



Wisconsin's State Inter-Agency Training Committee

SITCOM's Mission: To maintain and strengthen a statewide team of well-trained conservation professionals that carry on Wisconsin's rich history of conserving soil and water resources through a coordinated and efficient partnership..

Minutes

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 / 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Present: Steve Becker (attended for short time), Kevin Erb, Coreen Fallat, Karl Gesch, Jenna Mertz, Emily Micolichak, Kelli Neitzel, Dan O'Connell, Josh Odekirk, Josh O'Neil, Fabienne Placide (for Steve Becker), Penny Pohle, Tony Real, Chris Schlutt, Mike Stanek, Nate Walker, Matt Woodrow, Drew Zelle

Guests: Diane Georgetta and Rob Lawson, NRCS

Absent: Mimi Broeske, Stacy Dehne, Jamie Patton

Approve March 16 minutes: No changes; approved.

Opportunities and/or Challenges:

- **AgLearn with Rob Larson and Diane Georgetta, NRCS.** Rob and Diane walked through the multi-step process for non-federal employees to get an AgLearn account. It's a drawn-out process, but it's important because once you have access you have a Level 2 USDA authentication, giving you access to other federal programs and information which is all tied together. There are many beneficial resources in AgLearn. Anyone who wants to be a certified conservation planner needs to have an AgLearn account.

Action: Penny will meet with a small group to determine the next step(s).

- **NRCS training needs survey – August distribution, Rob Lawson.** Survey sent out each year in August for federal employees and any non-federal partners. The collected data is used to determine courses that will be offered. NRCS then puts out a training plan that lists all the courses.
- **Sharing large files between agencies and WI Land+Water.** DATCP uses SharePoint and can allow others to be members of the site; good centralized location. Not sure about recordings but could share materials. NRCS uses BOX to share materials with NRCS and partners. Another option is Microsoft Teams (issue is an extra step – sign-in/sign-out for things posted outside their system). NRCS uses SharePoint only for NRCS staff.

Action: Matt Woodrow will check on BOX being a possible option. Penny will continue working to find a solution.

- **CAD specialist liaison:** Steph Schultz holds CAD training happy hours during the winter. Steve Becker asked to have county staff funnel their questions to DATCP and NRCS area staff first. If they can't answer it, then ask Steph.

It will be helpful to have an inventory of what version of CAD the LCDs are using.

Action. Matt Woodrow will work with his staff and Penny to notify the LCDs what they can do and report back to Steve.

Member updates:

- **Update on SITCOM training workplan items.** Reviewed the status of the workplan's trainings.

Action: Penny will update the workplan. Committee members will continue working on any trainings for which they are the lead or assisting with the planning.

- **Upcoming trainings, including AITCOM.** Committee members provided updates on trainings.

Action: AITCOMs should keep Penny updated on their training catalogs.

Ad-hoc committee reports:

- **State training needs assessment – Appendix A/SITCOM Operational Guidance.** Assessment distributed in May, and it will now be done every other year. Penny and Matt Woodrow will share the results with the AITCOMs to develop their 2022 training catalogs. Chris will share with the Professional Improvement Committee (PIC) and Technical Committee (TC) to help with their brainstorming for the 2022 WI Land+Water annual conference.

Action: Penny and Matt Woodrow share results with AITCOMs. Chris share results with PIC and TC for 2022 conference sessions ideas.

Future plans:

- **Update on SITCOM position.** Still moving forward, and we should know more by our next meeting; start date is 2022.
- **New WI Land+Water website – training calendar, SITCOM webpage.** Will be doing a soft launch this week. Training calendar added and you can choose which three calendar types to view.

Action: Everyone look at new website including the SITCOM webpage and training calendar and let us know your thoughts!

Surprise visitor Scott Mueller! Scott is retiring on August 27. Congrats Scott and thank you for your dedication and work.

Future meetings dates from 8:30-10:30am: September 21 (review Operational Guidance document) and December 8 (2022 workplan).

SITCOM Members and Representatives

- AITCOM-#1-Northern/Park Falls - Stacy Dehne
- AITCOM-#2-NW/Altoona - Josh O'Neil
- AITCOM-#3-NE/Appleton - Drew Zelle
- AITCOM-#4-SW/Richland Center - Kelli Neitzel
- AITCOM-#5-SE/Juneau - Josh Odekirk
- Dept. Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection - Matt Woodrow, Coreen Fallat
- Dept. of Natural Resources - Karl Gesch, Nate Walker
- Natural Resources Conservation Service - Steve Becker, Mike Stanek
- Professional Improvement Committee (PIC) - Tony Reali
- Technical Committee (TC) - Dan O'Connell
- UW-Madison College of Ag and Life Sciences - Mimi Broeske and Jamie Patton (comembers)
- UW-Madison Division of Ext. - Kevin Erb, Jenna Mertz
- WI Land+Water - Penny Pohle, Chris Schlutt
- Member at large, professional engineering practitioner - Emily Micolichek