

## Wisconsin Invasive Species Council Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 11, 2018  
1:00 a.m. –2:30 p.m.

Via SKYPE  
Toll-free number: [+1 \(866\) 715-6499](tel:+18667156499)  
Conference ID: 4493275897

### Meeting Minutes

Chairman Buechel called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

#### **Agenda Repair**

Mr. Kuhn suggested adding a UMISC Update. was added to the agenda immediately following approval of May 15 meeting minutes.

Approval of minutes from May 15, 2018 Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Kuhn made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Feldkirchner seconded.

#### **UMISC Update**

Mr. Kuhn cannot attend the meeting. He gave up his registration because he has another out-of-state meeting at the same time. DATCP will have 4 staff attending. They have 6 complimentary registrations. So, two are available. DATCP will not have an Exhibitor booth at the conference.

Ms. Bergeson noted that DNR staff attendance has changed for the Water program.

**TASK:** Ms. Bergeson will let Council know that there are two DATCP registrations available to use. If they aren't taken by Council members, she will offer to DNR staff.

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

The Council had discussion on this at the June 6 meeting. There were two individuals suggested who seemed to offer a good potential fit, depending on whether they are interested in applying.

Mr. Kuhn noted that historically, Wisconsin Lakes has had a seat on the Council. They have a strong presence in the invasive species world. Previous two chairs of the Council were Wisconsin Lakes folks.

**TASK:** Ms. Bergeson will draft a letter to (brief background on Council + link to website + link to Governor's application) Mr. Engelson.

#### **Update on SAG Process Review**

The past SAG Team Leader facilitated group discussion has been summarized and highlights/common themes identified. Phone interviews with past Team Members are being finished up now.

Tara is organizing a meeting for the SAG Review Team to review the results of the above and determine next steps. The draft SAG process document will be ready for Council to review at October 10 meeting.

Mr. Buechel noted that when something bad happens (e.g. someone ships invasive species), it often gets swept under the rug and there is no awareness or education tied to it. There needs to be greater awareness. It is almost impossible to get everywhere and regulate everything, but there should be some teeth to the regulations. Mr. Buechel has heard this concern from industry folks and others. The phase-out period is good.

Mr. Feldkirchner noted that the Council discussed marketing/education needs and the challenge in meeting these needs given limited resources. Perhaps DNR could work with our law enforcement staff to discuss how/if to do news releases/share information about these things. It is a larger issue than for just the SAGs.

Mr. Buechel noted that the SAGs at least need to be aware of this issue. Wisconsin leads the way on invasive species issues.

Mr. Feldkirchner said that it becomes an issue of never having enough resources to do enough of this. We need to strategize on what we can do and be most effective.

Mr. Kuhn suggested that this may be a topic that the Interagency Committee could take up as it related to the enforcement side of NR 40. It is an important discussion for the SAGs as well since it implicates the *length* of the species list in NR 40. The more species that are regulated, the more difficult it becomes to inspect and monitor everything.

Mr. Buechel noted that he never hears about fines being issued. If you don't hear about these things, you're not raising awareness. The media aspect of this is something that we could talk about as a Council, too.

Mr. Feldkirchner stated that it is a larger topic to consider. NHC puts a lot of thought and time into social media and uses a multi-pronged strategy. It also takes funding. Emerald Ash Borer has had lots of media attention over the years.

**TASK:** Ms. Bergeson will add the topic of communication and outreach about NR40 implementation to the SAG group discussions.

#### **Review minutes and tasks from June 2018 Council meeting**

**TASK:** Ms. Bergeson will post the April 20, 2018 meeting minutes to the Council website.

**Status: Complete.**

**TASK:** Mr. Renz will rework item #4 (Education Committee) under the *Tactical Plan* and share with some Committee members for feedback and then send back to Ms. Bergeson to share with the entire Council for review.

**Status:** The Education Committee met and outlined a Charter for the Committee. They hope to have a draft Charter ready for the Council to review at the October 10 Council meeting. This Charter could serve as an example for the other Council Committees.

Mr. Feldkirchner asked if the topic above about marketing sharing information is part of the scope of the Education Committee.

**TASK:** Ms. Bergeson will bring this question to the Education Committee. This relates to the scope of their work.

Mr. Kuhn asked whether there is an overall communication strategy/plan related to NR40 implementation. Maybe this is a task for the Education Committee.

**TASK:** Ms. Bergeson will follow-up with Mr. Renz about the possibility of a meet and greet with the Council members who will be at the UMISC meeting.

**Status:** Ms. Bergeson talked with Mr. Renz. The conference committee has a reception/hospitality room. Mr. Renz suggested that given the limited number of Council members planning to attend the conference that he could extend an invitation to them to the hospitality room on one of the conference nights.

**TASK:** Ms. Bergeson will send the Cherish Wisconsin video to the Council.

**Status:** Ms. Bergeson will send the Cherish Wisconsin video link to Council members along with their October 10 Council meeting materials.

**TASK:** Ms. Bergeson will share the draft June Council meeting minutes with the Council ahead of the October 10 meeting.

### **Preparation of agenda for October 10, 2018 Council meeting**

- Introductions
- Status of Council member terms (one vacant seat remains)
- Staffing Updates – many changes (Putnam; Blanke; Ellis; Bartkowiak; Nault; 2 NHC LTEs, etc.)
- Action Item: Approve June 6, 2018 Council meeting minutes
- Resolution for retired Council member Ken Raffa.
- Lightning talks by state agency invasive species staff
  - Kelly Kearns
  - Mike Putnam - Controlling Lesser Celandine in Lake Geneva and other Southeast Wisconsin Locations
  - Jason Granberg – Wisconsin’s Changing Climate and Forecasting Invasive Species Spread.

- Legislative Report Update
- Informational Item: Wisconsin Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan. Ms. Bergeson will check with Bob Wakeman or Tim Campbell to see if there is another update on this.
- Committee report: Council's Research Committee (Greg Long)  
The update on this for the October 10 Council meeting will include the SAG Review discussion, including the draft SAG process document.
- Committee report: Council's Education Committee (Christa Schaefer)
- DNR Invasive Species Prioritization Update
- Updates from Council Members
- Other Business
- Adjourn

**TASK:** Ms. Bergeson will work on drafting the agenda and will send to Executive Committee for final okay.

**Agency/program updates on invasive species**

Mr. Kuhn – there is currently one vacancy in DATCP's gypsy moth program. They have reallocated (1.6 FTE) positions within the department to move to the Plant Industry Program to work with the hemp program.

Mr. Feldkirchner – NHC is hiring two new LTEs. Also hiring a new District Ecologist that will be based out of Eagle, Wisconsin.

**Other business allowed by law**

The Committee did not discuss any other business.

**Adjourn**

Mr. Feldkirchner motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Buechel seconded the motion. Mr. Buechel adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.