

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council

November 8, 2007

Black River Falls, Wisconsin

Welcome-9:15 am

Roll call; Bad River, Sokaogon, Menominee, LCO, FCP, LDF, Oneida, St. Croix

Absent; Ho-Chunk, Stockbridge, Red Cliff

Approval of agenda-motion to add executive session at end by Oneida, second lco. Vote all in favor, motion passed

Approval of minutes from July 19, 2007 –motion to approve,-motion to approve, second Menominee- question? Should we add executive session to minutes? Add minutes from executive session.

September 3, 2007-motion to approve, no second, moved to table until executive session is added. Motion approved.

NRCS update-concluded fiscal year- and concluded 2002 farm bill.

House passed its version of farm bill, senate is at standstill in passing its version. The administration favors conservation- early equip sign up still under old rules.

Plant materials liaison for ash seed posters (Dave Burgoff) let Jerry know if interested.

Major storm event that overran some structures, dams in southern Wisconsin.

Jerry-IAC/INCA Conference. Passed out information for conference. There is a chance for 500 funding supplement.

American Indians and Alaska natives guide to USDA programs.

Jerry will be in training for standards over-site committee to teach us how to write standards that pertain to us.

Wisconsin land and water conservation alliance conference-

NRCS will get back to us on the training we need to do to get standards developed to meet our needs. Such as invasives???

Met with Chequamegon National Forest supervisor, Jeanne Higgins- who is interested in coming and meeting with us about things that they are doing, such as something about slash used for heating. Jerry will coordinate when we are ready. Bio-fuels is going to be in the next farm-bill, with funding opportunities.

Department of energy has open solicitation for projects, there is an opportunity for funding.

Looking for entrepreneur to take over project-took slash and manure and made a bench of composite materials. See Jerry about details.

What meeting do we want them to come to??

Second EQIP sign-up for tribes? Current sign up ends November 16, do we need another later sign up for Stockbridge, and/or other tribes? Save for equip discussion Jerry-is assigned to wtac, so we can talk to him about establishing partners, getting out information to technicians, engineers, his phone # 715-299-0353.

Pat has asked jerry to arrange another harmony training-Sokaogon volunteered to host.

Tribal equip applications-Tony Bush had each tribe do their own presentation.

Stockbridge project, preapproved pending second sign-up. Motion to approve Oneida, LCO, second, motion to approve passed.  
Menominee project-motion to approve, FCP, Oneida, second. Motion to approve passed.

Lac du flambeau project-motion to approve, LCO, Menominee, second, motion to approve passed.  
Forest County Potawatomi project- motion to approve, Oneida, St Croix, second. Motion to approve passed.

St Croix projects- discussion of who has regulation over waterways within Reservation boundaries? Federal agencies may have for some things but it is not consistent and question can also issue permits for some projects. Issues, if this is not worked out by Dec 31, the money will have to be sent back. Motion to approve, Sokaogon, FCP, second, Motion to approve passed.

Sokaogon projects- motion to approve, Oneida, Menominee, second. Motion to approve passed.

Lac Courte Oreilles Projects- motion to approve, FCP, Oneida, second. Motion to approve passed.

Oneida project-motion to approve, Sokaogon, St.Croix, second , Motion to approved passed , 1 abstained.

Total of funds granted-\$310,580.95  
Returned \$138,419.35.

Small grants- NRCS needs to do the NEPA and 106 process for projects.

WHIP is still not authorized at this moment, could come back when new farm bill is approved. If you want to present a project, keep in mind that this will be a quick turnaround time.

Motion to adjourn into executive session, Oneida, Bad River, second. Motion passed.

#### Executive session-

Pat and Jerry- submitted financial record. Pat is satisfied with how the money was spent. Undelivered products. Jerry said that there was \$22,000 that was not accounted for. But said that he found it was submitted for Tribal travel reimbursements. Has work products that are from first earmark that were not done. The missing piece is we need to redo the contract/workplan for both contracts to reflect the changes.

Amendment of workplan-handed out to Pat and Jerry, Jerry will send amendments already made which I will send out to FCP. Check with Jean about sending letter about changing amendments to contracts.

Contract 36-Tribal travel and Ritchie.

Jerry will do a training for us for January 23, on “how to write a practice” to be held in Mole Lake.

They are putting earmarks back into budgets.....talk to Senator Kohls staff about earmark for us in next budget.

Discussion ;

Motion to move out of executive session, Sokaogon, FCP second. Motion passed.

Motion to terminate contract of Executive Director, Ritchie Brown due to his services no longer being needed. By LCO, Sokaogon, second. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn LCO, St. Croix, second. Motion passed.

Read by-laws and see what may need to be changed.

Record of what we talked about by-laws and need to be changed from meeting in mole lake.

Handed out amendments for contracts 44 and 36. motion to approve changes and submit to Mrs. Oneida, second, menomineed. Motion voted on and passed.

Handed out letter from Sylvia to pat asking questions about 106 process. Send comments to nate by next the end of next.

Motion to leave, motion passed

Executive Session  
October ~~2~~ 2007  
Oneida, Wisc

10/3/07

Executive session-with Pat Leavenworth and Jerry Thompson  
action being taken to correct documentation of expenditures.  
ask if we could amend the contract with nrcs to reflect changes that we have made and  
need to reflect.

Motion to call to order, by fcp, second by mole lake, motion passed

Travel form, suggestion to change some things,

Motion to approve order form, by fcp-second by hochunk

What was the response of contractor to submitting reports?

Refuses to submit progress reports.

Motion as of Sept 6, 2007 two names authorized to sign checks at wtac account are Vice  
Pres, Paul and Treasurer, Rae Ann Maday

By mole lake, seconded by fcp, motion passed

Issues with executive director

Contractor has not submitted any quarterly progress or financial reports.

Want a detailed progress report of small projects.

Check into when Jean was replaced by Melanie Montano

Letter submitted to Ritchie requesting copies of all open contracts

Lco, fcp, Oneida, mole lake, bad river

Go back and review the Carter meeting in which Ritchie was appointed ED, and see what  
action was taken with his signature??