

Agricultural Education and Workforce Development Council

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Wisconsin Technical College System Office

4622 University Avenue, Entrance E; McCarthy Board Room

Madison, WI

And via Zoom

Council Members present:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|---------------|---|-----------------------|---|-------------------|
| x | Kevin Bernhardt | x | Tom Gillis | | Sen. Howard Marklein* | | Jill Runde* |
| x | Gary Besaw | x | Bob Hagenow | x | Karl J. Martin | x | Sara Schoenborn |
| x | Gwen Boettcher | x | Erik Huschitt | x | Shelly Mayer | x | Daniel Smith |
| x | Greg Cisewski | | Pete Kondrup* | x | Rep. Loren Oldenburg | x | Nick Stadnyk |
| | Sen. Alberta Darling | x | Corey Kuchta | x | Paul Palmby | x | Rep. Gary Tauchen |
| x | Jeff Edgar | x | Larry Lee | x | Sec. Amy Pechacek | x | Sharon Wendt |
| x | Jeff Eide | x | Miranda Leis | | Sam Ridders* | x | Jason Wood |
| x | Monica Gahan | x | Betsy Leonard | x | Sec. Randy Romanski | | |
| | Dale Gallenberg* | x | Scott Loomans | x | John Rosenow | | |

*Excused

In-person

Virtual

Staff present: Jenifer Cole, DWD; Ashley Andre, DATCP; Kietra Olson, WEDC; Rachel Keith, Sen. Darling's Office

Public present: None

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Schoenborn called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Introductions

Attendance for hybrid (in-person/virtual) meeting noted above.

3. Review and Approval of Minutes

March 30, 2022 – Sec. Pechacek moved to approve, B. Leonard seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

4. Agricultural and Natural Resources Education at Tribal Colleges

Council member G. Besaw introduced Dr. Frank Kutka, Sustainable Agriculture Faculty at the College of Menominee Nation, a land grant institution of higher education chartered by the Menominee Indian Tribe. Dr. Kutka provided an overview of agricultural and natural resources education and degree programs at the College:

- Approximately 225,000 acres on the Menominee reservation are heavily forested, so forestry management is at the core of the Menominee Nation.
- The College offers an Associate's degree in Natural Resources and started as Bachelor of Science program in Fall 2021. So far, two students are enrolled in the B.S. program and started in the Associates program.

- The programs follow Menominee sustainability theory, a six-dimensional model
- The College of Menominee Nation has 200-400 students, many of whom are non-traditional students. Must enroll a majority of indigenous students.
- The agricultural and natural resources programs are looking to find students paid internships, particularly local placements.
- The College is also looking to grow apprenticeship opportunities and collaborations with UW-Madison Division of Extension.

5. Updates and Council-relevant Items of Interest

- a. DATCP – Sec. Romanski shared that the agency is finishing their second year of the Wisconsin Youth Agriculture Council and looking for ways to keep them connected to ag. DATCP just completed the selection of the next cohort of council members.

6. Subcommittee Report-outs

- a. Goal 1 group – B. Leonard reported that the subcommittee had an excellent first meeting and they will be focused on all levels of education, not just high school. The subcommittee will work to identify levels of education and figure out where students first learn about ag ed and get connected to it. The subcommittee want to create visual mapping and wants to make sure agriculture is represented in career mapping for youth.
- b. Goal 2 group – S. Wendt reported that the subcommittee is working on the statewide agricultural pathway because there is a need for a statewide presence as there is with other industries. The subcommittee recognizes that while an ag ed mandate would help, there are not enough ag teachers to teach to the pathway.
- c. Goal 3 group – P. Palmby reported that the subcommittee wants to look into where students are coming from when they are involved in ag ed and where they are going in the workforce. The subcommittee discussed the need for developing a pipeline of ag educators.

7. Annual Report

J. Cole discussed the compilation of the Council's Annual Report for state fiscal year 2022. She will send instructions to the Council members that need to develop elements of the report. The report will be reviewed at the next Council meeting on August 24, 2022.

8. Wrap-up

Chair Schoenborn asked the subcommittees to continue meeting before the next full Council meeting in August.

9. Adjourn

P. Palmby moved to adjourn, B. Leonard seconded. Council adjourned at 4:08 p.m.