

**Governor's Council on Invasive Species
Interagency Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Prairie Oak State Office Building (DATCP) – Room 172
January 10, 2014 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Members Present: Brian Kuhn – Chair (DATCP), Travis Olson (DOA), Mark Renz (UWEX), Paul Schumacher (Council Chair - via telephone), Jack Sullivan (DNR), Dreux Watermolen (DNR), Todd Matheson (DOT),

Others Present: Christa Wollenzien (DOT), Linda Kastorff – Note Taker (DATCP)

1. Welcome and Introductions:

- a. Members and attendees present introduced themselves and their roles in their agencies.

2. Legal Open Notice

- a. Brian Kuhn acknowledged the meeting was properly noticed in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting law.

3. Changes and Additions to Agenda

- a. None

4. Approval of Prior Minutes

- a. The minutes from 10/01/2013 were approved as written after the following updates. Sullivan made the motion to approve, and Matheson seconded.
 - i. Page 4 – Change “Owen” to “Owen Boyle” and delete “Boil” bullet point
 - ii. Page 4 – Change “July 1 will change to unit based billing and will” to “July 1 will allow the option to unit based billing which will”
 - iii. Page 5 – Update WITCZAK to WITCAC (WI Tribal Conservation Advisory Committee)
 - iv. Page 5 – Change “Brian and Joann Cruse are the state wide approvers” to “Brian and Joann Cruse review and comment on all projects submitted for the state of Wisconsin”

5. Discussion of the Process Used by the DNR in Analyzing the IS Strategic Plan Priorities in the Context of Existing Program Work to Develop 2014 DNR Action Items/Work Plan Which departments need representation – Dreux Watermolen

- a. **Spreadsheet template created** - created by the DNR as a tool to measure the DNR's progress toward the Strategic Plan, to report back to the Council on their progress and later this fall use the information in their yearly report to the legislature
 - i. Spreadsheet will function as a template for other agencies to fill in their measures of success

- ii. Spreadsheet contains four tabs to represent the four elements of the Strategic Plan the Council has identified as priorities – Prevention, Detection, Rapid Response and Control
- b. **What are we doing?** - Each department identified what actions they are currently performing - requested each department or programs to look at the objectives and the actions which are listed in the Strategic Plan as directions of where we want to move towards and to identify existing work that they are already doing in each of their programs that support or implement some of these objectives.
 - i. Under the Prevention Tab – 7 Objectives are listed in the Strategic Plan
 - 1. DNR has 71 actions being taken towards these objectives
 - ii. Under the Control Tab – 6 Objectives are listed in the Strategic Plan
 - 1. DNR has 37 actions being taken towards these objectives
- c. **Why are we doing it?** - Each department identified major actions being performed which are not identified as objectives in the Strategic Plan
 - i. Should we continue to perform these actions
 - ii. Are there statutory items requiring us to perform these actions
 - iii. Can we stop performing these actions and shift time and resources towards Strategic Plan objectives
- d. **Where do we want to go?** - Review spreadsheet to determine where overlaps occur or where actions do not exist – how does the work currently being done reflect the priorities of the DNR and the priorities set by the Council
 - i. Under the Prevention Tab – the Council identified two actions as priorities
 - 1. Compared against what the actions being done by the DNR – there is overlap meaning the DNR is working on the two actions identified as priorities by the Council
- e. **How can we get there?** - Recorded budget figures to assist in determining budget priorities to determine where they are falling short and what then do they need.
 - i. Pulled out the priority areas and objective for the coming year and will focus budget initiatives on these areas where the priorities align for the Strategic Plan, the Council’s priorities and the departments priorities.
- f. **How will the spreadsheet be used to guide future action?** – DNR has determined their gaps are in the Rapid Response and Control areas. They have proceeded with a budget development exercise. They will focus their new budget initiatives on the gaps.
- g. **Review areas of overlap for effectiveness and determine improvement initiatives**
 - i. Reprioritize Activities - Overlap occurred in the areas of Prevention and Detection which indicate the department is in alignment with the priorities. They will continue to place the emphasis on the same types of activities but will continually reprioritize the activities in those areas.
 - 1. Prevention Example: NR 40 – will continue to focus on compliance but the focus last year was on pet stores and nurseries and this year will be shifted to garden centers.
 - ii. Shift Resources – possibility of adding boxes to spreadsheet to identify which departments are working on each of the priorities. One department

may have resources working on a specific area where others have no resources. May be able to combine efforts.

1. Detection Example: using budget initiatives possibly hire someone with IT and business analytical skills to evaluate the possibility of a combined database from multiple departments or create portal access to the databases.

- h. **What is the goal of this spreadsheet exercise?** – Combined agencies gap analysis
 - i. Budgeting Initiatives - To justify why we are asking for additional resources
 - ii. Internal Efficiencies In Government – this exercise will show internal efficiencies between agencies working together
 - iii. Allocate Resources – one agency may have a resource working on a priority where another agency may not have any resources available but could incorporate their needs into the other agencies process.
 - iv. Interagency Cooperation - To be effective in the battle against invasive species and to show we have made good process and where do we want to make progress in the next 2 years?
 - v. Evaluate our programs again in two years using the same template to show progress.
 - vi. Identify Partners - Identify other groups outside of government that are working with the agencies to fight invasives (such as nurseries)
 1. Spreadsheet contains a column for *Partners* to identify these groups
 2. To build capacity amongst partners and to fully engage partners
 - a. Prevention and early detections – provide competitive grants to local cooperative weed management groups to leverage local resources to do early detection and prevention work.
 - b. National program funding for nursery certification – internally nurseries do self-inspection of all nursery stock coming in. Once they are a certified nursery we would audit their program once every couple years instead of inspecting them yearly.
- i. **Each agency identifies their top priorities - send to Dreux by deadline 03/14/14 for consolidation.**
 - i. Each agency will identify their one or two top priorities (print the Executive Summary and draw the boxes as demonstrated in the spreadsheet) under each of the strategies - Prevention, Detection, Rapid Response and Control
 - ii. Dreux will incorporate the priorities into the spreadsheet for each agency and identify the overlap
- j. **Partnerships** - Once all agencies data is compiled a copy should be presented to the Council and request the Council push the template out to other groups (i.e. CWMA's, etc.)

6. Discussion of Multi-Agency Invasive Species Budget Initiative Ideas for FY'13-15

- a. Brian indicated his Administrator said the Secretary has not determined the budget direction for this year as of yet.
 - i. Brian felt this process would be a good opportunity to identify where the gaps are and what budget initiatives make sense for these priorities.

7. Interagency Coordination Activities and Agency Updates

a. First Detectors Program Update – Mark Renz

- i. Training will be Mar-Apr
- ii. Developing the Curriculum
 - 1. This year targeting Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists to train
 - 2. Waiting to hear on funding request - submitted in the second round of Farm Bill Funding to expand training to all citizen scientists
 - 3. On line training will be available
 - 4. Plan is to have a head coordinator staff member to coordinate summer activities in 2014
 - 5. Survey indicated interest in volunteer opportunities for the 1st Detectors group
 - a. APHIS buprestids
 - b. Roadside invasive plant protection
 - c. Emerald Ash Borer work with Dick Rideout
 - d. Late blight with the University – Madison
- iii. Expect >100 people to be trained this year
- iv. Goal is to shift some of the duties of the Master Gardener staff to 1st Detector staff
 - 1. Working with Minnesota's 1st Detectors Program
 - 2. Setting up a process to document volunteers impact (trained x number of members, surveyed x number of acres, interacted with x number of individuals, drove x number of miles, etc.)

b. UMISC (Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference) will be held Oct 20-22, 2014 in Duluth, MN – Marc Renz

- i. Save the date email will be sent by Marc next week
- ii. Executive Committee would like to know if the Invasive Species Council is interested in being a cohost in this event as they were previously in La Crosse.
 - 1. Executive Committee of UMISC has some Stipulations but Marc will email the entire council so they can discuss if they are interested before their meeting on 1/30/14.
 - a. Stipulations: if you want to be a cohost the Invasive Species Council staff must have some type of involvement in the committees and assistance with sponsorship and recruitment.
 - i. Committees include: program committee, sponsor committee, field trip committee, awards committee

- c. **Agency Updates**
 - i. **DNR Agency Updates –Dreux Watermolen**
 - 1. Staffing change – Chrystal Schreck has taken another position with the DNR and has been replaced with Jennifer Feyerherm
 - a. Jennifer will provide staff support for the Councils Education Committee
 - 2. NR 40 Update – Draft proposals of the Administrative Rule were shared with the public in October with a 60 day public comment period on the economic impact analysis document.
 - a. Period closed Dec. 31st and received written comments from just over 2 dozen people.
 - b. Dreux has a copy of the summary of comments and the responses if any one wishes to receive a copy
 - c. Request received from the Village of Cecil in Shawano County to coordinate with the DNR on the economic impact analysis document
 - d. Public hearings are tentatively scheduled for May & June 2014 pending approval of the Natural Resources Board in April
- d. **Regionalized Contracts for Weed Treatment – Todd Matheson/Christa Wollenzien**
 - i. Weed spraying program will not be part of 2014 but is on track for 2015 budget
 - 1. Funding becomes available July 1, contracts could go out then but late treatment is not as effective so treatment would not be done until early spring/summer of 2015
- e. **Farm Bill 10201 – Brian Kuhn**
 - i. \$50 million made available annually to address plant and pest diseases by states, Tribes and other entities can submit proposals
 - 1. 9 were submitted for the state of Wisconsin totaling \$400,000
 - a. 5 from DATCP
 - i. Log and lumber pathway risk analysis – DATCP will work on this with DNR
 - b. Marc Renz had one
 - c. Potawatomie for outreach and education coordinator on environmental issues covering invasive species
 - d. WITCAC to train tribes here and nationally on the 10201 process to encourage more tribal participation
 - e. UW Seed certification program for potato cyst nematode in Wisconsin
 - ii. DATCP & DNR Pest Summit in February 2014
 - 1. Will discuss work plans for 2014 for each agency
 - 2. Dreux would like a write up on this Summit to submit at the Council meeting, Brian will connect Dreux with the DNR Representative on the Planning Committee
- f. **Organisms in Trade – Internet, Pet Stores, etc. – Paul Schumacher**

- i. Chrystal is working the final report on the Organisms in Trade project.
 - 1. Goal is to submit the final report to the EPA on January 31st
 - 2. There are four enforcement actions which require Jennifer Feyerherm to follow up on non-compliance issues
- ii. Bob Wakeman - DNR's Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator developed an application for additional Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding to include a piece to follow up on the work done on the current project. The application was not successful in obtaining additional funding
- iii. Bait Fish – Dreux
 - 1. Each agency identify who is needs to be involved in the discussion and to identify what each agency thinks are the issues to discuss
 - 2. Bill Horns (DNR) is retiring in a week and a new person in the fishery program will need to be identified for the invasives discussions
 - 3. Dr. Paul McGraw - Division Administrator for Animal Health and Dr. Myron Kebus Fish - Veterinarian will represent DATCP in conversations about the pertinent topics
 - 4. If the Council is going to engage with the Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference, maybe they should also consider a bait fish symposium that could engage surrounding states
 - 5. Brian will ask the Executive Committee about the possibility of inviting the APHIS SITC (Smuggling Interdiction and Trade Compliance) from Chicago to come to a Council meeting to talk about their internet related investigations they are performing on invasive species or species not permitted in our country but coming in from other countries
- g. **Other Coordination items - All**
 - i. None

8. Other Topics

- a. No new topics

9. Action Items and Assignments:

- a. Dreux will email the spreadsheet and power point presentation slides to all members after the meeting.
- b. Each agency will identify their one or two top priorities under each of the strategies - Prevention, Detection, Rapid Response and Control and provide to Dreux by the 03/14/14 deadline for consolidation.
- c. Dreux will incorporate the priorities into the spreadsheet for each agency and identify the overlap.
- d. Marc will send a save the date email concerning UMISC meeting on Oct. 20-22, 2014 in Duluth MN
- e. Brian will connect Dreux with the DNR Representative on the Planning Committee to write a paragraph on the Pest Summit for submission to the Council

- f. Brian will ask during the Executive Committee call about inviting APHIS SITC to come to a Council meeting and talk about their internet related on invasive species or species not permitted in our country

Adjourned at 10:50 a.m.