**COUNCIL ON FORESTRY MEETING**

**Date:** 05/08/19

**Location:** State Natural Resources Building (GEF2)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Council Members:** | | **Guests:** | |
| ~~Henry Scheinebeck,~~ *~~Chair~~* | Rep. Jeff Mursau – 9 AM to noon | Faye Bokelman - *DNR* | Heather Berklund - *DNR* |
| Jane Severt, *Vice Chair* | ~~Kenneth Price~~ | Rebecca Deibel - *DNR* | Collin Buntrock - *DNR* |
| Fred Souba, *Chief State Forester* | Jason Sjostrom |  |  |
| Sen. Janet Bewley – 9 AM-2 PM | Jordan Skiff | Earl Gustafson, *Paper Council* | Kate Flick, *LEAF Program* |
| ~~Troy Brown~~ | Paul Strong – from 1:30 to 3 PM | Ron Eckstein, *Wildlife Society* | Mike Peterson, *Washburn Co.* |
| Matt Dallman | ~~Senator Tom Tiffany~~ Mitch Ohly - *sub* | Nancy Bozek, *Woodland Owners* | Brian Glodowski, *Timberstone* |
| Tom Hittle | Richard Wedepohl | Richard Wagner, *Woodland Owners* | Mark Rickenbach, *prior CoF* |
| James Hoppe | ~~Ken Zabel~~ | Robert Peterson, *Domtar* |  |
| James Kerkman |  | **Next Meeting:** July 24, 2019 | |
|  |  |  | |
| Before the meeting began, the Council presented Mark Rickenbach with a plaque to thank him for his 7 years of service. Mark was a member of the Council on Forestry from 2011 to 2018. | | | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Agenda Item** | **Materials** | **Assignments/Follow Up** |
| Building with Wood: Mass Timber Overview, Building Codes and wood use  **Presenter:** Collin Buntrock, DNR and Lori Koch, American Wood Council |  |  |
| Collin Buntrock, DNR Forestry Products Team Leader, gave a presentation to the Council on the differences in mass timber and how Wisconsin fits into the industry. He covered the different types of mass timber, cross-laminated timber manufacturing in the U.S., the benefits of using mass timber, and highlighted several mass timber projects in Wisconsin.  Lori Koch, Manager of Educational Outreach at the American Wood Council also gave a presentation to the Council regarding the International Code Council’s Tall Wood Building (TWB) ad-hoc committee. She explained the TWB ad-hoc’s objectives, the results of their multi-story fire structure tests, and their proposals for three types of construction (based on non-combustible protection requirements).  *PowerPoints attached above* | | |
| **Agenda Item** | **Materials** | **Assignments/Follow Up** |
| Council Research Priorities  **Presenter:** Council ad hoc team (*Severt, Price, Skiff, Scheinebeck, & Hittle*) |  | **Scheinebeck**: research what weight restriction studies have been done  **Severt**: edit and finalize the Cof research priorities document and send to Souba |
| At the 3/29/19 CoF meeting, an ad hoc team was formed to review the 2019-2021 DNR forestry research agenda (FRA) and develop a list of research priorities for the Council. The ad hoc’s suggested research priorities include:   1. **Rutting** – Rutting is addressed in the FRA (*Statement I – Item J*), but the CoF would like to include broader objectives and additional considerations: balancing costs and risks, risk of ecological impacts versus costs of operational constraints, and overall impacts on the wood supply chain. 2. **Weight Restrictions** – There is a need to share information regarding how transportation policy impacts forest industry with small communities, town boards, foresters, etc. A sub-committee should be developed to share credible information on the topic in various ways, including posting on CoF website. 3. **Marketing/promoting use of wood** – Host a summit to promote wood products to architects, builders, home supply outlets, etc. 4. **Water** – The current Wisconsin Governor/Legislature have placed a high priority on clean water. CoF should work to inform the public about how Wisconsin forests provide public health benefits, storm water credits, flood reduction, etc. A sub-committee should be formed between CoF and the Urban Forestry Council to work on this issue. 5. **Regeneration** – Investigate if operational restraints are affecting successful regeneration of certain tree species (species that need scarification to regenerate).   Other important research topics include biochar, forest carbon markets, and carbon offsets. Proposed changes to CoF website were presented.  The Council approved the ad hoc’s suggested research priorities and proposed changes/updates to CoF website. | | |
| **Agenda Item** | **Materials** | **Assignments/Follow Up** |
| Council letter on Stewardship Funding  **Presenter:** Matt Dallman & Tom Hittle | Finalized Letter: | **Dallman**: make the requested edits to the letter and send to Bokelman  **Bokelman**: forward the updated letter to the Council members  **All CoF members**: share/discuss the letter with your partners and respond with approval or an abstention request by close of business on Monday, May 13th  **Sheinebeck, Severt**: send the finalized letter to the Joint Finance Committee, Governor, and members of relevant committees in the Senate and House. |
| At the 2/20/19 meeting, the Council voted to send a letter to the Governor and Legislature, before they vote on the 2019-2021 State Budget, to emphasize the value of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program to Wisconsin’s forests and encourage them to support reauthorizing the program in 2020 when it expires.  A draft letter was brought to this meeting for the Council to review and approve. There was much discussion about the wording of the letter and edits were suggested. Several members of the Council did not feel comfortable approving the letter until they discussed it with their stakeholder groups. Matt Dallman agreed to make the requested edits after the meeting ended and email the updated letter to Faye to forward to the Council members. Members were given until close of business on Monday, May 13th to share/discuss the letter with their partners and respond with approval or an abstention request. After May 13th, the letter would be adjusted to include any requested abstentions and sent to the Joint Finance Committee, Governor, and members of relevant committees in the Senate and House. | | |
| **Agenda Item** | **Materials** | **Assignments/Follow Up** |
| Update on Wood Products Summit  **Presenter:** Troy Brown & Jordan Skiff |  |  |
| * There is not a date set yet for the summit. * The Urban Forestry Council is continuing to work on creating presentations that can be shared at conferences or schools about using urban wood in their designs. * There is discussion about creating webinars with the American Institute of Architects that could be taken for credit; topics could include mass timber, urban wood, hardwoods, etc. | | |
| **Agenda Item** | **Materials** | **Assignments/Follow Up** |
| GNA Program Updates  **Presenter:** CNNF & DNR |  |  |
| Rebecca Diebel, DNR Policy Advisor, gave a presentation updating the Council on the condition of the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) Program. She covered the status of the Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest (CNNF) Timber Sale Program, GNA’s accomplishments to date, and the implementation of program revenue funded projects.  *PowerPoint attached above.* | | |
| **Agenda Item** | **Materials** | **Assignments/Follow Up** |
| Legislator’s Report  **Presenter:** |  |  |
| Senator Bewley briefed the Council on a group of charter school students from Price & Ashland County who have been tracking ruffed grouse on the Chequamegon School Forest. The students gave a presentation to the Legislature on 5/7/19 and assisted in introducing a bill to make the ruffed grouse the official Wisconsin state game bird. If the bill passes, CoF should send a letter to these students thanking them for their work and inviting them to present to CoF in the future. | | |
| **Agenda Item** | **Materials** | **Assignments/Follow Up** |
| State Foresters Report  **Presenter:** Fred Souba |  |  |
| **Bat Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)** – The Lake States HCP (WI, MI, MN) are reviewing edits to Chapter 5 and it will soon be released for public comment. First drafts of chapters 6 and 7 should be ready for the steering committee to review by the end of June.  **Arbor Day** – Next week, the Department of Forestry will be holding an open house at its Rhinelander headquarters from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Activities will include tree planting and tour of the facility.  **Forest Action Plan** – The plan’s technical assessment is complete and on schedule. Next week, CoF members will receive an email from Mike Warnke that contains the technical report and instructions on how to review it. | | |