

**Wisconsin Invasive Species Council  
Executive Committee Meeting**

Thursday, May 22, 2014

1:00 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

**Via Conference Call**

**Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Schumacher called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Schumacher, Kuhn, and Sullivan

Others Present: Watermolen (Staff)

**Approval of Minutes from Jan. 15, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting**

Motion by Sullivan to approve. Second by Kuhn. Minutes approved with minor editorial corrections.

**Review of Minutes and Action Items from Jan. 30, 2014 Council Meeting**

An update on tasks identified in the Council minutes was distributed to the committee in advance. The Council reviewed each of the tasks identified in the meeting minutes:

TASK: Watermolen will distribute a short written update on the department's fish passage prior to the next Council meeting. – **Completed**. The updates email sent to Council on March 19, 2014 included a written update with a link to the documents.

TASK: Sullivan to ask DNR's invasive species team to take up this issue and possibly formalize a process. The process could be informed by experiences with CWD. –**Completed**, but outcome remains in process. Sullivan made request, Invasive Species Team had initial discussions at a meeting in February, the team identified a number of legal and process issues that will need to be resolved, and additional work remains to be done. This was identified as a lower priority in the near term due to NR 40 hearing process and agency budget development efforts. The team will revisit it in the future.

TASK: Watermolen will notify Council when hearings are scheduled. – **Completed**. Email on April 9 notified Council of NRB approval to go to hearing; updates email on April 18, 2014 included a "hold the date" announcement. DNR has begun a major push of information regarding the hearings to the public. Kuhn plans to attend Madison hearing. Schumacher plans to attend Green Bay hearing.

TASK: Schumacher will draft and circulate to the Council a proposal for what reasonable Council goals related to the bait industry, pet stores, and mail order and internet sales might be. – **In process**. Schumacher will give it a stab. Committee members should feel free to suggest ideas.

TASK: Agency representatives will determine what level of contribution their agencies can make and will work directly with conference organizers to make payment. – **Completed.** DNR has made a contribution; DOA, DATCP, and DOT have pledged contributions. We can report amounts at Council meeting.

TASK: Schumacher to contact Kirkman to inquire if he would like to participate in one of the conference committees. – **In process.** Schumacher will confirm that he had the discussion with Kirkman.

TASK: Watermolen will conduct a Doodle poll later this spring for possible fall meeting dates. **In process.** Current plan is to distribute the Doodle poll with the June Council meeting materials.

### **Update on DNR Invasive Species Staffing**

Sullivan reported that DNR has identified a possible opportunity to address staffing on a permanent basis using a vacancy created as a result of a retirement. The Bureau of Science Services is also requesting LTE and support money. An update can be provided to the Council at the June meeting.

### **Update on Council Website**

The Council website is currently hosted on a DOA server. When the Council website was originally set up, DNR's website was going through an overhaul and setting the Council website up on the DOA server made sense. However, this makes it difficult for DNR staff to make changes, updates, etc. In addition, the underlying architecture is now a little antiquated. Information technology staff members are working on transitioning the site to a DNR server. This should be complete by early summer. This will allow DNR's invasive species staff to ensure the site is regularly updated and maintained.

TASK: Watermolen will inform Council on progress as project moves forward.

### **Current Status of Council Appointments**

The Committee reviewed the current list of Council members and the dates their terms expire.

TASK: Schumacher will talk to those Council members whose terms have ended or are near ending.

TASK: Watermolen will send a link to Governor's appointment page to those Council members whose terms have ended or are near ending.

### **Succession Planning**

Schumacher is interested in remaining on the Council, but would like to step down as the Council Chair. He would like to facilitate a smooth transition to new leadership prior to the conclusion of his Council term.

TASK: Schumacher will discuss the transition with other Council members and explore their potential interest in assuming a leadership role.

### **Follow-up with Potential Council Member**

Watermolen reminded the Executive Committee that an individual has expressed interest in serving on the Council. Watermolen has provided the individual with basic information on the Council's structure and functions. He has also shared meeting information with the individual.

TASK: Watermolen will forward the meeting announcement, agenda, and materials for the June 5 meeting to the individual.

### **Agenda Development for June 5, 2014 Council Meeting**

The committee discussed the upcoming June Council meeting.

#### **FINAL AGENDA:**

Call to Order and Introductions (5 minutes)

Approval: January 30, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes (5 minutes)

#### **Invasive Species and Program Updates**

- DNR Staffing Update (5 minutes)
- State Budget Process Updates (15 minutes)
- White Nose Syndrome (Invite White – possibly place at end of agenda to allow time for question & answer with Council informally)

#### **Council Committee Reports**

- Education Committee (15 minutes)
  - Invader Crusader Awards
  - Video Competition
  - Invasive Species Education Summit
- Interagency Committee (15 minutes)
  - Update on State Agency Planning Exercise (Watermolen)
  - First Detectors Program (Renz - Invited)
- Research and Regulations Committee (5-10 minutes)
  - SAG Review

Action: Endorsement of NR 40 Rule Revisions (10 minutes)

#### **Discussion: Council Goals for 2014**

- Council Objectives for Implementing Strategic Plan
- Council Role in NR 40 Revisions and Implementation
- Education Committee Priorities and Activities

- Bait Industry and Introduction and Spread of Invasive Species
- Pet Industry and Introduction and Spread of Invasive Species
- Mail Order and Internet Sales of Invasive Species

Update: Pet Industry - Report on completed GLRI project (15 minutes)

Update: Bait Industry Discussions (include if time, 10-15 minutes)

- Possibly focus on state agency intra-agency discussion and identification of issues

Update: Mail Order and Internet Trade (include if time, 10-15 minutes)

Public Comment and Adjourn (need to wrap up by 11:45)

### **Follow-up on Council's Goals Discussion**

The committee discussed how to move forward with developing Council goals for the upcoming year. The general consensus was to continue the previous Council discussion with more concrete examples to focus on.

TASK: Schumacher to prepare a draft of Council goals for discussion. Kuhn and Sullivan will contribute ideas.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15.