

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

## **MINUTES**

**November 13, 2025**

The Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (Board) met in the DATCP Boardroom, 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718 and via Teams Webinar on **November 13, 2025**. The meeting was preceded by public notice as required by Wis. Stat. §19.84. The Natural Resource Board and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Secretary were invited to participate in this meeting.

### **Call to Order**

DATCP Board Chair Doug Rebout called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### **Members**

*Present:* DATCP - Patti Habeck, Andy Hatch, Tina Hinchley, Paul Palmby, Doug Rebout; DNR - Rachel Bouressa, Douglas Cox, Deb Dassow, Jeff Hastings, Patty Schachtner, Robin Schmidt, Bill Smith

*DATCP Members Not Present:* DATCP - Gary Besaw, Miranda Leis, Dr. Clare Hintz

## **MINUTES**

### **Wisconsin Aldo Leopold Conservation Award Presentation**

Secretary Romanski gave an overview of the award, and welcomed Lance Irving, Vice President of the Sand County Foundation, who introduced Dick Cates, 2003 Aldo Leopold Conservation Award winner. Mr. Cates presented the award to Michael E. Berg, and the Berg Family Farm, for his decade's long commitment to conservation and water protection.

### **Welcoming Remarks**

DATCP Secretary - Randy Romanski, DNR Secretary - Karen Hyun, Ph.D., DATCP Board Chair - Doug Rebout, and DNR Board Chair - Bill Smith all gave brief opening remarks.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **DATCP and DNR Working Together to Protect Wisconsin's Forest Resource from Invasive Forest Pests**

Presentation by Renee Pinski, Pest Survey and Control Section Manager, DATCP and Becky Gray, Forest Health Team Leader, DNR discussing how DATCP and DNR work together to help protect Wisconsin's forests from invasive pests.

### **DATCP and DNR Approach to Pesticide Ingredients in Groundwater**

Presentation by Ken Potrykus, Hydrogeologist, DATCP and Carla Romano, Natural Resources Program Section Manager, DNR discussing how DATCP and DNR collaborate on monitoring pesticide ingredients in groundwater.

### **DATCP and DNR Surface Water Protection**

Presentation by Chris Clayton, Land & Water Resources Bureau Director, DATCP and Jason Knutson, Watershed Management Bureau Director, DNR discussing mutual efforts in protecting ground water.

### **DATCP - Office of the Secretary Report**

Secretary Randy Romanski presented the DATCP Office of the Secretary update:

- Gov Evers actions during shutdown
  - Executive Order on Price Gouging
  - Farm Bill
  - Letter encouraging buying Local Beef
- Adjustments made to ATCP 10 (Animal Disease and Movement) and ATCP 12 (Animal Markets, Dealers and Truckers) proposed rules at request of industry
- Latest issue of Growing Wisconsin Magazine is available and features the 'Something Special from Wisconsin' program
- Applications are open for Crop Insurance Premium Rebates for Planting Cover Crops and Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Grant Program
- National FFA Convention

### **DNR - Office of the Secretary Report**

Secretary Karen Hyun, Ph.D. presented the DATCP Office of the Secretary update:

- Continuing to monitor and mitigate impacts of federal funding issues at DNR.
- Thanked DATCP for role in food share program
- Gov Evers Executive Order on wild rice is an opportunity to build partnership with DATCP and Wisconsin Tribes

### **Board Member Updates**

The following DATCP and DNR Board members introduced themselves and commented on industry, business, training and personal agricultural issues: Paul Palmby (DATCP), Jeff Hastings (DNR), Doug Rebout (DATCP), Bill Smith (DNR), Tina Hinchley (DATCP), Robin Schmidt (DNR), Patti Habeck (DATCP), Douglas Cox (DNR), Andy Hatch (DATCP), Rachel Bouressa (DNR), Patty Schachtner (DNR), Deb Dassow (DNR)

## **LUNCH**

### **Reconvene Meeting**

DATCP Board Chair Doug Rebout called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

## **MINUTES**

### **Motion**

A motion was made by Paul Palmby and seconded by Tina Hinchley to approve September 18, 2025, Board minutes. Motion was approved unanimously.

## **PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

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

- Curt Larson, Equity Livestock - ATCP 10 & 12
- Rebecca Rushmann, Organic Valley - ATCP 10 & 12
- Roxanne Lotts, Whitetails of Wisconsin - ATCP 10 & 12

### **Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Survey Update**

Audra Hubble, State Statistician from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, presented the September 2025 report on crop production, milk production, commodity prices, chickens and eggs, land values and cash rent, honeybee colonies, farm production expenditures, crop progress and condition, small grain summary, and census of special agricultural release.

### **Updates related to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI H5N1)**

Divisions of Animal Health and Food and Recreational Safety

Dr. Darlene Konkle, Administrator, Division of Animal Health and State Veterinarian, and Adam Brock, Administrator, Division of Food and Recreational Safety, presented an update on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI H5N1) to the Board.

### **2025 Agricultural Enterprise Area (AEA) Update**

Wednesday Coye, Farmland Preservation Program Manager from the Division of Agricultural Resource Management provided an update on agricultural enterprise areas. Agricultural enterprise areas are community-led efforts establishing designated areas important to Wisconsin's agricultural future. More specifically, an AEA is an area of productive agriculture that has received designation from the state at the request of landowners and local governments.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

### **ATCP 52 – Producer Led Watershed Protection Grants**

Division Agricultural Resource Management

Final Draft Rule

Kelly Martinson, Program and Policy Analyst, and Chris Clayton, Bureau Direct for Land and Water, Division Agricultural Resource Management, Division Agricultural Resource Management, requested approval from the Board on a Final Draft Rule for Producer Led Watershed Protection Grants Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 52.

#### **Motion**

A motion was made by Paul Palmby and seconded by Patti Habeck to approve the Final Draft Rule. Motion was approved unanimously.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- December meeting canceled
- January meeting will likely feature many rules
- Potential Topic - Hydroponics

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **Motion**

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Palmby and seconded by Andy Hatch. Motion approved unanimously. The Board adjourned at approximately 2:19 p.m.

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All reports and any associated documents presented during a Board meeting can be accessed by contacting the [datcpboard2@wisconsin.gov](mailto:datcpboard2@wisconsin.gov) or (608) 224-5029.