

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 7, 2014
Ho-Chunk

Meeting called to order at 8:15am by Pat Pelky.

1. Roll Call

Present: FCPC (Nate Guldan), LCO (Brett McConnell), Lac du Flambeau (Gus Theobald, Scott McDougall), Menominee (Jeremy Pyatskowitz), Mole Lake (Tina Van Zile), Oneida (Pat Pelky), St. Croix (Tony Havranek), Bad River (Lacey Hill – phoned in)

A quorum is present.

Others Present: Randy Gilbertson (WTCAC), Tom Melnarik (NRCS), Keith Sengbusch (WTCAC), Jimmy Bramblett (NRCS), Chris Borden (NRCS), Tony Bush (NRCS)

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Motion to approve agenda. Motion by Menominee, seconded by St. Croix. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Motion to approve the November 20, 2013 WTCAC Meeting Minutes. Motion by Menominee, seconded by LCO. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

4. NRCS Update

Jimmy Bramblett – He has a request for us, he was contacted by Juan Hernandez, Maine State Conservationist, and he would like to participate in a future WTCAC meeting. We would definitely be open to that. March 4 is the meeting in Madison. Jimmy will also reach out to the New York State Conservationist. They have about a 7% reduction this year, last year it was an 8% reduction so 15% over the last 2 years. Even with that, the WTCAC funding if there is a reduction may only be about 1%. They are meeting on the EQIP allocations across the state tomorrow.

Pathways – they are under a microscope as far as hiring is concerned right now. They hire through merit and delegated exam (this is how they advertise outside of government). USDA is giving up authority to hire from outside. Right now they are at the mercy of the USDA reorganization effort. They were told the priorities for hiring of the street are 1) students 2) entry level 3) need high level of justification for anything above that. So Pathways may be an option. We should make our students aware of these opportunities. There are potential NRCS pathways positions in Oneida, Rhinelander, Shawano, Onalaska, Balsam Lake, Spooner, and Ashland. They are looking at hiring 4 – 8 students for pathways.

Working Effectively with American Indians Course – they submitted an official proposal and they are trying to have the state conservationist version of that course. They should find out next month what the schedule is going to be.

5. EQIP Projects Review and Approval

Chris Borden – Thanked WTCAC for all the work we have done over the years taking a hard look at the standards and scenarios. There were significant questions regarding resource concerns in the past year and they really appreciate all of the Tribal folks that asked hard questions of them. Stockbridge-Munsee does not have any applications coming in this year; they are using this year as a catch up. There is \$686,574 in EQIP Applications on Tribal lands (see attachment). Of this, there may be some additional request made by Bad River up to around \$10,000. \$300,000 is a request for aquaculture ponds and practices from Lac du Flambeau. Jimmy indicated that it is safe to approve \$450,000 today until they figure out the final allocation. Oneida has Agriculture Energy Management Plans that will be separate from the WTCAC allocation.

MOTION: Motion to give Lac du Flambeau’s aquaculture application a low ranking and to give all other applications a high ranking. Motion by Menominee, seconded by Lac du Flambeau. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

6. Heating the Midwest

Mike Troge – Oneida is exploring bioenergy ideas for the future and they are also involved with Heating the Midwest a, 501c3 out of Minnesota that promotes bioenergy. He has been at their last 2 conferences. This year the conference will be in Oneida. The conference will be April 29 – May 1.

7. Science in the Northwoods

Conference being held September 15 – 17 at Camp Manitowish and they are looking for presenters to highlight all the work the Tribes are doing, contact Gretchen Watkins at Lac du Flambeau.

8. Forestry Subcommittee Meeting

They met with the USFS yesterday (minutes attached).

9. Personnel Subcommittee Meeting

Discussion on 1 full time program manager position or 1 – half time program manager and 1 – half time grant manager/writer.

It was decided to hire 1 full time position to replace Jerry. Personnel Committee will work on a job posting and then circulate and then make motion to post. Chris Borden will help with job announcement.

10. EPA GLRI Report

Randy has the revised budgets to pull money to put into administration because Jerry was spending so much time on it. Rules are the same this coming summer as they were last year. Randy has ones from FCPC and Red Cliff. He will be working on preparing for the next GLRI RFP. Randy will send out information on next proposal. When do we want to start GLRI staff this summer? Jerry will send out updated GLRI accounting spreadsheet.

11. AmeriCorps Grant

Keith – they are moving right along. They have made a lot of site visits and have more coming up. They had the tour at Nelson and Pade. FCPC was selected for the WTCAC plan. Planning to do more of a generic community garden project with AmeriCorps than just aquaponics.

MOTION: Motion to approve the Nelson and Pade contract for \$4,500 to develop a project plan for FCPC and to authorize Pat Pelky to sign the contract . Motion by Menominee, seconded by LCO. All ayes, zero opposed, FCPC abstains, motion carried.

12. APHIS Grant

They are working with APHIS to put together a training plan. APHIS wants Jerry and Randy to travel to Fort Collins, Colorado from January 27 – 30 and February 24 – 28.

MOTION: Motion to approve Jerry and Randy’s travel and travel expense for January 27 – 30 and February 24 – 28 to For Collins, Colorado. Motion by Mole Lake, seconded Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

13. NRCS Grant

Jimmy would like WTCAC to set up a meeting with him and the BIA Director. Chris Borden suggested we wait until an MOU that was developed between NRCS, FSA, and BIA rolls out.

When Randy and Keith work with the Tribes these are deliverables, WTCAC meetings are deliverables, the Technical Recommendations Meeting is a deliverable. A lot of these deliverables we are also delivering to the other agencies.

14. Audit

MOTION: Motion to approve audit expenses of \$3,000 through January 3, 2014. Motion by Mole Lake, seconded Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried.

He needs everything for all the special projects that were paid.

15. Small Projects

LCO requested the reminder of their small project award for their floating raceways.

MOTION: Motion to approve payment of \$419.26 to LCO for their Floating Raceways small project. Motion by Mole Lake, seconded Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, LCO abstains, motion carried.

16. Aquaculture Subcommittee

Tony – He would like a copy of LCO’s special project to put it in their files. They would like to move onto the floating raceways at some point. Chris Borden – They need to make sure the resource concerns are taken care of in a lake then they would be able to make requests for expansion of existing ponds and the construction of new ponds. It would be good to have an aquaculture subcommittee meeting in February.

17. Action Items

- Jerry will draft memo with Tony, Scott, and Keith's help for the aquaculture costs
- Forestry Subcommittee will develop a spreadsheet
- Personnel subcommittee will develop a program manager job posting with the help of Chris and then email out to WTCAC for approval
- Get information for small projects – Red Cliff, SBM, Ho-Chunk, Mole Lake, LCO
- Review task list and provide Nate with updates
- Anything for technical recommendation issues and such please send to Randy and Keith
- Tony set up an aquaculture subcommittee meeting

18. Task List

Please go through and send updates and to Nate.

19. Executive Session

No Executive Session was requested.

20. Next Meetings

The Aquaculture Subcommittee Meeting will be held sometime in February.

March 4th is Technical Recommendation Meeting in Madison, with a meeting to prepare the afternoon of the 3rd.

21. CSP

CSP sign up deadline for application is February 7th. It would be an awfully good year to get one funded.

MOTION: Motion to adjourn. Motion by St. Croix, seconded by Menominee. All ayes, zero opposed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm.

ATTACHMENTS

2014 Tribal EQIP

Oneida		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)	Payment Years	Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
Stream Crossing	Stream Crossing	578	3640	sq ft	Rock-surfaced	1.58	1	5,752.00	high	
	Total									
CAP 1	Ag Energy Mgt Plan - CAP	122	1	ea	Livestock-medium	1,904.16	1	1,905.00	N/A	900
	Total									
CAP 2	Ag Energy Mgt Plan - CAP	122	1	ea	Livestock- small	1,455.39	1	1,456.00	N/A	900
	Total									
Cover Crop & Residue Mgt.	Residue and Tillage Mgt.	329	18.3	ac	No-Till	17.04	1	312.00	high	
	Cover Crop	340	212	ac	1 - 2 species	70.44	1	14,934.00		
	Total									

Bad River		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)	Payment Years	Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
Bad River	Upland wWildlife Hab. Mgt	645	6	ea	Bat Boxes	91.96	1	552.00	high	
	Woody Residue treatment	384	1	ac	Orchard Pruning	172.14	1	173.00		
	Herbaceous Weed Control	315	3	ac	Spot Treatment, Chemical Aquatic	536.64	1	1,610.00		
	Herbaceous Weed Control	315	3	ac	Aquatic Hand Removal	1,498.18	1	4,495.00		
	Total									

Red Cliff		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)	Payment Years	Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
Eagle Bay Wetland Enhancement	Structure for Water Control	587	1200	in.- ft.	Flashboard Riser	4.27	1	5,124.00	high	
	Wetland Restoration	657	1600	cu. yd	Embankment	6.44	1	10,304.00		
	Critical Area Planting	342	1	ac	Into Seed - mod. Grade	839.75	1	840.00		
	Total									
	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	644	15	ac		629.17	3	28314.00		
Total								\$ 44,582.00		

Menominee		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)	Payment Years	Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
Lower Bass Lake	560 Access Road	560	125	ft.	Gravel over Base Course	10.61	1	1,327.00	high	
	Total									
Vigue Ponds	Aquatic Organism Passage	396	300	cu.yd.	Earthen Dam Removal Fill Height 8' or Less	8.79	1	2,637.00	high	
	Spoil Spreading	572	300	cu.yd.	Spoil Spreading, wide area	2.38	1	714.00		
	Stream Habitat Improvement	395	3	ea	In-stream Rock Placement	400.66	1	1,202.00		
	Critical Area Planting	342	1	ac.	Introduced Seeding - normal tillage	180.21	1	181.00		
Total								\$ 4,734.00		

Walleye Ponds	Livestock Pipeline	516	2500	ft.	PE Pipe for Filling Aquaculture Ponds	14.06	1	35,150.00	high	
	Underground Outlet	620	1300	ft.	8-12" Pipe Conduit	12.20	1	15,860.00		
	Obstruction Removal	500	0.5	ac.	Removal/Disposal of Brush/Trees > 6" diam.	2,220.07	1	1,111.00		
	Critical Area Planting	342	1.5	ac.	Introduced Seeding - normal tillage	180.21	1	271.00		
	Total									

Forest County		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)		Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
N & S	666 Forest Stand Improvement	666	114	ac	Marking Only, Uneven Aged Stand	89.20	1	10,169.00	high	
Cloud Lake	666 Forest Stand Improvement	666	93	ac	Marking Only, Uneven Aged Stand	89.20	1	8,296.00		
Total								\$ 18,465.00		

Ho Chunk		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)		Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
	578 Stream Crossing	578	600	sq ft	Rock Surfaced Stream Crossing	1.58	1	948.00	high	
	560 Access Road	560	100	ft	Gravel over Geotextile	10.86	1	1,086.00		
	314 Brush Management	314	7.5	ac	Mechanical, Large Shrubs	329.46	1	2,471.00		
	327 Conservation Cover	327	7.5	ac	Native Grasses and Forbs	563.44	1	4,226.00		
	394 Firebreak	394	3500	ft	Constructed – Light Equipment1	0.04	1	140.00		
	394 Firebreak	394	3500	ft	Constructed – Light Equipment1	0.04	1	140.00		
	394 Firebreak	394	3500	ft	Constructed – Light Equipment1	0.04	1	140.00		
	338 Prescribed Burning	338	7.5	ac	Level-Mod Terrain, Herb. Fuel Non-Volatile	68.46	1	514.00		
	338 Prescribed Burning	338	7.5	ac	Level-Mod Terrain, Herb. Fuel Non-Volatile	68.46	1	514.00		
	338 Prescribed Burning	338	7.5	ac	Level-Mod Terrain, Herb. Fuel Non-Volatile	68.46	1	514.00		
Total								\$ 10,693.00		

Lac du Flambeau		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)		Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
Walleye Rearing Pond Renovation	Aquaculture Ponds and associates Practices							300,000.00	low	
	Total									
	Forest Stand Improvement	666	224.9	ac	Thinning – Hand Tools	252.34	1	56,752.00	high	
	Irrigation Water Management	449	1.0	ea	Soil Moisture Sensors1 & YR 1 of IWM	1,201.13	1	1,202.00		
Total								\$ 57,954.00		

Sokaogon		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)		Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
	Forest Stand Improvement	666	39.5	ac.	Marking Only, Uneven Aged Stand	89.20	1	3,524.00		
	Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	20.5	ac.	High Density Planting	433.53	1	8,888.00		
	Tree/Shrub Site Preparation	490	20.5	ac.		87.59	1	1,796.00		
	Forest Trails and Landings	655	1450	ft.	Trail and Landing Installation1	1.19	1	1,726.00		

Forest Trails and Landings	655	1550	ft.	Grading and Shaping with Vegetative Establishment	3.04	1	4,712.00	high		
Stream Crossing	578	56	ft.	Culvert installation, > 25" Diameter, single	58.14	1	3,256.00			
Access Road	560	4750	ft.	Gravel	6.26	1	29,735.00			
Forest Trails and Landings	655	2125	ft.	Trails and Landings Installation	1.19	1	2,529.00			
Stream Crossing	578	130	ft.	Culvert installation, < 25" Diameter, single	47.87	1	6,224.00			
Total								\$ 62,390.00		

Lac Courte Oreilles		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)		Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	644	5	ac	Wild Rice Seeding	629.17	1	3,146.00	high	
	Forest Stand Improvement	666	200	ac	Thinning – Hand Tools	252.34	1	50,468.00		
Total								\$ 53,614.00		

St Croix		Practice No.	Quantity		Practice Scenerio	Payment/ Unit (\$)		Estimated Payment (\$)	WTCAC Rating	Ranking Score
Project	Practice Name		Planned	Units						
Big Sand	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	644	5.3	ac.	Wild Rice Seeding	629.17	3	10,005.00	high	
Pearsons Farm	Water Well Decommissioning	351	1	ea	Drilled Well Sealed with Bentonite	633.06	1	634.00		
Danbury Blueberry project	Brush Mgt	314	10.6	ac.	Mechanical, Small Shrubs	88.17	1	935.00		
	Woody Residue Treatment	384	10.6	ax	Rest./cons. tmt following catastrophic events	738.06	1	7,824.00		
	Prescribed Burn	338	10.6	ac.	Steep Terrain, Volatile or Woody Fuels	19.48	1	207.00		
	Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	1	ac.	Medium Density, Conifer	164.78	1	165.00		
	Firebreak	394	2890	ft	Constructed, Medium equipment, steep slopes	1.33	1	3,844.00		
Clam Lake	Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	1	ac.	Med. Dens., Hand Plant Conifer, w/Wildlife Prot.	709.68	1	710.00		
Pearson Timber Cut	Access Road	560	100	ft	Gravel over Base Course	10.61	1	1,061.00		
	Forest Trail/Landing	655	1220	ft	Trail and Landing Installation	1.19	1	1,452.00		
	Woody residue treatment	384	1	ac.	Forest Slash Treatment – Med/Heavy	196.38	1	197.00		
Polk Co. - Johnstown Cut	Access Road	560	300	ft	Gravel over Base Course	10.61	1	3,183.00		
	Forest Trail/Landing	655	4550	ft	Trail and Landing Installation	1.19	1	5,415.00		
	Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	1	ac.	High Density Planting	433.53	1	434.00		
	Total								\$ 36,066.00	
Forest Mgt	Forestry Mgt. Plan - Cap	106	1	ea	> 1000 acres	5,754.33	1	5,755.00	N/A	900
	Total									

Not out of WTCAC fund pool

Applications by Ranking Score

Rank	Tribe - project	Score	Funding Request	Running Total
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*Bad River Band
of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians*

Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council
Minutes of the Forestry Sub-Committee 1-06-2014

*Forest County
Potawatomi
Community*

Meeting Commenced at the Menomonee Casino Motel at 1:00 PM

Hto-Chunk Nation

Present: Forest Service: Mary Rasmussen, Deahn Donner, (By Phone Mike Conner & Barb Torhmenlien), Lac Du Flambeau, Menomonee, Oneida Present, Bad River by Phone

*Lac Courte Oreilles
Band of Lake
Superior Chippewa
Indians*

Forest Service Presentations:

A presentation was given by Deahn Donner regarding potential Experimental Forest Designation for Forest Service lands near Rhinelander. There are currently 80 other experimental forests around the U.S., including on near Argonne, WI.

*Lac Du Flambeau
Band of Lake
Superior Chippewa
Indians*

Deahn is soliciting possible involvement by WTCAC in the development and operation of this project. Possible roles for WTCAC include: Proposing a name for the forest, Proposing Projects, Review of the Management Plan, Possible membership on the Project Review Committee.

*Menominee Tribe
of Wisconsin*

Much discussion followed the Presentation.

*Mole Lake Band
of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians*

Working with the Forest Service:

The team introduced a possible course for developing a more formal relationship with the Forest Service, and suggested Three Major areas of cooperation that WTCAC would like to pursue.

*Oneida Tribe of
Indians of
Wisconsin*

- 1. Technical Assistance**
- 2. Funding Opportunities**
- 3. Partnerships and Tribal Relations**

*Red Cliff Band of
Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians*

Technical Assistance Priorities: Forest Management Plans, Forest Health, Capacity building (Training, Job shadowing) Implementation of Strategy based on the Forest Management Plan.

*St Croix Chippewa
Indians of
Wisconsin*

Partnerships: WTCAC becoming a formal advisor to the Forest Service. Sort out issues that result from Rule-Making versus those that are part of Policy. Working with the Forest Service to accommodate Tribal needs and concerns to the extent possible.

*Stockbridge-
Munsee Indian
Community*

Action Item: The tribes will develop a spreadsheet for WTCAC identifying their Forestry related needs in the above three categories and will provide this list to the Forest Service.

Action Item: The Forest Service will develop opportunities in all of the above three areas, from all three branches active in Wisconsin.

Funding Opportunity:

Action Item: The Forest Service will also identify road blocks to Tribal Access to Programs, as well as at what level these roadblocks exist (local, regional, national)

Action Item: Based on the WTCAC Spreadsheet and the Forest Service Program analysis, the Forestry Sub-Committee of WTCAC will identify short and long term goals to work more effectively with the Forest Service

Adjourned: 2:30 PM