

**Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**La Courte Orielles Reserve**  
**January 6, 2006**

**Welcome Jean Buffalo-Reyes** Meeting called to Order:

**Roll Call: Present:** Red Cliff, Bad River, Sokaogon, LCO,  
Lac Du Flambeau, Stockbridge Munsee, Forest County  
Potawatomi, Oneida  
**Absent:** Menominee, St. Croix, Ho-Chunk, GLIFWC

**NRCS Update: Pat Leavenworth:**

News to share with WTCAC that another earmark has been approved in the amount of \$297,000. These funds will allow WTCAC to continue the most needed efforts in working with NRCS and the eleven tribes in Wisconsin.

WTCAC will begin efforts in a long term strategic plan.

**WHIP Review/Approval of 2006 projects amount available \$41,000.00:**

WHIP proposals submitted for 2006 funds requested by tribe are:

Ho-Chunk Nation \$21,425; LCO \$1,650.00, Menominee \$1,850.00, Oneida, \$5,307.00 total submitted is \$30,232.00. motion by Bad River to approve proposals submitted, seconded by LCO all ayes, 0 opposed, 1 abstention motion carried.

**EQIP Review/Approval of 2006 projects amount available \$440,000.00:**

EQIP proposals submitted for 2006 funds requested by tribe are:

Forest Cty Potawatomi \$1,930.00, Ho-Chunk \$16,674.00 LCO \$12,500.00, Lac Du Flambeau \$49,050.00, Menominee \$1,951.00, Oneida \$58,213.25, Sokaogon \$7,823.00, Stockbridge Munsee \$7,377.00 total submitted \$155,518.25. Ho-Chunk requests to remove their proposal at this time. Motion by Oneida to approve proposals as submitted excluding Ho-Chunk proposal, seconded by Bad River. All ayes 0 opposed 0 abstentions motion carried Total amount of EQIP proposals submitted and approved is \$138,144.25.

**Tribal NRCS Area Resource Conservationist Position:**

A job description was drafted and submitted to NRCS a copy is provided to the WTCAC group. Motion by Stockbridge Munsee to support this position request to NRCS, Seconded by Sokaogon All ayes 0 opposed 0 abstentions motion carried.

### **IAC/INCA Meeting Report:**

Attended the IAC/INCA meeting in Las Vegas Nevada. The breakout sessions provided a lot of good information. There are currently a few tribal Native villages in Alaska that just became a Conservation District 2005. Listening session for the next farm bill was discussed.

### **106 Cultural Resource RFP:**

A copy of the request for proposals were handed out for review. We need to set a deadline on submittals. I have already received a proposal. We can now begin to post the RFP with a deadline to be determined at our April meeting. Please pass the word around if anyone is interested.

### **Indigenous Farming Conference update: Theme; Restoring Food Sovereignty through Integrating Local Food Systems; "Those who feed LEAD"**

Handed out the post card regarding the conference. Mailing went out to approximately 300 people. Registrations are coming in. A letter was sent by the Oneida Chair to the tribal Governments and NRCS State Conservationist in Michigan Minnesota and Wisconsin requesting for donations and their participation. There will be a youth track session and a poster contest. A couple social events and break out sessions are planned for the three days. A tour of the tsyunehku farm will take place and a couple of social events. Asking everyone to participate at the Annual Indigenous Farming Conference to be held in Oneida Wisconsin.

### **GEM Program:**

Shared with the group information on the Global Environmental Management (GEM) Program provided by University Wisconsin Stevens Point. Eleven to twelve week positions were identified and sponsored by two tribal communities. Two students were selected and assigned for the summer in Bad River and Red Cliff. The students helped out with agricultural projects located within the two tribal communities. The GEM Program would like to continue their efforts working with tribes in the future. Eight hundred pounds of food production were provided to the various programs identified within those communities. A heavy and healthy harvest occurred!

### **APHIS Report:**

Information was provided to the group by APHIS Joann Cruse regarding a workshop on Emerald Ash Bore infiltration at the Menominee Community College. Five tribes attended from Wisconsin. Topic of discussion was to inform tribes to consider banning fire wood being brought in to tribal

campgrounds from other areas that may be contaminated. There is currently an outbreak in the UP of Michigan. More information will need to be utilized to the tribal governments individually so that they can take the precautionary steps that may not lead to the spread in tribal communities.

**WTCAC Coordinator Position:**

Update on Executive Director Position. Received three applications will be working on a date to set up a meeting with the Executive Board for interviews. Will keep WTCAC posted.

**Letter of Support:**

A letter of support was prepared from WTCAC to offer support of Michigan Food and Farming Systems grant application. The grant proposal will provide training in hoop house season extension growing techniques, composting /soil quality improvement and organic farming methods. If funded it will give Wisconsin Tribal Communities to participate at the training sessions.

Bad River motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Stockbridge Munsee. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.