

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

January 25, 2024

The Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (Board) met in the DATCP Boardroom, 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718 and via zoom on **January 25, 2024**. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by Wis. Stat. §19.84.

Call to Order

Board Chair Doug Rebout called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Members Present

Attended in person: Paul Bauer, Tina Hinchley, Miranda Leis, Doug Rebout, Dan Smith, and Carla Washington.

Attended virtually: Cindy Brown, Dr. Clare Hintz, Paul Palmby

Minutes

Motion

A motion was made by Paul Bauer and seconded by Dan Smith to approve the November 16, 2023, Board minutes. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Shari Black, CEO and Executive Director
Wisconsin State Fair Park**

Shari Black, CEO and Executive Director for the Wisconsin State Fair Park, presented a report on the 2023 Wisconsin State Fair Park attendance (1,043,450), number of website visits that occurred (1.3 million), and revenue generated from food, beverages, and attractions (\$28,480,810). Spin City had \$1,642,345 in profit, and the agriculture, competitive, and park beautification exhibits had over 10,000 entries. Cirque at the Fair sold 1,300 VIP tickets.

She also provided information on the Harvest Fair, and the NASCAR and IndyCar events that will be held at the Milwaukee Mile in 2024.

Public Appearances

The following made public appearances in front of the Board today:

No public appearances.

**2023 Communications: Year in Review
Office of the Secretary**

Sam Go, Communications Director from the Secretary's Office presented an overview to the Board of the operational duties of what the Communications team does and how they do it, social media post highlights, and goals for the upcoming year.

**Herd-Based Diagnostics Program Overview
Division of Agricultural Development**

Dan Bauer, Farm Center Program Supervisor with the Division of Agricultural Development presented on the Stray Voltage Program, later renamed Herd-Based Diagnostic Program (HBDP) and how the program has evolved over the years. He discussed organizations helping to increase awareness of the HBDP and introduced the program Veterinarian: Dr. Lynae Schott (dairy production consulting veterinarian) who further explained how the six-step program works, responsibilities of the veterinarians, factors affecting dairy production, and information on how to become involved in the program.

**Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Survey Update
Greg Bussler**

Greg Bussler, State Statistician from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service presented his January 4, 2024, report to the Board on milk prices, agricultural prices received, hogs & pigs, chickens & eggs, milk production, and dairy products.

**Review of Federal Expenditures in Recent Years
Division of Management Services**

Kim Chase, Budget & Policy Analyst from the Bureau of Finance presented an overview on DATCP Federal Funding and Expenditures from 2017 – 2024.

**LabVantage Upgrade
Division of Management Services**

Gil Kelley Bureau Director of Laboratory Services, and Molly Ross, Quality Assurance Analyst-Advanced in Quality Assurance from the Bureau of Laboratory Services presented an overview of what the current Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) entails. They also discussed and the benefits of their newly acquired LabVantage 8.8 upgrade, and its overall capabilities such as: improved traceability, streamlined process, increased efficiency, and increased access to information.

Gil Kelley introduced Jeffrey Yang, Microbiologist with the Bureau of Laboratory Services, who gave an overview of Ideagen formerly known as Qualtrax, document management, workflows, testing, and training.

Jay Lee, Food, Dairy, and Laboratory Flexible Funding Model (LFFM) Microbiologist Supervisor, presented on *Cyclospora cayetanensis*. Lee discussed symptoms of the parasitic infection, rising concerns to public health and public safety, outbreaks and transmission, test procedures, the DATCP surveillance program, and future developments with the FDA partnership.

**ATCP 90, 91, 92 Fair Packaging and Labeling; Selling Commodities by Weight, Measure,
or Count; and Weights and Measures
Division of Trade and Consumer Protection
Final Rule**

Joe Smith, Weights and Measures Bureau Director and David Woldseth, Program and Policy Analyst from the Division of Trade and Consumer Protection requested approval of the Final Rule for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 90, 91, 92 from the Board.

Motion

A motion was made by Paul Bauer and seconded by Miranda Leis to approve the Final Rule for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 90, 91, 92. Motion was approved unanimously.

**ATCP 93 Flammable Combustible Hazardous Liquids
Division of Trade and Consumer Protection
Hearing Draft Rule**

Joe Smith, Weights and Measures Bureau Director and David Woldseth, Program and Policy Analyst from the Division of Trade and Consumer Protection requested approval of the Preliminary Hearing Draft for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 93 from the Board.

Motion

A motion was made by Miranda Leis and seconded by Carla Washington to approve the Preliminary Public Hearing Notice for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 93. Motion was approved unanimously.

Office of the Secretary Report

Secretary Randy Romanski presented the Office of the Secretary update to the Board on:

- ATCP 50, 51 and Livestock Siting is moving forward
- Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program (NOPP) applications are due January 31, 2024
- Cover Crop applications will be open until January 31, 2024, or until available funds are exhausted
- Wisconsin Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program Grants are due by 5 p.m., Wednesday, March 6, 2024
- 2024-2026 DATCP Equity and Inclusion plan has been submitted
- State of the State Addresses from Governor Evers took place on January 23rd
- January 31st is Wisconsin Ag Day
- Traveling to Washington D.C. in February to participate in National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)

DATCP Board Leadership Elections

Atty. Aaron O'Neil conducted 2024 DATCP Board Leadership Elections: Board Chair, Vice Chair, Board Secretary

Chair

Nominations: Dan Smith nominated Doug Rebout for Board Chair. Doug Rebout accepted the nomination.

Election: Doug Rebout was elected unanimously to serve as the Board Chair for the 2024 term.

Vice Chair

Nominations: Doug Rebout nominated Miranda Leis for Board Vice Chair. Miranda Leis accepted the nomination.

Election: Miranda Leis was elected unanimously to serve as the Board Vice Chair for the 2024 term.

Secretary

Nominations: Miranda Leis nominated Paul Palmby for Board Secretary. Paul Palmby accepted the nomination.

Election: Paul Palmby was elected unanimously to serve as the Board Secretary for the 2024 term.

Board Member Updates

The following DATCP Board members commented on industry, business, training, and personal agricultural issues that arose since the last Board meeting: Paul Bauer, Cindy Brown, Tina Hinchley, Dr. Clare Hintz, Miranda Leis, Paul Palmby, Doug Rebout, Dan Smith, and Carla Washington.

Future Agenda Items

The following topics were proposed for future meetings:

Ag tourism,

DHS Sec. Johnston – March meeting,

“external panels” – tariffs,

international trade,

DNR state fair meeting,

meeting at new Maritime facility,

rural development,

rural livability:

broadband/cell coverage communication/connectivity issues,

animal disease prevention measures,

food desserts,

access to healthcare resources,

farm liability insurance.

Adjournment

Motion

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Bauer and seconded by Miranda Leis. Motion approved unanimously. The Board adjourned at approximately 12:27 p.m.

All reports and any associated documents presented during a Board meeting can be accessed by contacting the datcpboard2@wisconsin.gov or (608) 224-5023.