to attend
- 5) Kathy will take the lead in developing agenda
- 6) Eric Chapman will moderate meetings with Jonathan Pyatskowitz
- 7) Meetings will be scheduled before each RTOC and other than that as needed
- 8) Kathy Mayo will sketch out a Fact Sheet for how the WI Caucus/EPA portion of the WTCAC meetings will work. It'll be a living document that can change as we all figure out what works best.

## **6. SPECIAL SESSION - Review small project completion reports**

Jonathan called a special session to review small project completion reports which was an item on the agenda for Thursday.

**Roll Call:** FCPC (Nate Guldan), LCO (Brett McConnell), Menominee (Jonathan Pyatskowitz), Mole Lake (Roman Ferdinand), St. Croix (Katie Stariha), Stockbridge-Munsee (Bob Frank) present. There is a quorum.

**MOTION:** Motion to undertake the Small Project Item from Thursday's agenda. Motion by Stockbridge-Munsee, seconded by St. Croix. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

- 1) GLIFWC Invasive Plant Risk Assessment/Prioritization Model. They gave the final report last time but he did submit a report in writing and a CD with everything on. A final budget was not included so Nate emailed Miles to request one.
- 2) LCO Deep Water Habitat Enhancement. Brett handed out the final report. The main purpose was to get fish cribs added to the WHIP docket. They did an experiment of different types of fish crib structures and their cost and effectiveness. A question was asked about placing the fish cribs on the ice in winter. Brett indicated that he doesn't recommend it as it is a hazard to snowmobiles, they can drift off on ice chunk, etc. Brett also indicated that they did get WI DNR permits.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve payment to LCO in the amount of \$4,447.54 for their Deep Water Habitat Enhancement project. Motion by Mole Lake, seconded by Stockbridge-Munsee. All ayes, zero opposed, LCO abstained, motion carried.

- 3) FCPC Otter Creek Stream Restoration and Fish Habitat Improvement Project – Preliminary Design. Nate handed out the final report for FCPC's project.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve payment to FCPC in the amount of \$15,692 for their Otter Creek Stream Restoration and Fish Habitat Improvement Project – Preliminary Design project. Motion by Mole Lake, seconded by LCO. All ayes, zero opposed, FCPC abstained, motion carried.

- 4) Lac du Flambeau's Powell Marsh Survey. Final report was presented by Eric Chapman. There was a question and discussion on the budget as it was unclear what the final budget was.

**MOTION:** Motion to table Lac du Flambeau's Powell Marsh Survey project until tomorrow to get clarification on the budget. Motion by FCPC, seconded by Stockbridge-Munsee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.



**MOTION:** Motion to adjourn for the day and reconvene at 8am in the morning. Motion by St. Croix, seconded by LCO. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

**Thursday, October 7**

Meeting called to order at 8:21 am by Jonathan Pyatskowit.

**1. Roll Call**

Present: FCPC (Nate Guldán), Ho-Chunk (Sara Schmidt), LCO (Brett McConnell), Menominee (Jonathan Pyatskowit), Mole Lake (Roman Ferdinand), Oneida (Pat Pelky, Jeff Mears), St. Croix (Katie Stariha, Tony Havranek), Stockbridge-Munsee (Bob Frank). A quorum is present.

Others Present: Kathy Mayo (U.S. EPA), Eric Chapman, Sr (Lac du Flambeau), JoAnn Cruse (APHIS), Susan Hunter (USDA-FSA), Tom Fredrickson (USDA-NRCS), Tom Krapf (USDA-NRCS), Sherrie Zenk-Reed (USDA-NRCS), Tony Bush (USDA-NRCS), Jerry Thompson (WTCAC)

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Added U.S. EPA update to the agenda as Kathy has a few things. WisCorps could not make it to the meeting, but they would like to come to the next one.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve agenda with addition. Motion by Stockbridge-Munsee, seconded by Oneida. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

**3. Small Project Final Reports (continued from the previous day)**

1) Lac du Flambeau's Powell Marsh Survey. Eric Chapman indicated that he was informed that on the last page of the report the columns on the right are the final budget for the project so they are only requesting \$14,010.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve payment to Lac du Flambeau in the amount of \$14,010 for their Powell Marsh Survey project. Motion by LCO, seconded by St. Croix. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

2) GLIFWC Invasive Plant Risk Assessment/Prioritization Model. Miles sent an email and indicated to go off of the budget in project proposal. It was determined that WTCAC still needed a final project budget.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve payment to GLIFWC in the amount of \$6,948 for their Invasive Plant Risk Assessment/Prioritization Model project contingent on receiving a final budget from GLIFWC. Motion by Stockbridge-Munsee, seconded by LCO. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

UPDATE: Miles emailed to final budget to Nate and it is now in the WTCAC files.

3) Bad River Invasive Species Assessment.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve payment to Bad River in the amount of \$6,641.92 for their Invasive Species Assessment project. Motion by Oneida, seconded by Stockbridge-Munsee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

#### **4. Website**

Jordan from Rising Flame gave a presentation on WTCAC's website. Visitors to the website can register. He could set up email addresses with the domain WTCAC.org if we wanted. Travel form is on the website. There is a manual on a CD that will be given to all Tribes and Jerry on how to work with the website. He can set up a test site so Jerry can mess with it without it being publicly visible. He charges \$65/hr for any extra work; he will let us know upfront if there will be any charges when we ask for something. The maintenance contract will cost \$20/month.

#### **5. Approval of Minutes**

In Item #8 need to clarify that WTCAC is now the Tribal caucus.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve the August 12, 2010 minutes with modification. Motion by St. Croix, seconded by Oneida. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

#### **6. NRCS Update**

Tom Krapf gave the NRCS update. Tom discussed the Tribal consultation meetings that are occurring. He is representing all of USDA on this. He handed out letters that went to each Tribal Chair. USDA is contacting 565 Tribal Chairs making them aware of meetings that will occur. In this area, the meeting will be November 8 and 9 in Minneapolis. They will also be sending Tribal Chairs a CD with Farm Bill rules on them. He will leave it up to USDA to explain what changes can still be made. The majority of the rules are final so this is after the fact. All USDA agencies will be represented. We may want to contact our Tribal Chairs to make sure they received the information, if not let Tom know. There are 60 some rule changes to be looked at. A good message to send to chairs would be to push for a title in the next Farm Bill and that Tribes should be consulted PRIOR to rule making not after the fact.

A draft copy of the waiver request NRCS is going to submit was given to Jonathan for comment before it is sent out. All the waivers that are being requested were lumped into one waiver.

A copy of the FY2011 WTCAC cookbook was distributed.

At the last meeting it was suggested that NRCS tour some of the fish hatchery sites so Matt Otto picked some dates with Keith Sengbusch to set up site visits. They wanted to go to Michigan to see what was done at that site so they could see how EQIP was used.

Brett brought up an issue with the crop tree release practice as the cost was dropped dramatically. The purpose was changed in that they do not want anyone actually cutting. The money is there to be used for the foresters to mark trees but not do any of the cutting (release). Tom Krapf said he will look into it. Brett said this is a major concern for LCO and Lac du Flambeau because this is a big part of their programs.

EQIP and WHIP sign up will run from November 15 until January 14. Tony Bush passed out a handout in which the items in yellow are new.

\*\*\*\*\*Tony Bush also handed out last year's EQIP and WHIP ranking tools. Each Tribe needs to select their resources concerns and get them back to Tony by the end of October if possible.

\*\*\*\*\*Everyone needs to come to the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting with all EQIP and WHIP projects ready to go. The projects need to be approved by NRCS and the costs need to be determined.

## **7. APHIS Update**

JoAnn Cruse gave the update for APHIS. In 2010, 8200 traps were placed and no new finds were discovered that resulted in a new quarantine area. They thought for sure they would find some new areas but they did not. The traps that tribes put out should be down and please provide the trapping data to her with GPS coordinates.

She handed out the 2011 survey plan for EAB. The pink area in Wisconsin will be around 6000 traps in a roughly 6 x 6 mile grid. Yellow is grid of 2 x 2 miles. They are still working with purple traps and they may send out a few experimental traps. Not much research has been done on submerging ash trees to have for the future. APHIS is interesting in working with Tribes on this so if anyone is interested in it APHIS is interested in working with someone so please let them know. WTCAC is looking at starting a subcommittee to look into preserving black ash (APHIS and USFS involvement in subcommittee as well). Pat Pelky indicated he will try to get their Forester (Dan Brooks) to get something started. Jerry indicated the new grant could pay for a small project on this. Pat will get it going and bring something back to the next meeting. Guys at USFS Forest Products Lab in Madison were interested in trying to get something started on this as well.

If any Tribes are interested in hosting an emergency management tabletop exercise in March or April and then a full scale in August to deal with a new infestation of something let JoAnn know. Jonathan indicated that Menominee may be interested. He asked JoAnn to write up a little proposal that he could present to Council. JoAnn will send the proposal out to all the Tribes.

They are looking at current gypsy moth trap data and there are some increases in the numbers up in north. Ashland, Bayfield, Jackson and Price counties may be affected this year.

She has no info on the VHS program. Question brought up wondering if they will continue with the program next year.

### **8. FSA Update**

Susan Hunter out of Rhinelander office was here. As of now she is representing FSA and will try to make it to all meetings. FSA does not have a lot of programs for Tribes as most programs deal with loans and conventional crops. She got a call on wild rice losses this year. In the past they have been able to provide some damage assistance. If it is cultivated they can provide help but as of now they cannot provide loss coverage for tribes. If any Tribes have losses, Susan will get the information out to the National Tribal Development Association. The reason tribes cannot be reimbursed is because the new Farm Bill changed the language. Roman is going to investigate the change in language.

She handed out a fact sheet on the conservation loan program. This loan can be used to borrow money for EQIP and WHIP projects the producer cannot come up with the money.

The biomass crop assistance program came out before the comment period was over which turned out to be a mess. They stopped funding halfway through the sign up and did not fund anyone after they stopped funding. They got over 20,000 comments and the whole program will be changed for next year.

### **9. EPA Update**

The update was given by Kathy Mayo. EPA has a new national consultation policy and the comment period closed in September and they are hoping to finalize it by February. They are developing a regional work group in Region 5. The work group formed and it includes 8 EPA representatives and 4 Tribal representatives. Eric Chapman from Lac du Flambeau, Tehassi Hill from Oneida, and Rachel Smolinski from Michigan are Tribal representatives. They have not found a representative from Minnesota but Stan Ellison with Shakopee is going to serve until they find someone. (Since the meeting, Levi Brown has agreed to be the representative from Minnesota). The first meeting is on October 21 in Chicago.

EPA would like to partner with Tribal Colleges as much as possible. There is a project they are hoping to get underway soon on Tribal Risk Assessment, maybe at LCO.

There are 2 workshops/trainings coming up. Menominee will be hosting an EPA Grants Training on October 12 and 13. Oneida will be hosting a strategic planning workshop on November 16 and 17.

## **10. WTCAC Update**

1) Jonathan's DC Trip – Jonathan was invited to sit on a panel for training for the new State Conservationists. Jonathan was on a panel in the morning with a Tribal elder, a Tribal Chair, and Brian Patterson, President of the United South and Eastern Tribes. Three of the people in the training had come out of Wisconsin and had exposure to WTCAC in the past. WTCAC got a couple of requests for assistance and there may be more forthcoming. The afternoon was a panel of NRCS folks from the National NRCS Office. Jonathan brought forth some of the early years, how we got involved, and the uniqueness of Tribes. He thinks we will continue to generate requests for assistance. He talked to the State Conservationist from Nevada and found that it was very interesting that BIA serves as a barrier to working with NRCS in Nevada. He handed out copies of our report and he is now out of them.

2) Washington and Florida Trips – Two weeks ago WTCAC was invited to Washington State to present at the Northwest Alliance of Tribes annual conference (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, part of Montana). There were approximately 600 people and 40 some tribes in attendance. A group of Tribes want to develop a TCAC. Jerry informed that how WTCAC got formed and how WTCAC functions. He found out that aquaculture and associated practices were an issue for them as well. They are sick and tired of going to State Tech Committees and being patted on the head like token Indians. They liked the idea that we hold our own meeting and that NRCS folks come to our meetings and listened to us.

Jerry is supposed to be going to Florida the 24 – 27 of October to talk about WTCAC and Pat Leavenworth is going as well. It is a meeting of the United South and Eastern Tribes however only the southern Tribes will be at this meeting. Pat is going to present on the history of WTCAC in the morning.

3) TCAC Training – WTCAC decided on the dates of April 5 – 7 for the TCAC training at Oneida. Tom Krapf indicated that Jerry should let Pat Leavenworth know the title of sessions we want NRCS to lead and they will get things delegated.

Monday – Travel Day

Tuesday & Wednesday – Training

Thursday – Travel day

4) Interns – We have several locations determined for interns:

USFS in Ashland with Red Cliff

APHIS Wildlife Services partnering with Bad River – APHIS would prefer we transfer the money to them and they would be an APHIS Employee

Rhineland NRCS

Shawano NRCS

Oneida  
Spooner NRCS

They should either be all Federal positions or all WTCAC positions. Job descriptions will be developed to include each specific Tribe. A work schedule of May 31 – August 5 would be 10 weeks.

5) INCA/IAC Conference

Jerry is looking for a couple of directors to accompany him to the INCA/IAC Conference in Las Vegas to promote WTCAC. The conference is scheduled for December 6 – 10.

6) Annual Report – \*\*\*\*\*Everyone needs to get information to Jerry by the end of December on the EQIP, WHIP, or WTCAC small projects completed in FY2010 (October 2009 – September 2010)\*\*\*\*\*

7) Employee Handbook – Jerry handed out the WTCAC Employee Policy Manual.

WTCAC has a \$700 policy right now on Jerry for Workman's Compensation. The cost of the policy is based on the amount of wages you pay out. When we hire students, the policy will go up a little bit because it is based on wages and risk. We will be charged extra once we exceed 3 employees because the payment system he bought through Quickens was only for 3 employees. A little extra charge for the few months we have summer employees.

We went through the policy manual and had a long discussion on it.

Jerry handed out his timesheets and reports for his last quarter as a contractor. He came in under budget for the year. Jerry will continue to do these reports as an employee.

Jonathan will be Jerry's supervisor and Nate would be back up if Jonathon is not available.

8) Farm Bill – There is potentially some opportunity to raise the issue of the Tribal Title in the Farm Bill. Send comments to Jerry and he can compile them and work with Jonathan to get a letter together.

**11. Small Projects (continued)**

1) Bad River's Culvert Assessment and Remediation.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve payment to Bad River in the amount of \$9,240 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their Culvert Assessment and Remediation Project. Motion by St. Croix, seconded by Oneida. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

2) Oneida Sugar Camp and Community Cordwood Building. The project came in way under the budget of \$15,000 because the cost estimate was way high.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve payment to Oneida in the amount of \$6,848 for their Sugar Camp and Community Cordwood Building project. Motion by FCPC, seconded by Stockbridge-Munsee. All ayes, zero opposed, Oneida abstained, motion carried.

3) Ho-Chunk's Soil and Vegetation Contaminant Analysis.

**MOTION:** Motion to approve payment to Ho-Chunk in the amount of \$1,700 for Year 1 of their Soil and Vegetation Contaminant Analysis Project. Motion by LCO, seconded by Oneida. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

### **12. Financial Report**

WTCAC did not spend about \$8,700 of the last Earmark.

### **13. Election of President**

Nate Guldán nominated Jonathan Pyatskowitz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brett McConnell. Jonathan accepted the nomination.

**MOTION:** Motion to elect Jonathan Pyatskowitz to another term as WTCAC's President. Motion by FCPC, seconded by LCO. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

Jonathan is re-elected president of WTCAC.

### **14. Next Meeting**

Small Project proposals should go on next agenda. We need to discuss the development of a small project policy at the next meeting. Bring potential project ideas along.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 2 at Menominee.

**MOTION:** Motion to adjourn. Motion by Oneida, seconded by Ho-Chunk. All ayes, zero opposed motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:22 pm.