

*Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council Meeting  
Minutes*

*Thursday, December 09, 2004  
Menominee Casino & Hotel*

**Meeting called to order** at 10:10 a.m. Prayer offered by Menominee representative Dave Greno.

**Jean Buffalo-Reyes, Chair WTCAC welcome.**

**Roll call:** Red Cliff, LCO, Menominee, Stockbridge Munsee, Ho-Chunk, Oneida.

**Minutes October 22, 2004:**

Menominee moved to approve minutes from October 22, 2004 meeting; seconded by Ho-chunk, minutes approved.

**Introductions:**

**Wisconsin Tribal Historic Preservation Program:** Kelly Jackson, Director, Lac du Flambeau:

Introduction of Wisconsin Tribal Historic Preservation Program: (WTHPP)

Section 106 setting up a process that should fit in everyone's needs. This is an opportunity for us to take a look at this. Michigan has a similar program and will be presenting at the next WTCAC meeting in March. Get the interest and go forward. Funding is a big issue for tribes. There is no funding for NAGPRA and no funding for section 106. Tribes must have to find the funds to support such a program. The Tribes that are not able to contribute to the program we will see less and less participation due to lack of funds available. Just organizing a meeting and keeping everyone informed on what is happening to set up protocol and direction on these programs can be a lot of work and coordination.

**APHIS:**

JoAnn Cruse: Introduction and discussion of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Programs and services provided:

- Plant Protection and Quarantine (5 employees statewide)

Currently developing emergency response plans for exotic pest, infestations

- Veterinary Services

Restricts the movement of animals to prevent the spread of animal diseases within the U.S.

Certify agricultural products for export

Enforce requirements for genetically engineered plants

**- Wildlife Services**

- direct operation assistance
- provide technical assistance
- research and development
- help with wildlife diseases
- emergency response plans
- wildlife disease assistance

Would like to plan for future working relationships with tribes in Wisconsin. Can be contacted at: [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov) or (608) 231-9545. Getting tribes to participate, i.e. with emergency response plans through USDA. How to set up programs to make this happen, make those contacts with APHIS.

**NRCS Update:**  
Pat Leavenworth, State Conservationist NRCS

New Secretary of Agriculture appointed; also received earmark of \$285,000 for this coming year. A new government-to-government relationship with tribal government memorandum was issued in September. Two new watersheds, one that is located on the Oneida reservation. An overview entitled Conservation Security Program was presented updating watershed information. State Technical Committee \$440,000 approved tribal EQIP for WTCAC. Tom Cogger gave an update on pest management for aquatic invasive programs. Three training areas for HAACP program identified in January: Kewaunee Bay, Red Cliff and Lac Courte Oreilles. EQIP 2005 Tribal Ranking Sheet introduced; determined rate for non-skilled labor would be \$12/Hour.

**WTCAC By-Laws:**

Received signatures of the Executive Board for final Articles of Incorporation.

**Review of Earmark:**

Received another earmark in the amount of \$285,000. A draft budget was provided.

**Update SF70 Billing:**

Submitted information for reimbursement of funds, the amount of funds submitted \$50,370.01 which is now available to WTCAC.

**WTCAC & Oneida Agreement:**

Working with Jennifer Hill-Kelley to finalize agreement with Oneida on our ability to access WTCAC funds for reimbursements.

**Earmark Draft Budget:**

Majority of monies would be used to develop: pilot conservation projects; Organize and sponsor Indigenous Farming Conference; Implement a Tribal Cultural Resource Section 106; Organize and sponsor 4 workshops addressing unique tribal conservation needs.

**Draft Travel reimbursement form:**

Provided a copy of a draft travel reimbursement form for those tribal representatives attending WTCAC meetings.

**Coordinator Position Description:**

Provided a copy of the draft coordinator position description for committee review. Will need to approve the position description as presented and post for applicants.

**Next meeting date:**

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005 tentative, will contact Lac du Flambeau for possible sponsorship of next WTCAC meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Menominee, seconded by Ho-Chunk, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.