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

May 13, 2021

The Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (Board) met via videoconference on **May 13, 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 9:00 a.m.

Members Present

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

Minutes

Motion

A motion was made by Paul Bauer and seconded by Doug Rebout to approve the March 4, 2021 DATCP Board minutes. Motion was approved unanimously.

Public Appearances

No public appearances.

**Wisconsin Agriculture Youth Council
Office of the Secretary**

Deputy Secretary Angela James provided a brief overview of the Wisconsin Agriculture Youth Council (Council) to the Board. The Council was started this academic year and the purpose was to encourage young people to engage with state government and increase awareness of DATCP's interactions with Wisconsin's agriculture industry. The four main goals we wanted to accomplish this year were: to highlight the agricultural-related career opportunities available, including those in government; share the state tools available to support Wisconsin farmers; provide insight on how to effectively engage in state agricultural policy development; and to increase networking opportunities for participants across the agricultural industry.

The Council consists of 15 self-nominated Wisconsin high school seniors (Chad Achenbach, Haley Beukema, Hannah Dahl, Charles Fahey, Kendra Goplin, Samantha Hammiller, Abigail Helbach, Sophia Larson, Adaire MacSwain, Jamison Meier, Natalie Ott, Natalie Roe, Lauren Thompson, Drew Tuttle and Randy Winch). The students serve a one-year term and attend eight monthly meetings, which were virtual sessions this past year. The members were required to prepare questions for the speakers we brought in and complete follow up surveys so we could understand what they took away from the meetings. We also asked the members to submit a final written reflection and at each meeting the members served in rotating leadership roles.

Craig Thompson, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Secretary Randy Romanski introduced the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Secretary Craig Thompson to the Board. WisDOT is one of the largest state agencies, with 3,400 employees and a biennial budget of more than \$6 billion. WisDOT also supports all modes of transportation, including state highways, local roads, railroads, public transit systems, airports, and harbors. In addition, they maintain the Division of Motor Vehicles, which serves about 50,000 customers each week, and the Division of State Patrol that enforces laws and assists motorists throughout the state.

Secretary Thompson discussed the WisDOT budget and its connection to the agricultural community. Governor Evers pledged to fix our infrastructure and roads by putting in a significant increase for transportation in his 2019-2021 budget. That was the first time in a generation that \$465 million new dollars were invested in transportation. \$320 million of that investment went into the State Highway Rehabilitation Program and the rest went to local governments to help villages and counties with their needs. In the current 2021-2023 budget we are looking at the transportation back log and pandemic needs. WisDOT made a decision not to request a second budget revenue increase, but proposed a modest increase in bonding. Also, in this budget we are proposing \$75 million for the Local Supplement Program and \$15 million for a Harbor Assistance Program. The harbors are important to the agriculture community and the return on investment is unbelievable in this program.

International Agribusiness Center and Trade Opportunities
Division of Agricultural Development

Mark Rhoda-Reis, Bureau Director and Ashwini Rao, Economic Development Consultant from the Division of Agricultural Development and the LaFollette team consisting of Tamara Akram, William Doty, Eric Trey Mueller, and Logan Pearlman, presented their results of a study from the UW Madison La Follette School of Public Affairs to the Board. This project identified new export destinations for Wisconsin food, forestry and agricultural producers based on quantitative and qualitative analysis. We identified the top opportunity markets for Wisconsin exporters for the next three to five years (outside of the top 10 markets) based on analysis of trade flow data, demographic indicators, data on capacity, and corruption and business environment by country. Each country and product were assigned a total score and the top five countries (Australia, Indonesia, France, Thailand, Spain and Brazil) and products were ranked. Our final report was approved yesterday and can be found on our website.

Our findings and recommendations are that:

- DATCP should strengthen export market analysis by adding or refining key attributes and weights based on data correlating to export potential to the Market Selection Tool.
- DATCP should use the Market Selection Tool to analyze attributes for additional countries.
- DATCP and industry trade groups should allocate additional resources to proactively engage and support Wisconsin producers of high-demand agricultural goods.

- DATCP should identify variables that are significantly correlated with the food policy environment in Wisconsin.

**ATCP 94 – Petroleum and Other Liquid Fuel Products
Preliminary Public Hearing
Division of Trade and Consumer Protection**

David Woldseth, Program Policy Analyst from the Division of Trade and Consumer Protection presented the Preliminary Public Hearing Notice for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 94, to the Board. Mr. Woldseth gave a brief overview and requested the Board approve the Preliminary Public Hearing Notice.

Motion

A motion was made by Paul Palmby and seconded by Andy Diercks to approve the Preliminary Public Hearing Notice for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 94. Motion was approved unanimously.

**ATCP 160 – County and District Fairs
Statement of Scope
Division of Agricultural Development**

Sharon Henes, Program Policy Analyst from the Division of Agricultural Development presented the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 160, to the Board. Ms. Henes gave a brief overview and requested the Board approve the Statement of Scope.

Motion

A motion was made by Paul Bauer and seconded by Paul Palmby to approve the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 160. Motion was approved unanimously.

**ATCP 160 – Fair Organizations
Statement of Scope
Division of Agricultural Development**

Sharon Henes, Program Policy Analyst from the Division of Agricultural Development presented the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 160, to the Board. Ms. Henes gave a brief overview and requested the Board approve the Statement of Scope.

Motion

A motion was made by Doug Rebout and seconded by Paul Bauer to approve the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 160. Motion was approved unanimously.

**ATCP 149 – Potato Industry
Statement of Scope
Division of Agricultural Development**

Sharon Henes, Program Policy Analyst from the Division of Agricultural Development presented the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 149, to the Board. Ms. Henes gave a brief overview and requested the Board approve the Statement of Scope.

Motion

A motion was made by Andy Diercks and seconded by Daniel Smith to approve the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 149. Motion was approved unanimously.

**ATCP 161 – Something Special from Wisconsin
Statement of Scope
Division of Agricultural Development**

Sharon Henes, Program Policy Analyst from the Division of Agricultural Development presented the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 161, to the Board. Ms. Henes gave a brief overview and requested the Board approve the Statement of Scope.

Motion

A motion was made by Patty Edelburg and seconded by Daniel Smith to approve the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 161. Motion was approved unanimously.

**ATCP 57 – Inedible Animal Byproducts
Statement of Scope
Division of Food and Recreational Safety**

Steve Ingham, Division Administrator from the Division of Food and Recreational Safety presented the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 57, to the Board. Mr. Ingham gave a brief overview and requested the Board approve the Statement of Scope.

Motion

A motion was made by Andy Diercks and seconded by Paul Palmby to approve the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 57. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Hemp Emergency Rule Update
Division of Agricultural Resources Management**

Brian Kuhn, Bureau Director from the Division of Agricultural Resources Management presented a Hemp Emergency Rule update to the Board. The most recent Hemp rule was published and became effective on May 3, 2021. DATCP continues to operate the hemp program under the authority provided by the 2014 farm bill because it provides more flexibility and value to our growers. On January 19, 2021 USDA published their final Hemp Rule, which became effective on March 27, 2021. The goal of our emergency rule was to retain the flexibilities of the 2014 Farm Bill and obtain the new provisions (remediation of hot crops and negligent violations) of the USDA final Rule that are valuable to our Wisconsin growers.

We will be publishing one more emergency rule this year for the hemp program because by the end of 2021 we have to be aligned with the 2018 Farm bill and all the provisions of the Final Federal Rule due to the 2014 Pilot Program expiring.

Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Survey Update Greg Bussler

Greg Bussler, State Statistician from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service presented his May 13, 2021 Agricultural statistics report on Crop Planting Intentions, Milk Production, Prices Received, Crop Progress as of May 9, 2021, Chicken and Eggs, and upcoming NASS survey, to the Board. See Mr. Bussler's report which is included in the Board meeting packet for more specific details.

Office of the Secretary Report

Secretary Randy Romanski presented the Secretary's Office update to the Board.

Welcome back to Paul Palmbly and Doug Rebout we appreciate your continued service on the Board and welcome to Dr. Clare Hintz to the Board. I also want to thank Kurt Hallstrand for his service on the Board and wish him well.

We greatly appreciated working with the Wisconsin Agriculture Council and wish them well in their education on agriculture. They are a thoughtful and fun group. We have consistently been impressed with their insightful questions and engaging conversations. We hope their agriculture paths lead them back to Wisconsin.

Last week Gov Evers proclaimed State Employee Appreciation Day. The DATCP employees of the year are Mike Lochner from DAD, Drew Zelle from DARM, Lucas Dawson from DAH, Anna Martin from DFRS, Linda Hahn from DTCP, and Lisa Broderick from DMS. We also hosted virtual meetings with our staff to recognize all our staff's accomplishments and hard work.

Last week I appeared before the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Tourism for a hearing on my confirmation as DATCP Secretary. I have enjoyed meeting with the Committee members one on one and appreciated the chance to share with them about my leadership and goals for the Department. The next step in the process is that the Committee will decide when to schedule a vote on the confirmation and then it will go to the full Senate.

Wisconsin will receive \$2.5 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

A big thank you Jane Landretti who will be leaving DATCP at the end of the month. We greatly appreciate her dedication and she has been a great guide throughout her time here. We wish Jane all the best and it has been a pleasure working with you.

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, Patty Edelburg, Dr. Clare Hintz, Paul Palmby, Doug Rebout, and Dan Smith.

Future Agenda Items

Paul Bauer asked if we were going to schedule the July Board meeting at the Farm Technology Days? Miranda Leis stated that this has not been discussed yet.

Paul Bauer then suggested a speaker on Farm Technology Days for a future meeting.

Adjournment

Motion

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Palmby and seconded by Patty Edelburg. Motion approved unanimously. The Board adjourned at approximately 11:12 a.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.