

WTCAC Meeting, May 15, 2019

Roll Call: FCPC, Ho-Chunk, LCO, Mole Lake, Oneida, Red Cliff, Stockbridge

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the February 11, 2019 WTCAC Meeting Minutes by Red Cliff, 2nd by LCO. All in favor, motion carries.

APHIS Update

Wildlife Services – Farm Bill - \$75 million of 5 years directed towards establishing a program for feral swine control and eradication. Partnership with NRCS. They are hosting a WTCAC Intern, they hired him directly. He will start June 3 with orientation on June 4. They have cooperative agreements with DNR and GLIWFC to manage beaver at wild rice lakes. They just started a cooperative agreement with Menominee helping them get more wolves collared for monitoring.

PPQ – Proposals for plant pest survey and outreach projects will be open in a few weeks. Christopher is out of state this week, they are starting the gypsy moth trapping. Also doing velvet longhorn beetle trapping at high risk site with DATCP. Looking at doing an EAB/Black Ash workshop next year in the upper Midwest.

USFS Update – Mary Rasmussen – Farm Bill call later today. They don't have communication materials yet so they do not have a lot of details right now. National consultation items will be coming out, revisions to NEPA directives, new USFS manual for leasing of administrative sites (Tribes not mentioned in this), phasing of 106 consultation. The National Rainbow gathering is coming to either Wisconsin or Minnesota.

Farm Bill adds Tribes in Good Neighbor; Tribal lands are now considered non-industrial private lands so Tribes are now eligible for grants. Sent a letter out to all Tribes last week about the Forest Health Group. They have staff on board if you have any kind of issues with tree diseases or trees dying.

NRCS Update

Angela Biggs – no major changes with EQIP, they is now a stewardship component portion of EQIP but not certain what it will be. CSP still exists; instead of being acres based it is a dollars based program, which affects how they receive funds. They are no going to be able to have EQIP practices available for new and anticipated resources concerns, focused on extreme weather event issues. Basically, you don't have to have a problem before they can address it, still awaiting details on what it will look like. This will likely be available in 2020. 10% of their funding needs to go to source water protection. This can be used to protect areas that are already in good condition. Passed out a list of questions that were at a national Farm Bill Listening session. They are looking for feedback on these questions; please get any comments we have to Chris. Deadline for applications for 2nd sign up is May 17. The next sign up will be this fall, please work with Tribal liaisons to get things planned. Now have conifer planting in reed canary grass scenario. They funded all Forest Management Plans in the state; they have plenty of TSPs to

complete these if Tribes are interested. We will need to rank the projects for the 2nd sign up. Ranking will need to be done by June.

Rural Development – Frank – 50% of new programs that were added to the Farm Bill have to do with the new Farm Bill so they have a lot of work to do. Establish a RD Tribal Technical Assistance Office, counties Tribal Promise Zones initiative, creates a Tribal Advisory Council, Broadband and telecommunications provisions, reauthorized the Tribal College and University Essential Community Services Program and rural entrepreneurship program. Value added program will still be administered through RD. There are 2 tribal projects that will be competing nationally, he added State Director points to help with them. IAC can help with cash match for value added program. Goal is to have all rules update by the 2020 growing season, hope to have all rules out from comment by October 1. Combating substance abuse, 20% of all community facilities and distance learning funding goes towards substance abuse.

FSA – Kim – She does not have a lot of specific information. Distributed an FSA fact sheet on the new Farm Bill. For the most part, FSA didn't change a whole lot. On the top of the priority list is the dairy program. CRP acreage has been gradually increased as they have been at the cap in recent years. She passed out the farm loan information chart. They also have loans available for Tribes to purchase lands within Reservation Boundaries. Each state was authorized to hire a beginning farming coordinator to assist beginning farmers.

IAC – Great lakes intertribal food summit was held in Michigan recently. They had over 700 people attend. They had 85 people attend a soil health training. IAC's long time Executive Director retired and Dan's boss is the new Executive Director.

Annual Report – Chris is trying to finish it, he will be sending a draft. Needed a page from other agency partners that want to be included in the annual report.

TASK - Alan send reminder to federal agencies on providing a section for annual report

Wetland Subcommittee – Wetland training set up in Oneida in August for Floristic Quality and Functional Assessment of Wetlands.

Motion to approve contract for Wetland Training by Stockbridge, 2nd by Mole Lake. All in favor, motion carries.

Forestry Subcommittee – USFS has been working on an MOU with WTCAC. A draft copy was passed out. They will make some edits and prepare it for approval at the next meeting.

TASK – Work on MOU and distribute prior to next meeting

Changed wording on funding agreement with USFS from intern to students.

Motion to approve modification to funding agreement with USFS to change wording from intern to student by Ho-Chunk, 2nd by Stockbridge. All in favor, motion carries.

Conservation Collaboration Proposal – Narrative and budget was send out with deliverables. There were some changes based on Tribal input. We are asking for \$739K. We have close to a 10% match even though there is no match requirement. Involves training for all of the Tribes and the hiring and involvement of a Resource Conservationist and Engineer full time over 3 years.

TASK – Remove Project Outcome 2.13

TASK – 2.8, 2.9, 2.10 remove number of Tribes

TASK – Remove Tribe names and change from five to six Tribes in 2.4

TASK – Change 2.7 to say “up to 6 Tribes” and remove acres and Tribe names

Motion to approve Conservation Collaboration Grant Proposal with listed changes and potential additional in-kind by LCO, 2nd by Ho-Chunk. All in favor, motion carries.

Auditor – Received 3 proposals from 3 different auditors, WIPFLI (\$2,000), Baumann And Associates (\$5,000), and Hawkins Ash (\$5,500). WIPFLI was electronic financial statement review the other two were on site reviews, which is why Alan thinks they are higher.

Motion to develop a contract with WIPFLI for the audit by Red Cliff, 2nd by LCO. All in favor, motion carries.

Internships – two interns were approved. One with APHIS –WS and one for outreach and education. USFS engineering applicant from Oklahoma and he is Muscogee (Creek). Another application for RMS in Saint Paul and is Navajo. Another application from Navajo and is to be placed with Outreach and Education. Another Navajo applicant for placement with Outreach and Education.

Motion to approve the four additional interns, APHIS-WS, USFS, and 2 Outreach and Education by Stockbridge, 2nd by Mole Lake. All in favor, motion carries.

TASK – Discuss how we get more Wisconsin interns

TASK – Alan work with Lacey to come up with a plan to bring Lacey to 40 hours per week

TASK – Alan have Keith work with Tribes to get pollinator seed and labor costs

TASK – Zero in with APHIS PPQ regarding new Farm Bill Proposals

TASK – Discuss with Erin a formulation for tracking match.

Next Meeting – August 6 and 7 at Oneida, starting at 1pm on the 6th and all day on the 7th

Motion to enter Executive Session by LCO, 2nd by Stockbridge. All in favor, motion carries.

Motion to exit Executive Session by LCO, 2nd by Stockbridge, all in favor motions carries.

Motion to grant Jerry 8 horus of annual leave per 80 hours work by Stockbridge, 2nd by Ho-chunk, all in favor, motions carries.

Motion to adjourn by Ho-chunk, 2nd by FCPC, all in favor, motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 12:10.

Discussion will continue without quorum.