

WISC Executive Committee Meeting

9/7/2021

Tom Buechel called meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Agenda Repair - Tom suggested adding ICA/ISAM ceremony update. Brian moved to add this to today's agenda. Drew seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of April Exec Committee minutes – tabled as Tara can't find minutes.

Review/Approve action items from June Council meeting. No action items.

SAG/NR 40 process update – Tara provided updates that the smaller DNR group is not quite ready to present to the Council yet.

Should we still hold a September Council meeting? Shouldn't meet if there's nothing the Council needs to discuss or act on. Brian suggests pushing off a meeting to after ICA meeting - into October. Drew agrees. The discussion that the smaller group is having is important.

Action Item: Tara will send around a Doodle Poll for an October Council meeting. Tara will circle back with Woody Spp. Group and small group

October 20-30 – Tom will be gone. Shoot for mid-October (shoot for 11-19th). Brian gone 10/15. Include early November dates? Brian gone first week of November.

Tara will send around a proposed agenda for October meeting and discuss by email. Will either by Woody Species SAG Recommendations. Maybe include discussion about public listening sessions, too, if we think there will be time for that. There are some groups where the Council didn't vote yet.... So, we wait until we get the foundational pieces ready, then circle back on the outstanding recommendations.

So, do the foundational piece first (maybe have some "big picture" discussion – like timing of public listening sessions), then do Woody SAG and everything else. Two separate meetings.

ICA/ISAM

Brian asked about funding for the ICA. He's talking with his supervisor about contributing. Hoping for \$500. He will get back to Tara and Exec. Committee. Need to follow up with DNR on protocol for providing food. Make sure we are saying something about COVID safety precautions. Have a box of masks there for people who might need one.

Does Exec. Committee need to approve anything related to this? It's a Council and IPAW event, so nothing needed from Exec. Committee.

Action: Tara will share safety protocols plan to Exec. Committee.

Agency Updates

Tara – Will soon be making an offer on the OIT Coordinator position.

Brian – Announcement last week that DATCP will hand off the Hemp program to USDA on January 1. Hemp sampling season is now. Pilot research program expires by January. Would have needed another emergency rule by November otherwise. Lost about \$500,000 dollars on the program last year and expect to lose some more money this year. Would have had to triple fee structure to not lose money. USDA will offer a completely free program. Brian will be able to re-focus his time back to his other responsibilities. Will need to spend some time thinking about spotted lantern fly and Tree of Heaven. Potential for outreach here to tie TOH and SLF together. Use TOH as outreach tool/message since we don't yet have SLF in Wisconsin. One of the main treatments for SLF infestations is to remove TOH (herbicide and/or cutting). Hiring Adrian Barta's replacement. Hiring a replacement for Lab Director soon. Will be hiring one more person in Plant Industry Laboratory. Legislature took away the three hemp project positions – will go away at end of calendar year. Mostly back-filling existing positions.

Other Business

No other business.

Adjourn

Brian motioned to end meeting. Drew seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.