

**BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
MINUTES**

December 16, 2021

The Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (Board) met in the DATCP Boardroom, 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718 and via zoom on **December 16, 2021**. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by Wis. Stat. § 19.84.

Call to Order

Board Chair Miranda Leis called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Members Present

Miranda Leis, Paul Bauer, Andy Diercks, Dr. Clare Hintz, Doug Rebout, Dan Smith, Paul Palmby, and Carla Washington.

Not present: Patty Edelburg

Minutes

Motion

A motion was made by Doug Rebout and seconded by Clare Hintz to approve the November 18, 2021 DATCP Board minutes. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Major General Paul E. Knapp
Department of Military Affairs**

Secretary, Randy Romanski introduced Major General Paul E. Knapp, Adjutant General from the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) to the Board. The DMA provides essential, effective and responsive military and emergency management services for the citizens of our state and nation. DMV includes Joint Force Headquarters-Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard and the Wisconsin Division of Emergency Management.

DMV connects the dots with DATCP through the Emergency Center where DATCP is represented and both agencies work closely on cybersecurity to protect food sources and food supply for the citizens of Wisconsin. DMV has also been highly involved in the pandemic by managing the COVID center, setting up and distributing PPE around the state, and rolling out and administering vaccines. The National Guard administered 1.3 million COVID tests around the state, and 230,000 vaccines to the public and military members. A few other highlights of DMV is that we assist in mortuary affairs, missions supporting local communities due to civil disturbance, and elections.

Public Appearances

The following made public appearances in front of the Board today regarding farm raised deer:

Representative James Edming, Wisconsin's 87th Assembly District

Laurie Seale representing the Maple Hill Farms
Scott Goetzka representing Woods and Meadow
Dan Van Ooyen
Spencer Main representing Main Farms, LLC
Ryan Rodenkirch, President of Whitetails of Wisconsin
Roxanne Lotts

**ATCP 78 – Recreational and Educational Camps
Hearing Draft Rule
Division of Food and Recreational Safety**

Caitlin Jeidy, Program Policy Analyst from the Division of Food and Recreational Safety presented the Hearing Draft Rule for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 78, to the Board. Ms. Jeidy gave a brief overview and requested the Board approve the Hearing Draft Rule.

Motion

A motion was made by Andy Diercks and seconded by Doug Rebout to approve the Hearing Draft Rule for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 78. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Survey Update
Greg Bussler**

Greg Bussler, State Statistician from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service presented his December 16, 2021 report to the Board on Milk Production, Chicken & Eggs, October Prices Received, Labor, and other noteworthy items.

**Third Quarter Export Highlights
Division of Agricultural Development**

Mark Rhoda-Reis, Bureau Director from the Division of Agricultural Development presented the third quarter export highlights to the Board. Wisconsin had double digit gains in the top export markets of food and forestry. Agriculture product exports from Wisconsin were also up 17.8% year to date in September compared with the same period in 2020. The most dramatic changes were exports to Mexico that were up nearly 94%, beverages were up more than 50%, and prepared vegetables had an increase of nearly 31%. Despite retaliatory tariffs, container shortages, elevated shipping costs, country lockdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we remain optimistic that the rebound in demand for food, forestry, and agriculture exports will continue to drive exports ahead of last year by double digits. Looking to 2022, the rate of growth will likely slow as inventory and consumption begin reaching normal levels.

**Alice in Dairyland Annual Report & Alice in Dairyland Program Updates
Division of Agricultural Development**

Alice in Dairyland Julia Nunes and Debbie Gegare, Staff Support Specialist from the Division of Agriculture Development presented the Alice in Dairyland Annual Report and program updates to the Board. In the past year, Alice completed 155 radio interviews, 60 TV interviews, contributed to over 100 print articles and attended more than 400 events. Her key message was to promote the purchasing of Wisconsin food products because it supports farmers and food processors, and contributes to the strength of our communities. The applications for the next Alice in Dairyland will be due on February 4, 2022 and the 75th Alice will begin on July 5, 2022.

**Continuous Improvement and Testing Innovation at the
Bureau of Laboratory Services
Division of Management Services**

Gil Kelley, Bureau Director and Jay Lee, Microbiology Unit Leader in the Bureau of Laboratory Services presented the continuous improvement and testing innovation report to the Board. Mr. Lee presented on how automation through advance Excel workbooks has changed Wisconsin's Milk Proficiency Testing Program by saving time, reducing costs and increasing productivity and efficiency. Mr. Lee also discussed how the new 3M Molecular Detection System and Loop-Mediated Isothermal Amplification has changed food testing at the laboratory by simplifying the screening process, saving time and reducing costs.

**Information Technology Report
Division of Management Services**

Karen Arriola, Chief Information Officer from the Division of Management Services presented the Information Technology Report to the Board. Ms. Arriola provided an update on current, department-wide IT projects, including the AMANDA Decommission and upgrades to MYDATCP.

**Wisconsin Public Records Training
Office of the Secretary**

Attorney Aaron O'Neil presented the annual public records training to the Board. The Board was trained on how to recognize a public record, recognize what is not a public record, understand how to properly retain a public record, recognize a public records request and handling the request appropriately, and where to go for help.

Office of the Secretary Report

Secretary Randy Romanski presented the Secretary's Office update to the Board on:

- The Wisconsin Farm Support Program received \$50 million in ARPA funding. The application period closed and we anticipate 20,000 approvals. Payments will be issued on December 17, 2021.
- Governor Evers invests \$30 million to the statewide food pantry network. \$15 million will go to the Hunger Task Force and \$15 million to Feeding Wisconsin.

- Governor Evers signed a bill to promote Wisconsin's agriculture and agribusiness products. DATCP will work with WEDC on a plan to increase the value of Wisconsin's milk and dairy, meat, crop and other exports by 25% by June 30, 2026.
- The Dairy Processor grant is now open through January 7, 2022. We also have an extra \$200,000 meat processing grant available to grow capacity and increase the meat processing industry in Wisconsin. That program is open through January 14, 2022.
- Be aware of invasive pests before purchasing holiday décor.
- Consumer Protection is stepping up reminders to consumers to look for scams this holiday season.
- DFRS Administrator Steve Ingham's last day is today and our new General Counsel is Fratney Miller, who will start next week.
- Scott Bentley has announced his retirement at World Dairy Expo Center.

Board Member Updates

The following DATCP Board members commented on industry, business, training and personal agricultural issues that arose since the last Board meeting: Miranda Leis, Paul Bauer, Andy Diercks, Dr. Clare Hintz, Doug Rebut, and Paul Palmby.

Future Agenda Items

Paul Palmby requested an update on CWD.

Adjournment

Motion

A motion to adjourn was made by Doug Rebut and seconded by Andy Diercks. Motion approved unanimously. The Board adjourned at approximately 12:28 p.m.

All reports and any associated documents presented during a Board meeting can be accessed by contacting the Office the Secretary, Legal Counsel at (608) 224-5029.