



## March 25th, 2021 WTCAC Board Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** At 9:01 AM (Recording @ 9:13)
2. **Roll Call**
  - a. **Tribal Representatives**
    - i. **Bad River** - Jessica Strand
    - ii. **FCPC** - Not present
    - iii. **Ho-Chunk** - Randy Poelma
    - iv. **LCO** - Not Present
    - v. **LdF** - Ethan Sennett
    - vi. **Menominee** - Jeremy Pyaskowit
    - vii. **Mole Lake**- Tina Van Zile and Nathan Podany
    - viii. **Oneida** - Pat Pelky
    - ix. **Red Cliff** - Not present
    - x. **St. Croix** - Jeremy Bloomquist
    - xi. **Stockbridge** - Paul Koll and Kellie Zahn
  - b. **WTCAC Staff:** Jeff Mears, Lacey Hill-Kastern, Jerry Thompson, Tom Melnarik, Jon Pruitt
  - c. **Partners:** Sharon Reilly (GLITC), Chris Borden (NRCS), Greg Bussler (NASS), Melissa Bartz (NRCS), Anna Haines (WICCI), Dan Vimont (WICCI), Katie Demrow (FSA), Christopher Deegan (APHIS PPQ), Bill Barker (CALs), Kira Kauffman (USFS), Ashley Andre (DATCP), Brian Kuhn (DATCP), Brian Hudson (RD), Dan Cornelius (IAC), Albany Jacobson-Eckert (BIA), Carleen Yocum (USFS), Rita Mills (USFS)
  - d. **Approval of the Agenda:** Oneida (Pat Pelky) made a motion to approve with additions, Ho-Chunk (Randy Poelma) seconds. All in favor.
    - i. Additions - Add subcommittee updates/reports to the afternoon: Agriculture, fisheries, forestry, wetlands, and wildlife.
  - e. **Approval of the Minutes:** Menominee (Jeremy Pyatskowet) made a motion to approve Oneida (Pat Pelky) seconds. All in favor.
    - i. Pat says it was well-put-together, no changes.
3. **Partner Updates** - *IAC update moved to during introduction because Dan Cornelius could not stay on the call.*
  - a. **USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) - 2022 Census of Agriculture – Greg Bussler, State Statistician**
    - i. Upcoming Census of Agriculture; NASS asked WTCAC for a list of farmers and producers for the Tribe in 2017, but WTCAC said this information is confidential.
    - ii. NASS is submitting the request again in case WTCAC has changed their policy; new admin is directing funding towards underserved and minority farmers, and they can't reach out unless

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they have the information; it would be kept confidential within their agency as well

- iii. December 2022 will be the date for the next Agriculture Census; they would be looking for WTCAC's help to reach these farmers.
  - 1. Tina informs him that the policies haven't changed, but they can discuss in the executive session to see if there are other opportunities to get farmers counted.
  - 2. Pat says that if Greg could share a fact sheet on benefits and what NASS is trying to do, then WTCAC could send it out to Tribal farmers directly for them.
  - 3. Jerry says that he can put information on the WTCAC Facebook page, including links, bulletins, and pictures.
- iv. There are higher commodity prices, and there is a survey on that that will be released on June 30th

**b. Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) - Anna Haines, Director, Center for Land Use Education and Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education & WICCI Community Sustainability Work Group lead and Daniel Vimont, Nelson Institute Center for Climatic Research Director & WICCI Co-Director**

- i. Powerpoint Presentation by Dan Vimont
  - 1. Gearing up currently for the second assessment report, and they want to discuss some of the ideas
  - 2. WICCI's mission is to generate and share information that can foster solutions to climate change in WI and the Upper Midwest; what research is happening, what research do we already have, and what research is needed
  - 3. WICCI is a network that engages and enables a host of stakeholders and brings them all together
  - 4. WICCI working groups (13): agriculture, climate, coastal resilience, community sustainability, fisheries, forestry, great lakes, human health, infrastructure, plants and natural communities, tourism and outdoor recreation, water resources, and wildlife; look at the website for more details on what working groups are doing
    - a. <https://wicci.wisc.edu/>
    - b. Dan highlighted some work in the presentation by specific working groups, but you can find everything on their website too
  - 5. WICCI is gearing up for the 2nd Assessment Report, which they want to release in Fall 2021
    - a. this report will be a web-based version to allow for continuing updates and changes
    - b. they are considering some different engagement efforts, including maybe making a tribal working



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group or bringing more tribal staff/members into existing working groups

6. WICCI is not a funded organization, and they recognize across the board that there is already a stretched capacity for them and other organizations; their goal is to provide a way to share expertise within the realm of what we are already doing
7. Anna Haines is getting together the Community Sustainability Working Group again, and they are now inviting people to become members of this; they contacted Lacey to find out if there is a tribal rep that could be part of this working group
  - a. it will be up to the group to determine how often they meet, etc., as they move forward with setting this group back up; members can choose how much time they have to spend on the group, including whether they just come to meetings or sign-up for “homework.”
  - b. asking for volunteers today or suggestions of people to contact
  - c. Sharon asked how the information generated by the group is used? Does it influence legislation? Dan says yes, it has influenced, for example, WDNR work; Anna adds that WICCI contributed to the Governor’s Task Force on Climate Change
  - d. Tina says ultimately what it might come down to is that WICCI will need to meet with each Tribe because it will be up to Tribal leaders to delegate the time of the Tribal employees to join in the working group; Dan says that they can put together a summary to use
  - e. Thanks, everyone, for your time. The presentation is available at the following link: <https://uwmadison.box.com/s/ygbfvglzoo6mvj4eku078kkgzysfzj>. We are also in the process of putting together a one-page description of WICCI and opportunities for engagement, which we will share with WTCAC.
  - f. Please contact Dan Vimont (dvimont@wisc.edu) or Anna Haines (ahaines@uwsp.edu)
- c. **Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) - Hemp Update - Brian Kuhn, Plant Industry Bureau Director**



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- i. recently published federal rule interesting with state rule (federal rule just effective this week)
  1. USDA Rule on 1/15/21 this year on hemp, which became effective 3/25/21
  2. The final rule includes changes to interim rule under which people were operating until this point based on feedback they received
  3. Still learning a lot about growing hemp (in different varieties) in WI; WI decided last year to stay operating under the previous pilot program instead of operating under the 2018 Farm Bill; the pilot program has been extended to sunset on 12/31/21, at which time the State will have to move to 2018 Farm Bill and new Rule provisions
  4. Key Provisions on Federal Rule:
    - a. negligent violations: raised THC content for negligent violations (three violations gets you a suspension from the program for five years); increased the benchmark to >1%, which doubled the previous threshold; limited to one violation per growing season (aka, year) so that they don't get a violation for each field per year if they have three fields or something that they are growing
    - b. disposal of non-compliant hemp changed to now allow for standard agricultural techniques to destroy the crop (as compared to the previous expensive technique required)
    - c. have brought remediation into the list of options for a "hot" crop, including (1) removal and destruction of floral material and then sell leaves and other plant parts for alternative use; (2) shredding entire crop to use for biomass extraction since it diluted THC and then might get under 0.3% threshold
      - i. about 10% of WI crop had to be destroyed in 2020 for being "hot."
    - d. change from labs for testing needing to be DEA registered; they've extended the deadline to 1/1/2023



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- e. timing of sample collection changed; widened the window between sampling and harvesting from 15 days to 30 days (THC levels continue to rise as crops grow, so they want to avoid having a hot crop move into the marketplace if it grows too long after sampling)
  - f. sampling method changed: allow for top 5-8" of top bud to be sampled, which might reduce THC in the sample because you are taking more of the plant, and THC tends to listen as you move down the plant
  - g. changes to the regulatory authority that Tribes have under the final rule: recognizes tribal authority more clearly; more specific detailed language online at AMS webpage: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/hemp>
5. This will be the last year that the Tribes and other growers in the State can get a DATCP license to grow hemp; they will have to get one directly from the USDA after this year.
  6. Brian says Bill Richmond at USDA AMS would be a good contact for Tribes regarding any questions.
- ii. Ashley Andre Updates: ashley.andre@wisconsin.gov, (608) 224-5002
    1. WI Agriculture Youth Council is accepting applications through March encourages students that will be seniors next year to apply and learn about different opportunities
      - a. [https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News\\_Media/WAYCReminder2021.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News_Media/WAYCReminder2021.aspx)
    2. Two grant opportunities:
      - a. Specialty Crop Block Grants (Due 4/2/21):[https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News\\_Media/03092021SpecialtyCropBlockGrants.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/News_Media/03092021SpecialtyCropBlockGrants.aspx)
      - b. Dairy Grants (Due 4/31/21):<https://www.cdr.wisc.edu/grant-program>
- d. **Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)**
    - i. **Plant Protection & Quarantine (PPQ) - Christopher Deegan**
      1. Spotted-Lantern Fly continues to be monitored to prevent the introduction into WI, but it loves to hitchhike, so they are focusing on different transportation hubs where it might



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be showing up; might be a negative correlation with climate change as a preferred reproductive host plant (tree of heaven) increases range but grapevines and other plants are feeding hosts that can be damaged extensively by the insect; eradication anywhere outside core infestation out east is still the goal

### 2. APHIS Hungry PEst website to increase public awareness:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/pests-diseases/hungry-pests/hungrypests>

- a. reaching out to WTCAC to try to produce materials geared more toward Wisconsin
- b. the request went out from Lacey to WTCAC Board Members to suggest outreach changes to the webpage; Christopher asks for input. Please use Google Form to provide feedback: form:

<https://forms.gle/4UNxnC2TkhZmzjZs6>

- i. Tina looked at the website and did participate in Lacey's survey sent out
  - ii. Sharon asked if Chris is familiar with iNaturalist and whether there is an opportunity there for plants, etc. to be flagged as invasive and that there might be some opportunity for outreach through that App; Christopher says that the UW-Extension has a First Detectors Network app that can be used too for reporting occurrence of invasive species: Wisconsin first detector network:  
<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/wifdn/>
- ii. **Wildlife Services (WS)** - Not present
  - iii. **Veterinary Services (VS)** - Not present
- e. **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** - Not present
- f. **Farm Service Agency (FSA)** - Katie Demrow, [katie.demrow@usda.gov](mailto:katie.demrow@usda.gov)
- i. Ag Secretary announced new Pandemic Assistance for producers; news release issues yesterday and copied here:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1krAJ7oGT1L2yh2imIU3iazCW\\_4pQ2ceT/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1krAJ7oGT1L2yh2imIU3iazCW_4pQ2ceT/view?usp=sharing)



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- ii. Maple Syrup Fact Sheet for Resources for Producers:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zy8RtucbhVwZIBiRzCU1ZsEZovwROF6w/view?usp=sharing>
- iii. Still waiting on updates for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- g. Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC) - Sharon Reilly**
  - i. They are seeking funding to expand food sov through foster grandparent program to expand on youth mentoring.
  - ii. They have a small-business economic development program to expand and start new small businesses, so encourage people to reach out to them for these services.
  - iii. Please share with anyone you know who is a Native American entrepreneur or business owner in need of planning, development, or recovery assistance <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sb-programs/Pages/ssbci.aspx>.
- h. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) - Not Present**
- i. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) - Albany Jacobson-Eckhert (joining at 10 AM)**
  - i. BIA had a few meeting recently, including an annual meeting with Tribes
  - ii. In FY21, the region received 83 funding proposals, with a decrease in funding requests in some program areas and increased others.
    - 1. Individual meetings with Tribes will be scheduled soon
  - iii. FY21 GLRI funding requests came in at a significant decrease; these proposals are being reviewed now
    - 1. June or July funding distribution
  - iv. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) has finalized the Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) guidance document; it will be posted on the BIA website soon.
  - v. BiNational TEK speaker series on the horizon for this summer
- j. College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) - Bill Barker**
  - i. Slowly getting people vaccinated but still doing testing on campus
  - ii. Posting a link to Chancellor's Blog on hopes regarding current conditions and her hopes for fall semester:  
<https://chancellor.wisc.edu/blog/creating-the-new-normal-returning-to-campus/>
    - 1. Bill is making new rules for field season to be flexible but still keep people safe



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- iii. Putting together a nice website to try to strengthen ties to native nations and hiring native faculty, and encourage student participation
- k. **Forest Service (FS)** - Kira Kauffman, Rita Mills, and Carleen Yocum
  - i. Carleen Yocum - State & Private Forestry Program
    - 1. Notices have been sent out for GLRI CWMA for tribal lands in Wisconsin have been selected and notices sent out; WTCAC got their proposal funded and should be receiving a notice shortly. Let Carleen know if any assistance is needed with the final forms.
  - ii. Rita Mills, Hiawatha National Forest representative, needs to leave the meeting shortly to attend tribal partnership calls.
    - 1. Hiawatha person is retiring, and there is a temporary filler (Emily Platt) coming in for four months while they work on hiring someone permanently.
    - 2. Rita is working on getting updated Birch maps together for the Tribe. She will follow up with an update.
  - iii. Kira Kauffman:
    - 1. All three forests are working on paper birch maps. Emailed maps to Lacey, and they are located in the board meeting folder:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/INGHEYFF4wvmwBFRWxpJ88FfVgphOVDId?usp=sharing>.
    - 2. The ruffed grouse habitat maps will be updated next year.
    - 3. New detail coming in Region 9 for Tribal Liaison will be Daniel Cane
- l. **Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC)** - Dan Cornelius
  - i. Dan is doing the workshop with the College of Menominee Nation this week; recordings will be available afterward
  - ii. American Rescue Plan Update: Huge provision in there about State small business credit with \$500 million for Tribes, need an intent submitted by April 10th to the Treasury Department; Dan will be sending out communication to Tribal Leaders today. The State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) is the program with an intent required 30 days from the bill's passage  
<https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sb-programs/Pages/ssbci.aspx>.





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- iii. Thanks to Chris Borden for presenting with him yesterday at the conference
- iv. the USDA AMS Acer, Access and Development Program is now accepting applications. I'm working on an intertribal application, but individual Tribes are eligible to apply. Grants are up to \$500,000 [Acer Program How to Apply | Agricultural Marketing Service](#).
- m. **Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC)** - Not present
- n. **Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE)** - Not present
- o. **Rural Development (RD)** - Brian Hudson
  - i. Application deadline updates
    - 1. RBDG - 3/31/21 deadline
    - 2. Regrant Combo of <\$20,000 - 3/31/21 deadline
    - 3. Rural Economic Grant Program - 3/31/21 deadline
  - ii. Federal register notice about COVID dollars is changing a bit; 10% match with an application deadline of 5/4/21; once funds have been allocated, then the program will return in fall with a 50% match requirement.
- p. **Central Regional Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (CRTCAC)** - Pat Pelky
  - i. Update information from the last meeting was sent to Lacey to include in folders this week by Pat.
  - ii. Chris says NRCS got some excellent feedback from CRTCAC; they will try to talk more regularly.
  - iii. Differences from state-to-state about how CSP program is implemented for Tribal Governments
- q. **Risk Management Agency (RMA)** - Not present
- r. **United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS)** - Not present
- s. **Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)** - Not present
- t. **Wisconsin Lakes Partnership** - Not present
- u. **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** - Chris Borden
  - i. He wants to thank WTCAC and Lacey Hill Kastern about good recruitment of Tribal students for jobs posted recently; hoping to get Sagen Lily Quale, a Red Cliff Tribal member, stationed in the Rhineland office and help with outreach to Tribal Producers in the region



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- ii. Thanks, Tom Melnarik, for working with NRCS State Engineers to revive walleye rearing ponds to figure out fish screens, a necessary item of getting aquaculture ponds back on the list for funding
  - iii. Appreciate Jonathan Pruitt's work on the NRCS report
  - iv. Jonathan Pruitt has analyzed GIS tools and training to develop a training plan for tribes, and Chris Borden suggests a tribal data distribution plan.
    - 1. Nathan Podany asks about contour and modeling training based on Chris Borden's previous presentation; Chris confirms this is a training that Jonathan will do.
  - v. We do not have a set timeframe for returning staff to offices; it is slow but will be in line with other public health rates.
  - vi. Letter going out to FSA to each federally-recognized Tribes with contracts with NRCS; the letter is needlessly complicated; Chris says that the takeaway is to get an easily updated CCC-902 is to just call the local FSA Office, especially for tribes.
    - 1. Chris is not sure who at the Tribes the letter is sent to
    - 2. Nathan P. reports that he called already, and it was straightforward, and the FSA already has all the information they need from Mole Lake
  - vii. CSP update from Melissa
    - 1. EQIP - First Sign-Up from WTCAC Pool: used \$130K only there is about \$370K for the second round of sign-ups; May 21st, 2021 deadline for second sign-up
    - 2. CSP Renewals Program sign-up is finishing up
    - 3. Deadline tomorrow (3/26/21) for the CSP Classics Program.
    - 4. Conservation Innovation Grant sign-up (first time in WI) :
      - a. Manure Management, Conservation Planning, and Soil Health Systems are three priorities
      - b. Anyone can submit a proposal for an innovative idea that advances one of the three priorities
      - c. 50% match, minimum award of \$50K
      - d. \$500K set aside for this program by NRCS
      - e. The deadline is May 7th, 2021
      - f. advertised on Grants.Gov
- 4. WTCAC Business Meeting Started at 1:01** - Nathan Podany called the meeting to order as President and Vice President were not in attendance.



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**Present:** Erin Hoffman (IF), Jeff Mears (WTCAC), Lacey Hill Kastern (WTCAC), Nathan Podany (Mole Lake), Chris Borden (NRCS), Thomas Melnarik (WTCAC), Randy Poelma (Ho-Chunk), Jon Pruitt (WTCAC), Jessica Strand (Bad River), Jerry Thompson (WTCAC), Paul Koll (Stockbridge)

### **a. Conservation Collaboration -**

#### **i. Tom**

1. Tom has been getting out and working with FCPC and is working with them on siting a facility
2. Tom went out at St. Croix to add another collection kettle to the hatchery up there, so he will do an as-built survey of the site and work with staff to get a new kettle sited.
3. We are meeting with NRCS staff next week to have a check-in on the Conservation Collaboration grant.
  - a. Tom has recently completed the annual report as part of this process; it's accounting whether deliverables have been met.
4. Tom has been helping with hiring interns and working on the next newsletter too.

#### **ii. Jon**

1. Jon has been working with NRCS Suite of tools to delineate watersheds and stream data; he is trying to get familiar enough with it to put together a training for Tribal Natural Resources Staff; could be recording tutorials to send out
2. I have been helping Michael Steinbeck to do digitizing for Lac du Flambeau
3. Jon is hoping to get a better sense of what some of the needs are for NR staff and work them into the inventories he has to do as part of the CC grant
  - a. stream inventory, culvert inventory, wetland inventories
4. Hoping to be more active in subcommittees and put on training and seminars
5. Nathan suggests having a recorded session with steps on how to run tools sent out first before the in-person virtual sessions are held; suggests opening up to other Tribal employees other than just WTCAC employees



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- a. Jonathan would like to know how many tribal staff have access to ArcMap through the BIA; Lacey says all Tribal staff should have access
- b. Christopher Kasmiak is the new Geospatial Coordinator for the BIA - maybe Jon should reach out to him

### **b. Tracking Matrix - Tom M.**

- i. The latest is that NRCS is taking items from this matrix and forwarding them to NRCS staff, so they get on next year's practice schedule; they got two added for NRCS to work on for next year
  1. thinks the timing was critical for getting these advanced through the NRCS process
- ii. Tom encourages others to use this as a community document

### **c. WTCAC 2021 Report - discussed early at 11:05**

- i. Tina would like to give Jonathan the go-ahead to send to print
- ii. Pat says that on p. 3, it has him as a WTCAC Director in the photo caption, but he instead has it listed as a Board Member; Tina agrees that is Board Members is more apt
- iii. Jonathan did get feedback from Paul, Jess, and Randy but haven't gotten responses from most tribal nations
- iv. Pat and Jeremy confirm their Tribe' sections look fine
- v. Jess says that she will get back to Jonathan
- vi. Oneida (Pat Pelky) motions to send WTCAC Report with final changes to print; Ho-Chunk (Randy Poelma) seconds, all in favor; motion carries
- vii. Tivoli is doing 350 print copies, but there will also be a digital version available for distribution by the end of April
  1. Jonathan will forward the form if we want to sign-up to get hardcopy versions

### **d. 2021 WTCAC Interns**

- i. Shyanne Eustace - working with USFS Ottawa Visitor Center
- ii. Payton Hamm - working with APHIS-WS Spooner
- iii. Avery Tilley - working USFS Northern Research Station
- iv. Joey Billboy - working Pest Survey & Outreach LCO & St. Croix
- v. Erica Tohman - working Pest Survey & Outreach BR & RC
- vi. Sagen Lily Quale - working with NRCS Rhinelander
- vii. Still looking for two more hires; April 18th is the deadline for applications to these last two positions



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viii. We will be setting up scheduling, training on plant ID and proper PPE, etc.

ix. Interns start June 7th and end August 13th

### **e. Brotherton Discussion**

i. 11 federally-recognized WI tribes are a part of WTCAC currently

ii. The Brotherton Tribe in lower WI near Fond du Lac and Lake Winnebago; are State-recognized now

iii. Should we include them in WTCAC?

1. Tina wondered what the implications would be for federal grants; would this affect if work can be done in their territory? Jeff will reach out to USDA to try to answer some of these questions. Erin says WTCAC applies for grants as a federal 501(c)(3), so she doesn't see concern from her end.

2. Tina will try to reach out to GLITC and Chippewa Federation staff to see if they have included them in those organizations.

3. Jerry reports that OPPE didn't have a problem with him going down there to work with only state-recognized Tribes.

iv. Once we get more information from Jeff based on his follow-up, we can invite them to have some dialogue at a future meeting.

### **f. WICCI**

i. Tina thinks that they should go to each Tribe

ii. Nathan suggests that reps could set in on the next Working Group meeting for WICCI to gather more information to bring back to their tribes.

iii. Should we encourage WICCI to have one Tribal Working Group? Instead of trying to divide tribal staff across working groups? Pros and cons to each approach.

### **g. Random**

i. Tribes need to let WTCAC staff know if there is any protocol regarding COVID that affects staff visits

ii. WTCAC Binders - need to be scanned and then handed over to the WTCAC Secretary; perhaps a WTCAC intern could scan them this summer

## **5. WTCAC Sub-committees -**



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### a. Agriculture - Jerry Thompson

- i. New Beginnings Proposal: trying to get more Native American students into natural resources fields to make sure they are eligible for NRCS positions as they become available; focus on working with land grant colleges in the State
- ii. Partnering with GLIFWC, LCO Ojibwe College, IAFFI, etc. to develop a tribal produce safety alliance training that is more in line with tribal producer needs that is also certified
  1. would include wild gathered and harvested food
  2. there is training under review by the FDA already, so if this grant is approved that Jerry et al. are applying for, then they will get to roll out the new training if it is approved
  3. submittal due 4/1/21
- iii. Working on doing a 2021 webinar series for backyard gardeners. The next session is on April 8th
  1. Nathan asks if it was recorded, and Jerry said he would have to check but thinks that it was
  2. Lacey asks if they could get permission to put the recording on WTCAC's YouTube page
- iv. Starting on 4/14, there will be the first APHIS Emergency Response training; the first one is an introductory session
  1. the new funding will come out that will be mentioned at the 4/14 session because the due date is before the next WTCAC meeting
  2. 5/19 session will be lessons learned from APHIS due to COVID-19
  3. 6/16 session on slaughterhouse development and how COVID-19 impacted meat industry; that's why they are trying to set up these facilities with Tribes
  4. Looking for ideas for the following sessions after 6/16
- v. Internships & Career Positions
  1. still have a few internships that haven't been filled yet, so Jerry is going to be pushing them at the upcoming LCO event
  2. He's also going to be participating in a career fair with LCO; this will lead to a USDA Hiring Fair for over 2000 jobs; Jerry will be pushing this hard through email and



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would like to encourage us to send people his way so they can be screened and then invited to hiring fair 4/19-4/23

- a. Chris asks to be included in on some of the email lists that he has been sending information to on this topic
- vi. Jerry reports the GLITC's Sharon Reiley has a friend who wants to turn invasive species into animal food; Lacey is helping Jerry with this
  1. Lacey will reach out to Bad River staff (Brigid and Jacob)
- b. Fisheries - Tom Melnarik**
  - i. They are scheduling more meetings, talking about what to do with possible drought conditions, and coordinating with Trout Unlimited and other agencies.
- c. Forestry - Paul Koll**
  - i. EAB webinar series last month was very successful; 6 weeks with over 150 people registered for each week and 100 participants each week
  - ii. The next meeting is coming in May for the subcommittee, focusing on hemlock woolly adelgid and elongated hemlock scale with David Mausel from USFS.
  - iii. They are going to go through goals and objectives as a committee at the upcoming meeting. The committee official formed five years ago.
  - iv. Lacey highlights the survey she sent out to WTCAC Board and requests feedback.
- d. Wetlands - Randy Poelma**
  - i. Met at the WWA Annual Science Conference and USACE gave an excellent presentation on the NWPR.
  - ii. Wetland delineation training is in limbo until either Randy hears back from private trainers; otherwise, another grant extension is needed.
  - iii. Chris Borden brought up the new WWI process being implemented by the State and whether it would replace the effort that Jonathan was engaged in; Jess shared that she's seen a part of the pilot area done under the new methodology, and it was a vast improvement; however, it sounds like WDNR needs support since they can't carry it out very quickly.
    1. Jonathan is interested in following this up.



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2. Nathan points out that the grant might be for on-Reservation; Jonathan verifies that there is no distinction.
3. Randy says that he has many verified delineations that could be used to ground-truth the remote sensing efforts.

### e. **Wildlife - Lacey Hill-Kastern**

- i. Meeting monthly
  - ii. Philomena and Travis from GLIFWC reached out to Lacey to coordinate a meeting with Tribal biologists in WI to talk about CWD; Lacey is meeting with them tomorrow to prep the agenda; funding available through APHIS for this too, Lacey thinks
    1. planning for April 15th to have this webinar discussion
  - iii. Pest traps
    1. Oneida, Menominee, and Stockbridge on Tuesday
    2. Still coordinating with different other Tribes
    3. Jess mentions that Bad River has a testing protocol when meeting with staff; she will email Lacey more information after the meeting.
6. **Executive Session - Motion to go into executive session by Ho-Chunk (Randy Poelma). Second by Oneida (Pat Pelky), all ayes; motion carried; entered at 11:25**
- a. Financials
  - b. Financial Policies
  - c. WTCAC Bylaws
  - d. Motion to leave the executive session by Oneida (Pat Pelky). Second by Bad River (Jessica Strand), all ayes; motion carried. We left the executive session at 12:03.

**Adjourned at 2:34 PM**

**Next Meeting:** April 22nd, 2021 9 AM - 3 PM

**Minutes submitted by Jessica Strand on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021** *Jessica Strand*  
Minutes approved on April 22<sup>nd</sup> WTCAC board meeting. Oneida (Pat Pelky) made a motion to approve the minutes. Menominee (Jeremy Pyaskowit) seconds. All in favor except Bad River (Jessica Strand) who abstains