

WISCONSIN TRIBAL CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 2, 2006

HOSTED BY: BAD RIVER

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (WTCAC) was called to order by Jean Buffalo-Reyes, President at 9:00 a.m. on November 2, 2006, at the Bad River Lodge & Convention Center located in Bad River Wisconsin.

II. Roll Call

Present: Red Cliff, Jean Buffalo-Reyes
Mole Lake, Roman Ferdinand
Stockbridge, Bert Davids
Lac Du Flambeau, Scott McDougal
Ho Chunk, Bill Hopinkah
Forest County, Nate Guldau
Bad River, Rae Ann Maday
Lac Courte Orielles, Brett McConnell
St. Croix, Katie Staraha
Menominee, ABSENT
Oneida, Pat Pelky
QLIFWC, Jim Thannum

Other Attendees:

Becky Lemieux, Tony Bush, Deanna Cloud Moore, Julie Malvitz, Sylvia Redschlag, David Olson, Joanne Cruise, Luis Salas

Quorum: ___ No ___ Yes X Tribes Represented (10)

III. Approval of Minutes September 28, 2006

Oneida motions to approve minutes of September 28, 2006 seconded by Bad River; all ayes 0 opposed, 0 abstentions motion carried.

IV. NRCS UPDATE:

Policy Part 405; American Indians and Alaska Natives handout was given to attendees. Advisory Councils are identified as a mechanism for Tribal Governments to utilize in providing advice and counsel to NRCS-USDA Programs.

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) October 2006 list of eligible practices and payment schedule for the State of Wisconsin handout was given to attendees. In the past WTCAC has provided dialogue, input and recommendation into establishing eligible practices on tribal lands.

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) October, 2006 list of eligible practices and payment schedule for the State of Wisconsin handout was given to attendees. In the past WTCAC has provided dialogue, input and recommendation into establishing eligible practices on tribal lands.

WTCAC application ranking summary for EQIP and WHIP Programs: Reviewed the ranking tool identifying the national priorities level, state and local issues. Points are ranked according to the questions answered at each level. The ranking score is designed to review each level which identifies each ranking score high, medium and low.

WHIP program is identifying a pre-screening tool for the Karner Blue Butterfly. The purpose of this questionnaire is to provide a method to assess property for the targeted wildlife species which is state and federally endangered. This questionnaire will help determine if the land in which you wish to enroll in WHIP can meet the Wildlife Resource Management System (RMS).

Tribal EQIP Program for fiscal year 2007 handout.
This handout identifies interested Tribal producers that may apply in person at the USDA locations listed in the handout given.

V. APHIS UPDATE:

JoAnn Cruse provided a brief most recent update on the status of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) plan that APHIS has been working on currently in Wisconsin and surrounding states.

VI. WTCAC update:

Emerald Ash Borer Project:

Executive Director Ritchie Brown provided the attendees a power point presentation on the project status briefing of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) project with WTCAC. Some tribal Reps are interested in getting copies of the power point presentation.

Section 106 Consultation Project status briefing:

Ritchie will be meeting with the Tribal Historic Preservation officers (THPO) next week in Turtle Lake. Ritchie will be meeting with them to further discuss establishing a protocol and/or policy in working with WTCAC and NRCS.

VII. NRCS Forestry Committee update:

Ritchie requested that this item to be tabled and will update us at the next meeting. A Consensus of the Board to table for discussion at next meeting.

VIII. Farm Bill update:

WTCAC will need to get a working committee together to review the Native American Development Plan Initiative submitted to Congress during this current farm bill. A working committee will get together a few days before our next WTCAC meeting in January 2007 in Oneida. This committee will compose of the officers of WTCAC and any other interested Tribal Representative. Notice will go out on the date that we set for our next WTCAC meeting to be held in Oneida.

VX. New Business:

Ritchie Brown is recommending that the WTCAC position SEC/Treasurer be combined. Motion by Oneida to combine position and appoint Rae Ann Maday in the Secretary/Treasurer position. Seconded by Ho Chunk. All ayes 0 opposed 0 abstentions motion

carried.

Discussion Mole Lake Rep Roman Ferdinand suggested we continue our efforts of Strategic planning for WTCAC. At our last WTCAC meeting held at the Indian Springs Lodge in Carter Wisconsin Chris Borden assisted us in the planning process. We need to continue this process for long term perpetuity. We also need to review our contract obligations. We also need to continue to work on our 501 c 3 application with Judicare.

Lac Du Flambeau motions to adjourn meeting seconded by Bad River. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.