

## Governor's Council on Forestry - November 29, 2017

Council Members		Guests	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Scheinebeck, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Janet Bewley	Rebecca Diebel	Carmen Hardin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jane Severt, Vice Chairwoman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Tom Tiffany	MaryAnn Buenzow	Ron Eckstein
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fred Souba, Chief State Forester	<input type="checkbox"/> Ken Zabel	Tyler Wenzlaff	Robert Peterson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Sjostrom	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Troy Brown	Sara Bredesen	Dani Jones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Kerkman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Strong	Nancy Bozek	Gretchen Marshall
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Wedepohl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Dallman	Steve Ring	Steve Kariainen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kenneth Price	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Hittle	John and Carol Nielson	Mike Warnke/Heather Berklund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Hoppe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Jeff Mursau	Earl Gustafson	Fred Clark
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Rickenbach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Nick Milroy	Jessie Augustine	Forrest Gibeault

**Next Meeting: (January 31<sup>st</sup> in Stevens Point)**

## Minutes

Agenda Item	Discussion	Decision/Action Items
<b>November 29, 2017 - Hawthorne Suites, Fitchburg, WI</b> Location Address: 5421 Caddis Bend, Fitchburg, WI 53711		
9:00 AM <b>Welcome/Intro</b> (Chair Schienebeck)		
9:15-10:15AM <b>Forest Exploration Center:</b> Presentation of mission and goals (Fred Clark & Tom Chapman, FEC Board members)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council members expressed their desire to see forest management education at the FEC and would be willing to assist in message development. FEC board members mentioned that it is challenging to do large scale management on site due to the size of the parcel.</li> <li>Concern arose that management on the parcel may not accurately represent active timber harvesting. The use of augmented reality and simulations was suggested to provide a more realistic experience.</li> </ul>	<p style="color: red;">The Council on Forestry will send a letter supporting the goals and educational mission that the FEC board has presented.</p> <p style="color: red;">FEC will likely request support from the Council in the future; possibly for assistance on site for a variety of activities (e.g. demo's).</p> <p style="color: red;">Jason Sjostrom offered to connect FEC board members with the building industry to aid in facility design</p>
10:15-10:30 AM <b>BREAK</b>		
10:30 – 12:00 PM <b>WI Forest Practices Study (WFPS):</b> Ad hoc team presents actions and tasks for Council approval; Silviculture Guidance Team (SGT) presentation of work plan based on WFPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendations from this study will be used to shape future silvicultural guidance developed by the Department of Natural Resources. The guidance may afford landowners more flexibility when managing their forests. Tracking the results that come from this new guidance will be beneficial and could help managers make better decisions moving forward.</li> </ul>	<p style="color: red;"><b>Troy Brown:</b> Motion to support all the recommendations from the ad hoc committee  <b>Motion Seconded</b>  <b>Motion Passed unanimously</b>  <b>Jane Severt:</b> Motion that DNR facilitate and track progress of ad hoc committee recommendations                      *Clarification: The Department will address high priority items first while moving lower priorities</p>

(Heather Berklund, Ken Price, Tom Hittle)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senator Bewley would like to see economic impacts from the study tracked</li> <li>• Results of the WFPS are still subject to review by the forestry academic community but Henry shared that the study has received positive feedback from industry representatives. Council members should be prepared to receive questions and feedback.</li> <li>• Council was complementary of the ad hoc teams work and desire to see the actions implemented.</li> </ul>	<p>into the work plan as high priority items are completed.</p> <p><b>Motion Seconded</b>  <b>Motion passed unanimously.</b>  <b>Action Item:</b> The WFPS recommendations will be assigned to the Silvicultural Guidance Team who will include these items in their 2017-18 work plan. This work plan, as well as the status of WFPS recommendations, will be presented to the Council at the January 31<sup>st</sup> meeting. Updates from the Silvicultural Guidance Team will continue every 6 months.</p>
12:00 – 1:00 PM <b>LUNCH</b>		
1:00 - 1:45 PM <b>Birch Pole Management Efforts</b> (Carmen Hardin)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The DNR is piloting a birch pole harvest permit on state lands. Permits will only be issued for areas NOT being managed for birch.</li> <li>• Permit fees will be based on the value of the product.</li> <li>• Law enforcement will receive copies of permits so they are aware of locations harvest is allowed.</li> </ul>	
1:45-2:15 PM <b>Legislator Reports:</b> Discuss new legislative proposals (Senators Bewley and Tiffany, Representatives Mursau and Milroy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interest was expressed to equalize MFL incentives based on value of land.</li> <li>• Rep Mursau working on legislative fixes to recent MFL changes.</li> </ul>	
2:15-2:30 PM <b>BREAK</b>		
2:30 - 3:30 PM <b>State budget items:</b> Division of Forestry will explain recent state budget items affecting Division and plans for implementation, and share information on how Division budget is developed (Fred Souba, Mike Warnke, Jeff Stagg)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deputy Division Administrator, Mike Warnke, gave overview of the budget process, forestry budget items, and more detail on the upcoming audit.</li> <li>• The Division of Forestry Legislative Audit will begin mid-December and take roughly 6 months.</li> <li>• Discussion on what the goal of the Council's review of the Forestry Account should be and what the process should be</li> </ul>	<p><b>Henry and Jane:</b> to craft a list of topics they would like the department to inform the Council on regarding the Forestry Account budget and audit at a future council meeting. Suggested topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the revenue portion of the Forestry budget</li> <li>• estimates of future timber sale revenue</li> <li>• estimates of future property taxes</li> </ul> <p><b>Kelsey:</b> scan in 2002 audit and share with council members</p>
3:30 – 4:00 PM <b>State Forester Report:</b> GNA, filling vacant positions, fire season, alignment, Forestry HQs, new publications of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roughly 10 GNA sales are going out for bid in December. Next bid opening will be summer 2018.</li> <li>• As of January 2018, rec and law enforcement responsibilities for State Forests will be transferred to Parks &amp; Recreation and Law Enforcement.</li> <li>• New Forestry HQ will be at the DNR Rhinelander Service Center. 20 positions will either be moving or will be filled at the Rhinelander Service Station as of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.</li> </ul>	

(Fred Souba)	Each position will be evaluated on a case by case basis for determining location.	
<b>4:00 PM ADJOURN</b>	<b>2018 Meeting Dates:</b> Wednesday, January 31 <sup>st</sup> (Stevens Point) March 28 <sup>th</sup> May 31 <sup>st</sup> September 19 and 20 November 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Adjourned at 3:39 PM</b>