

COUNCIL ON FORESTRY MEETING

Date: 12/18/2018

Location: UWSP, Dreyfus Center, Room 223

Attendance: Henry Schienebeck, Jane Severt, Fred Souba, Matt Dallman, Senator Janet Bewley, Troy Brown, Tom Hittle, James Hoppe, Ken Price, Jordan Skiff, Paul Strong, Richard Wedepohl

Guests: Josh Benes, Nancy Bozek, Gretchen Marshall, Robert Peterson, Don Nelson, Rebecca Diebel

Agenda Item	Decisions	Assignments/Follow Up
Forestry Account Audit letter Presenter: <i>Schienebeck</i>	The Council approved sending the JFC and NRCS letters as edited.	Schienebeck and Severt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the requested edits to the JFC letter and send it out by the end of the week. • Make the requested edits to the NRCS letter and send.
<p><u>Joint Finance Committee (JFC) Letter:</u> Schienebeck, Severt, and Souba created a draft letter to thank the JFC for going forward with the Council requested audit and for their financial support of Forestry in Wisconsin. The Council discussed the letter and suggested edits to language, content, and formatting. Schienebeck and Severt will make the requested edits to the letter and send to JFC by the end of the week.</p> <p><u>Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) letter:</u> After the last Council meeting, R. Wedepohl created a draft letter to thank the NRCS for the work they have done to grow the EQUIP and CRP programs in Wisconsin. The Council discussed the letter and suggested edits to language, content, and formatting. Schienebeck and Severt will make the requested edits to the letter and send to Angela Biggs at NRCS.</p>		
Agenda Item	Decisions	Assignments/Follow Up
FY19-20 Budget Presenter: <i>Schienebeck, Severt</i>		Souba and Diebel: draft a forestry funding letter for the new administration/JFC and send it to Schienebeck and Severt for review.
The letter should advocate keeping the current forestry funding level but point out that even at this level there are issues that cannot be adequately addressed due to lack of funding and that these issues must be remedied to protect Wisconsin's natural resource. The Council		

suggests additional funding to support research, invasive species eradication, and EAB management. The Council would also like to ask for continued support of the Knowles Nelson stewardship.

Discussion items for the next budget cycle:

- Wood and forest products marketing and Forestry Summit
- Reinstatement of the mill tax or its equivalent in dedicated funding
 - Possibly package this along with other conservation efforts
- Spending GPR funding surplus

Agenda Item	Decisions	Assignments/Follow Up
Review Assignments Presenter: <i>Schienebeck</i>		Souba and Diebel: draft a forestry promotion letter for the new Governor and send to Schienebeck and Severt for review.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Edits to the work plan:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Schienebeck will lead the transportation/weight restrictions (WFPS Recommendations) topic ○ Utilization of wood products issue: in addition to biochar, other possibilities will also be researched <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Matt Dallman will be added to the team 		
	Decisions	Assignments/Follow Up
State Forester’s Report Presenter: Fred Souba		Diebel: ask Andy how other divisions are sending out their agendas and send this information to Bozek
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Governor Transition update:</u> The Council will continue to work until notified of changes. Members will likely have to reapply. • <u>EAB and HRD guidelines:</u> DNR is working with partners to identify training opportunities for the new guidelines which will be effective January 1st. • <u>Agenda items for next Council meeting:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DNR research agenda - get feedback from the Council on the agenda items ○ 2020 Forest Action Plan – Forestry is currently working on the plan and will give a progress update to Council 		

Next meeting: The January meeting will be rescheduled for February 20th in Madison.