

Wisconsin Council on Forestry: Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Meeting Location: Rhinelander & Zoom

Council Members		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Hittle, <i>Chair</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Henry Schienebeck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> William Van Lopik
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Dallman, <i>Vice Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Hoppe	<input type="checkbox"/> Brad Dorff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Berklund, <i>Chief State Forester</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Kerkman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adena Rissman
<input type="checkbox"/> Senator Romaine Quinn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Juris Repsa	<input type="checkbox"/> Buddy Huffaker
<input type="checkbox"/> Senator Jeff Smith	<input type="checkbox"/> Jenn Youngblood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rebekah Luedtke
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Katrina Shankland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jordan Skiff	<input type="checkbox"/> OPEN - Builders/Secondary Wood Users
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Jeff Mursau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erik Rantala	
Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 23, 2024		

Minutes

Tuesday, November 14	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
9:00 AM Welcome & Member Introductions (Chair Hittle)			
9:20 AM Chair Update		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2024 dates have been set, and will be posted on the website Chair welcomes any ideas for future agenda ideas 	
9:30 AM Open Forum for Council Members & Committee Updates		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kerkman: any interest in getting CFE credits for the council meetings? Potential interest from council members for CFE credits in fall COF tour. Hoppe: Paper council transportation committee: met last week, updates on WCFA, carbon markets, GLTPA. New routes proposed for trucks coming into WI. Welcome other groups who would like to attend. Next meeting will be on Jan 25. Luedtke: public service announcement 30-sec clip has been launched; winter clip will be announced in a few weeks. Luedtke: hosted legislative forestry tour (6 total legislators) in Spooner in September. Looking to do more tours like this. All JFC members, all assembly parks & forestry committee, all senate committee on forestry. Sen Quinn's office helped spread the word. 	

Tuesday, November 14	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luedtke: WCFA having spring meeting in Madison at Concourse in February. • Luedtke: looking to get special license plate for revenue for WCFA. Looking for signatures for support. • Skiff: Forest Products Committee: looking for membership on the committee. • Profile committee: reviewed website analytics report 	
<p>10:10 AM State Timber Sale Report, 20 min Action Item Chair Hittle</p>	<p>Timber Harvest Report 2021-2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statute requirement from 2007 to provide biennial report on state lands forestry management. Intent/purpose of statute was to address backlog in state lands inventory/management and to ensure accountability (prevent over or under harvesting). • If over/under +/- 10% CoF is required to provide a report per statute. • From pulp/paper standpoint, staying within the sideboards of the statute helps show investors that there is consistency across the state. 	<p>Tom and Matt will take feedback and draft comment/report: what is in statute obligation: reason for noncompliance. Don't see this as non-compliance (small amount of acreage in noncompliance). Would like to also touch on budget impacts. Will bring back to January COF meeting.</p>
<p>10:30 AM BREAK</p>			
<p>10:45 AM State Forest Action Plan & COF Committee Tie-in, 30 min Vice-Chair Dallman</p>	<p>SFAP Committee Tie-in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This assignment will tie into next COF biennial report as well as the 5 year report for the SFAP. 	<p>Assignment: committees meet between now and Jan 2024 meeting to answer: current committee work overlap with goals/strategies in 2020 SFAP, what additional work can be taken up by committee. Matt will also send this assignment out via email. Will identify a due date ahead of Jan meeting.</p>
<p>11:15 AM State Budget Timeline & Discussion, 30 min Jeff Stagg</p>	<p>25-27 Biennial Budget Process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next budget cycle is currently in progress: between now and summer, process is completely internal (agency level). • August or Sept 2024: NRB will vote on DNR's submissions to gov office. That is the point where everything becomes public facing. • First COF input to DNR on what gets put forward for budget initiatives can occur spring/summer 	

Tuesday, November 14	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received recommendation to show consensus from the council; if there abstentions, identify reasoning for those. • Current budget: \$25M transfer to FWP from FR Seg account: how is this money being used? Looking for more transparency. • There are occasionally legislative fiscal audits. FR account went through audit several years ago (first one in ~15 years). Ask comes directly from the legislature to direct the legislative audit bureau to conduct audit. • Would like a list of what doesn't get done in DoF due to the \$675K supplies/services funding reduction 	
11:45 AM Lunch, 45 min			
12:30 PM WCFA/GLTPA Messaging Campaign, 45 min Rebekah Luedtke, Tara Schessler (WAOW)	Messaging Campaign Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep this messaging campaign in mind, take back to your respective groups and consider contributing towards a broader effort 	
1:15 PM WI Paper Council/UW-Oshkosh Industry Study, 45 min Shawn Brantmeier (WI Paper Council)	Strategic Framework Presentation		
2:00 PM COF Website Update, 15 min Amanda Koch (DNR Policy Advisor), Kate Habrel (DNR Web Coordinator)	Website Update Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed potential changes/goals to new website • Reviewed example template for new website (DATCP) • Hoping to launch new website in Feb/March 2024 • Jim Kerkman will send previous comms plan out 	Amanda and Kate will plan to come back to council at Jan meeting
2:15 PM Break, 15 min			
2:30 PM Outcomes from September Strategic Breakout Groups, 1 hr Action Item	Roadmap Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement to pursue an initiative around the forestry industry • Agreement to plan/proceed with a roadmap to support, develop and diversify forest industry • Target audience: legislators, new businesses. Would like to attract new business, but also support existing industry/business. Acknowledge need a plan to reach multiple audiences. • Will need an assessment 	Tom and Matt will draft a letter of support.
11:30 AM Legislative Updates, 15 min			

Tuesday, November 14	Supporting Documents	Discussion	Decisions, Action Items, Assignments
<p>11:45 AM State Forester Updates</p>		<p>State Forester Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacancies: continue to try to hire where/when possible • New staff support for Urban Forestry Council • Currently recruiting forest certification coordinator, will have new forest products team leader in place by Jan • New federal funding for trillion trees coordinator and IRA grant coordinator • Private Forestry handbook chapters going out to public input • State lands audits: no compliance issues • 1M acres open MFL, a lot access interest from hunters • 3.6M seedlings sold from nursery, haven't seen these numbers since 2012. • Currently going through 2021 data and will be updating forest economics fact sheets. • Wrapping up emergency rule for urban forestry grants, taking to NRB in Dec. • Wildland fire increased this year compared to 10 year trend • Monitoring farm bill at national/state level, what it means for GNA and forestry grant programs. Gov Evers sent letter to encourage reauthorization of farm bill. 	
<p>4:00 PM: ADJOURN</p>			