

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

**September 19, 2019**

The Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (“Board”) met on **September 19, 2019**, in the DATCP Boardroom, 2811 Agriculture Drive, Madison, WI 53718. 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 9:07 a.m.

**Members Present**

Miranda Leis, Paul Bauer, Andy Diercks, Patty Edelburg, Kurt Hallstrand, Paul Palmby, Dan Smith, Carla Washington, and Greg Zwald

**New Members**

Secretary Pfaff welcomed and introduced the three new Board members, Patty Edelburg, Dan Smith and Carla Washington.

**Minutes**

**Motion**

A motion was made by Paul Bauer and seconded by Paul Palmby to approve the July 10, 2019, DATCP Board minutes. Dan Smith had one change to the minutes, he was a dairy farmer in Illinois, not Iowa. Motion was approved with correction.

**Caleb Frostman, Secretary  
Division of Workforce Development**

Secretary Pfaff introduced Secretary Frostman from the Division of Workforce Development (DWD). Secretary Frostman spent time professionally in both rural and urban parts of the state. His mission is to retain people in the Wisconsin workforce by enhancing the quality of our communities, schools, roads and broadband investment. Wisconsin agriculture contributes 100 million dollars to the economy every year and provides over 400,000 jobs in Wisconsin. That is a strong return for Wisconsin. The workforce shortage is felt more acutely in rural areas and DWD is working hard to improve that. Farmers and agriculture workers should be acknowledged, supported, and celebrated at both a federal and state level. DWD is working hard to support our farmers, by having an open door policy, helping people stay in their preferred industry, and caring about the quality and quantity of jobs, which includes agriculture.

DWD is reconstituting the Wisconsin Agriculture Education and Workforce Development Council which is charged with making sure Wisconsin has a strong pool of well-educated workforce for agriculture. This council will help ensure the future workers by providing them

education and training in the industries of technology. Wisconsin is the first state to have apprenticeships. DWD believes in apprenticeships and the earn and learn model. Learn the job and continue classroom work while earning money. DWD's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation keeps people on the job and family farm regardless of their level of skills.

### **Public Appearances**

**Naomi Bernstein**, representing Instight FS appeared before the Board to oppose ATCP 51. She advised that the rule would replace existing setbacks and is unworkable for Wisconsin Farms. First, the rule causes environmental risks because if an area is too small to construct a manure system, the farm is hauling every other day. Also the timelines are unrealistic. Six months is not enough time to allow for weather delays and builders schedule out 6 months in advance. Ms. Bernstein believes this rule is inconsistent with standards, causes an undue burden on farmers, and asks that DATCP does not move forward with this proposal.

**Dave Daniels**, is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation farmer in Kenosha County and a Board member representing Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Department, appeared before the Board to oppose ATCP 51. His biggest concern is the drastic increased setbacks this proposal puts in place for livestock siting and manure management. The draft rule has not proven that earning back setback distances through odor mitigation practices is workable or guaranteed and DATCP has not provided cost effective suggestions to meet these practices. Mr. Daniels is also concerned that by having local governments require a variance would result another layer of regulation, and is costly for his farm. Mr. Daniels stated that extreme regulations are not the answer and that workable solutions need to be found.

**John Holevoet**, representing the Dairy Business Association (DBA), appeared before the Board to thank DATCP for their robust public hearings. Mr. Hole attended four of the 12 of the public hearings. DBA was a longtime champion of this rule and helped draft the original rule. Mr. Holevoet wants to keep this rule and have predictability for farmers. He believes that key concerns have been identified and changes need to be made.

**Kara O'Connor**, on behalf of the Wisconsin Farmers Union, appeared before the Board in support of ATCP 51. Ms. O'Connor is representing 1000 farmers over the state and believes it is not acceptable to stall moving forward on ATCP 51. There are property owners in rural areas where their property values are eroding due to odor, heavy truck traffic, dust, and noise caused by expanding livestock operations. ATCP 51 does not address odors from farm incinerators and a practice needs to be accounted for that in the rule. We also have manure storage facilities leaking into our water and we cannot afford to fail to address that. The current rules are not working and DATCP has done their due diligence on this rule. Ms. O'Connor urged the Board to move the rule forward and make it stronger.

**Dave Wade**, on behalf of the Wisconsin Pork Association, appeared before the Board to oppose ATCP 51. The proposed revisions create new restriction on livestock siting expansions and the siting of new operations in Wisconsin. Most of the time when a farm expands it is to add another family member to the business and ATCP 51's revisions are a barrier to that growth. For

example, this rule causes engineering issues regarding the draining of manure storage structures. It is unreasonable to empty the underground storage without damaging the integrity of the structure. These structures are designed for long use and not for emptying inspections. The proposed rule needs to be sent back for further review and requests that farmers have a seat at the table to work together on any future revisions.

**Jennifer Wickman**, on behalf of the Cooperative Network, appeared before the Board to oppose ATCP 51. The legislative intent to have this rule reviewed every four years is to allow for improvements in agricultural management and technology. Wholesale changes like the proposed rule revisions would dramatically alter the rule from increasing setbacks to the elimination of the odor scorecard should not be made without input from every effected party.

**Cindy Leitner**, on behalf of the Wisconsin Dairy Alliance, appeared before the Board to oppose ATCP 51. Ms. Leitner stated that this rule will exist forever and farmers have to deal with the outcome. DATCP should be asking how to grow farms not making it more difficult by causing an economic impact. The livestock siting law is about growth. This rule needs to be restructured and negotiated to promote growth.

**Shorty Curran**, is a farmer from Browntown Wisconsin, appeared before the Board to speak on the failure of DOJ to prosecute regarding adulterated cheese. A milk farmer was processing cheese with gravel. There was over 52 institutions this cheese was going to. The state did their job in investigating the matter, but DOJ wouldn't do their job. The system has failed him. Mr. Curran urged the Board to go back to DOJ to make them do their job.

**Pete Hardin**, appeared before the Board on the failure of Wisconsin DOJ to prosecute regarding adulterated cheese. No state has a greater link than Wisconsin to cheese. The quality of cheese cannot be compromised. FDA makes sure our food products are safe and accurately labeled. DATCP is FDA's surrogate in making sure our products are safe. DATCP did its job in investigating the gravel found in the adulterated cheese and turned over its file to DOJ on September 3, 2019. Mr. Hardin requested all documents in an open records request and wants DATCP to reach out to DOJ for an explanation as to why there was no prosecution.

**Mike Koles**, on behalf of the Wisconsin Towns Association, appeared before the Board to speak on ATCP 51. He believes that what DATCP is doing is not justified in the statutes, that there are some issues in the proposed rule he would like to see move forward, and there are some things he would like to see changed. Mr. Koles has already filed a written comment with DATCP. He views the public hearing as the beginning of the process and would like people to be educated to know that DATCP doesn't regulate CAFOS. ATCP 51 is a model ordinance that local governments choose to adopt or not. This is not a DNR regulatory tool. The current proposal is based on experience, research and science, but sometimes science needs to be mixed with past strategies and a dose of reality. He wants a collaborative discussion with local governments and industry about the rule.

**Anita Martin**, appeared before the DATCP Board regarding suggestions for additions to application worksheets. Ms. Martin would like to see a 7<sup>th</sup> worksheet on public health and

public safety. She would also like to see the Wisconsin Medical Society included in the worksheet because they are committed to rural health, the protection of health concerns, and water sources.

**Greg Bussler**  
**Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Survey**

**September Crop Production Report**

In WI, corn is expected to yield 163 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels from last month and down 9 bushels from 2018. Production is forecast at 463 million bushels. US corn production is forecasted at 13.8 billion bushels, down 4 percent from last year. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 168.2 bushels per acre, down 8.2 bushels from 2018. Soybean production in WI is expected to reach 84 million bushels. Soybean yield is forecasted at 47.0 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels from last year. US soybean yield is expected to average 47.9 bushels per acre down 3.7 bushels from last year. Production is forecasted at a record 3.63 billion bushels. Next Crop Production Report will be released on Thursday, October 10.

**Milk Production**

In July, WI milk production totaled 2.61 billion pounds. This was down 1 percent over the previous July. Milk production in the 23 major states totaled 17.5 billion pounds. This is .1 percent more than the previous year. As of September 1, WI had 7,559 milk cow herds. This is down 813 herds from September 2018.

**Wisconsin Farm Production Expenditures**

Wisconsin farm production expenditures totaled \$10.1 billion in 2018. This was a decrease of 12 percent from the 2017 total expenditures. Feed represented the largest single production expense in Wisconsin and accounted for 18 percent of the total. The second largest expense category was farm services and accounted for 14 percent of the total.

**July Prices Received**

Milk price for July was \$18.80 per cwt. This was \$3.40 a cwt higher from July 2018. This is the highest price received by Wisconsin farmers since November 2017. The US price for July was \$18.70. Corn \$3.98 per bushel up 55 cents from July 2018. Soybeans \$8.31 per bushel down 99 cents from July 2018. Alfalfa hay \$167 per ton up \$40 per ton from last July.

**Land Values and Cash Rent**

In 2019, the value of all land and buildings on farms in Wisconsin averaged \$4,590 per acre. This is up \$50 per acre from 2018. Wisconsin cropland value in 2019 was \$4,850 per acre; up \$110 from a year ago. Cropland cash rent paid to Wisconsin landlords in 2019 averaged \$142.00 per acre; up \$2 from 2018.

**Farm Computer Usage**

Seventy-three percent of Wisconsin farms own or lease a computer, 4 percentage points higher than the U.S. percentage. Seventy-seven percent of Wisconsin farms report having access to a computer, unchanged from 2017. Farms using computers for their farm business remained

unchanged at 54 percent. Eighty-two percent of Wisconsin farms have internet access, up 2 percentage points from 2017 and 7 percentage points above the U.S. percentage. DSL remains the most common method of access, with 32 percent of Wisconsin farms with access to internet utilizing DSL.

### **Mink Production**

Wisconsin continues to be the leader in the U.S. for mink pelt production and females bred. The State's pelt production in 2018 totaled 971,600 pelts. Wisconsin's production was down 14 percent from the previous year and accounted for 31 percent of the nation's total pelt production.

### **Crop Progress as of September 8, 2019**

Topsoil moisture ratings for this past week were 0 % very short, 8 % short, 83 % adequate, and 9 % surplus. Corn condition ratings as of September 8 were 3 % very poor, 9 % poor, 21 % fair, 46 % good, and 21 % excellent. Soybean condition ratings as of September 8 were 2 % very poor, 5 % poor, 23 % fair, 46 % good, and 24 % excellent. Corn in the dented stage is 31 percent which is 12 days ahead the five year average. There were a few reports of corn being harvested for grain last week. Corn harvested for silage is at 5 percent complete. Soybeans with coloring leaves is at 13 percent which is 9 days behind the average.

### **Small Grain Summary**

On Monday, September 30, NASS will release the Small Grain Summary for 2019.

### **Upcoming Surveys**

ARMSII – barley chemical use. Small Grains and Row Crop CAPS. December Ag Survey.

## **Dr. Mark Stephenson Report on Dairy Task Force**

The Dairy Task Force concluded its work. The committee consisted of the DATCP Secretary and 31 UW members representing businesses, including 4 dairy farmers. The Task Force met 4 times and the subcommittees met 19 times, approximately 1200 person hours were expended on committees. The committee voted on 53 recommendations and 51 were approved unanimously.

Some of the committee recommendation are:

1. A call for investment in research and innovation in dairy.
2. Education for non-farms, students, and continuing education for producers.
3. Selection for food labeling laws, consistent messaging of dairy products.
4. Exports out of Wisconsin, developing a Wisconsin brand that we can market under.
5. Developing shipping and exporting in the state.
6. Consistent enforcement across the state.
7. Rural communities – better access to broadband, equity in road funding, study on impact of dairy on rural communities, and healthy workplace.
8. More education, running for local government, and understanding milk pricing.
9. Access to capital, grant funding, and emerging markets.
10. Milk hauling – licensing reciprocity across states.

11. Farm successions and transitions.

The task force report was delivered to Governor Evers and 18-20 recommendations are currently in the phase of starting or completing.

**ATCP 77 – Lab Certification  
(Final Draft)**

Dr. Steve Ingham and Laura Traas, from the Division of Recreational and Food Safety presented the final draft of Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 77 to the Board. Dr. Ingham gave a brief overview of the changes that appear in the final draft and requested the Board to approve the final version.

**Motion**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Final Draft of Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 77. Motion was approved unanimously.

**ATCP 83 – Dairy Labeling  
(Statement of Scope)**

Dr. Steve Ingham and Jackie Owens, from the Division of Recreational and Food Safety presented the Statement of Scope for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 83, to the Board. Dr. Ingham gave a brief overview of the scope and requested the Board approve writing of the draft rule.

**Motion**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the writing of the draft rule for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 83. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Katy Smith  
Report on Agricultural Enterprise Area Petition Cycle**

Katy Smith from the Division of Agricultural Resource Management presented the report on the Agricultural Enterprise Area Petition Cycle (AEA), to the Board. The report was submitted as a precursor review of what is an AEA. Three petitions came through and all were recommended: Grant County, land owners interested due to trout streams; Sauk County, conservation emphasis on trout streams as an avenue to preserve agriculture and protect highly sloped areas; and Clark County, as a highly unzoned area critical to agriculture.

**ATCP 51 – Livestock Siting  
Update on Public Hearings**

Lacey Cochart and Chris Clayton, from the Division of Agricultural Resource Management, presented a summary of the public comments and hearings for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 51, to the Board. DATCP held 12 public hearings at six different locations, 380 people attended the hearings and 160 people testified. Everyone was heard and allowed to talk. The comments are currently being compiled and considered. A revised rule will be presented to the Board at the November 7, 2019 DATCP Board meeting. Greg Zwald will not be able to attend the November meeting and asked for a conference call before that with an update on ATCP 51.

### **Summary on Tribal Consultations**

Ashley Andre from the Office of the Secretary presented a summary of tribal consultations to the Board. Executive Order 18 was issued in April and states that there must be at least one staff member to serve as a liaison to strengthen day-to-day working relationships with the tribes, ensure workforce education and attend the annual consultation meeting. As the tribal liaison, Ms. Andre will be providing a point of contact for tribal leaders and members, serve as a resource for department staff, track action items, and connect with tribal liaisons from other state agencies. At the 2019 consultation and in collaboration with DNR, the following topics were discussed: industrial hemp, food safety, food sovereignty, chronic wasting disease and water quality.

### **Dr. Steve Deller Report on the Contribution of Agriculture to the Wisconsin Economy**

Dr. Steve Deller from UW Madison Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics presented his report on the Contribution of Agriculture to the Wisconsin Economy to the Board. Dr. Deller stated that for this study, agriculture is composed of two parts: on farm production and food processing. Farmers are struggling now. The area of agriculture that has the majority of growth is in food processing. Dairy was a 13 billion dollar industry, and Wisconsin is known as the dairy state, but in reality dairy is less than 50 percent of production. Below are key points from the report:

- Farms get into crisis with a series of down years. We are not near the crisis of the 1980s, but have been in an extended down period.
- Farms are trending down, but food processing is trending up. Growth in food processing will help bring farmers along with it. We are seeing less food processors, but the ones we have are growing.
- 90 percent of milk goes into the cheese market. We are competing on prices and the best way to compete is to drive prices down.
- Farmers want to grow their farms for a better quality of life and so that they can have time off.
- Dr. Deller is interested in the growth of specialty food market because it could be a business opportunity for some farmers.
- Some parts of the state are more dependent on agriculture than other parts. There is a ban from the twin cities through Chicago that you can see a cluster of food processing businesses. These businesses can be mostly found in metro areas due to the access to labor markets, better capital and input of supply services.

- How can we help young farmers? How can DATCP and WDC work together to facilitate conversations between farmers and food processors. How can we move forward?

Dr. Deller's future work will be a county by county analyses looking at food processing. What are the priorities? DATCP Board members stated that you can't ignore retail consolidation, tariffs, margins in industry, processing capabilities because we will never consume as much dairy as we process, and getting youth involved in agriculture.

### **ATCP 70 – Food Processing Plants Germane Modification**

Dr. Steve Ingham and Amanda Nye, from the Division of Recreational and Food Safety presented the germane modifications of the final rule for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 70, to the Board. Dr. Ingham gave a brief overview of the germane modifications made to the final draft rule and the updated economic impact analysis. Dr. Ingham requested the Board approve the final rule with the germane modifications.

#### **Motion**

A motion was made by Paul Palmby and seconded by Kurt Hallstad to approve the final rule germane modifications for Wis. Admin. Code ch. ATCP 70. Motion was approved unanimously.

### **Dr. Mark Stephenson International Agriculture Market Report**

Dr. Mark Stephenson had travel delays and was unable to attend the Board meeting.

#### **Board Member Reports**

**Paul Bauer:** The Cheese industry is strong. Food processing is in double digit growth on value added processing. Milk prices recovered but the market dropped 12.5 cents a barrel. Things are moving and rapidly and he is looking to make sure they can fulfil their demands for cheese.

**Greg Zwald:** Stopped by an industrial hemp farm and may be raising industrial hemp next year. Soybeans are dropping fast and changing. UW River Falls Dairy Innovation hub is firing up a lot of people in the College of Agriculture. There is a chance for some new faculty members and enthusiasm is growing in the program.

**Dan Smith:** Last week he spoke at the Poverty Matters Conference. There was a real interest in reenergizing our rural communities and a focus on lack of housing, transportation, childcare and home health care. He also recently talked to a hemp grower in Iowa County who claimed they are being robbed blind from the field. The farmer estimated he lost \$40,000 so far. The thieves walk in under the cover of darkness to the field and walk out with the plants. Law enforcement is trying to find the thieves by using an inferred drone.



**Patty Edelburg:** Grew up on a dairy farm and received an animal science degree from UW River Falls in 1998. Her and her husband bought their own farm in 2008. Currently she is the Vice President of the National Farmers Union and is very actively working on federal issues with the farmers union, on trades, tariffs and farmer mental health.

**Kurt Hallstrand:** He has a registered herd of Angus cattle and a logging business. 12 years ago he started the Northcentral Wisconsin Cattleman's Association and is currently the president. Kurt is also the Vice President of the Wisconsin Ag Association. He believes that public comments and speaking matters. The Boards listen to public comments as he has seen firsthand on the DATCP board. The north is wet but lots of green grass, corn has rebounded, cattle business is sluggish, and beef exports are up.

**Carla Washington:** Is from Milwaukee, but came from farmers in the south, her father and mother were both farmers. Even though she is not in farming now, she gained a new respect for farming and the Board has gained an ally in agriculture.

**Andy Diercks:** Grows potatoes and soybeans in Washington County. There is a lot of frustration in the industry right now and hoping the weather will change by the weekend. The volunteer potatoes from last year died off because of the weather.

**Miranda Leis:** Her husband and his father have a 400 cow dairy where she lives. She works for Organic Valley, and has 3 daughters. Crops in her area are looking good but far behind in maturity, some are 60 growing days behind. A late fall is helping to finish the maturity cycle so we may get crops we didn't think would mature. Corn is maturing slowly. They may be harvesting corn in about two weeks, which is a month behind schedule.

### **Secretary Brad Pfaff's Report**

#### **Budget Update**

Earlier this month, Secretary Pfaff addressed the Joint Finance Committee in support of the \$200,000 in farmer mental health assistance that the Governor provided in his budget. He was happy to report that the committee unanimously approved the release of these funds. There is tremendous financial and emotional stress in the countryside and these approved funds will allow DATCP's Farm Center staff to provide mental health counseling vouchers and workshops for farmers, families, and counselors. The workshops will focus on stress management, coping and grieving, financial planning and farm succession planning.

#### **Travel summary**

This summer Secretary Pfaff was happy to be able to be part of the opening of the Farm Technology Days in Jefferson and Wisconsin State Fair in West Allis. He also visited a ginseng farm in Edgar, a dairy goat farm in Chilton, and a dairy farm in Lancaster. In July, Secretary Pfaff attended a Focus on Energy event at Galloway Company in Neenah and a Broadband Service Technician Registered Apprenticeship Launch in Strum.

Secretary Pfaff participated in a press conference with Governor Evers and DNR to continue our emphasis on the Year of Clean Drinking Water. In August, we celebrated Conservation Observation Day at T&R Dairy in Watertown. Just a couple of weeks ago, he joined Congressman Mike Gallagher for a Farm Field Day in Bonduel and Bear Creek to learn about new practices and technology that build soil resiliency and promote healthy waterways. Secretary Pfaff was also proud to join Governor Evers for Cabinet on the Road, a two-day meeting held in Spooner and Hayward, just a few weeks ago. As part of that meeting, we announced the first of the broadband grants that have been awarded as part of The People's Budget. These historic investments will help many farmers and rural residents participate in their local communities.

Secretary Pfaff has also recently returned from the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Where it was a great opportunity to connect with colleagues in other states and hear from federal leaders.

### **Agency updates**

#### **Division of Ag Development**

This division is working diligently to move forward with the farmer mental health assistance funding.

The Farm to School is another important program at the department, and staffing this vacancy is a top priority. This program provides local and nutritious food to our students.

#### **Division of Food and Recreational Safety**

DFRS successfully handled food safety inspections at the Wisconsin State Fair again in August. The division has also implemented electronic dairy farm inspection cover sheets out in the field. Inspection reports are now e-mailed to the plant and printed out for milk producers. This improvement saves considerable time, paper, and postage for the agency.

#### **Division of Trade and Consumer Protection**

The Bureau of Weights and Measures is on pace to set a record total number of weights and measures and petroleum system inspections conducted since the merger of Petroleum Storage Tank Inspection with Weights and Measures. There have been over 210,000 inspections conducted in the first half of 2019 by the Bureau. Compliance rates are in line with last years' statistics for this time of year and look favorable.

In October 2019, the Bureau of Consumer Protection will hold the first Data Privacy and Security Advisory Committee meeting here in Madison. The Advisory Committee includes state government representatives, business interests, data stakeholders, and advocacy groups. Given the complexity of data privacy and security, the Department plans to facilitate communication across stakeholders and to develop legislation that will address data security and data breach challenges facing consumers and businesses in Wisconsin.

#### **Division of Animal Health**

Earlier this summer, DATCP and USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, or APHIS, invited stakeholders to discuss the implications of a national swine movement standstill that USDA would likely implement if African Swine Flu is confirmed in North America. DATCP is using the outcomes of those discussions to update its foreign animal disease response plans. DATCP has also increased its surveillance for African Swine Flu - pigs that are tested for classical swine fever will also be tested for African Swine Flu. USDA requires states to test a certain number of pigs for both African Swine Flu and Classical Swine Flu based on the number of pigs in their state. Wisconsin's target is to test 100 pigs for both flus by April 1, 2020.

The division is also working with a stakeholder group for the Dog Seller Dog Facility licensing program, Rabies and Humane programs. These programs are underfunded and have been dealing with a structural deficit for several years. This group is assessing the value provided to Wisconsin by the services provided by the division and discussing potential funding options to support the programs.

Finally, in response to significant public input, we are working with Governor Evers and interested parties to separate the brucellosis and heartworm testing provisions of ATCP 10, which you previously approved. The rest of the rule will move forward to the Governor's office and legislature, and we will separately evaluate the brucellosis and heartworm testing components.

#### **Division of Agriculture Resource Management**

Our staff in this division have been hard at work with public hearings for ATCP 51, livestock siting. These hearings and the public comment period on the rule concluded on September 13, the team is now working to review the comments we received.

ARM continues to work on Cycle 10 with DNR and DHS through the initiation of the groundwater quality standards for those 11 agricultural chemicals on the list. We will also be working with DNR as they initiate rule making and workgroups for a targeted nitrate standard for the highly permeable soils of our state that are at greater risk for groundwater contamination.

#### **Division of Management Services**

DATCP has launched a MyDATCP Modernization Project led by the Bureau of Information Technology. An internal users group was created to identify functional enhancements of the Department's public online portal used to obtain licenses and information. An external users group is also being created to provide input and feedback throughout the project, and support the continued and improved use of DATCP's online presence. The project is expected to be completed in the next two years.

The 2019 industrial hemp testing season has begun at the Bureau of Laboratory Services. So far, the lab has received 400 samples for testing of THC levels – that is almost a 100 more samples than were submitted for the entire growing season last year. The lab is anticipating the receipt of up to 1,500 additional samples over the next 4-6 weeks.

#### **Office of the Secretary**

Growing Wisconsin is published annually by Farm Flavor Media, a marketing company and division of Journal Communications, each year. The new edition features a theme of connecting consumers from farm to table. While DATCP is pleased to be a partner with Farm Flavor Media in developing topics and identifying subject matter experts, Farm Flavor Media is responsible for generating the content and selling advertisements. No agency funds are spent on this publication.

### **Future Schedule and Agenda Items**

The Board is scheduled to meet November 7, 2019, in Madison. The Board would like a teleconference before the November meeting for an update on ATCP 51 and 83. Suggested topics for future Board meetings are: leaders from state government, rural broadband, rural technology, and hemp growing, licensing, marketing and product development. The full Board picture will be held at the December 12, 2019 meeting.

### **Adjournment**

#### **Motion**

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

The Board adjourned at approximately 2:53 p.m.

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Miranda Leis, Board Chair

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Paul Palmby, Secretary

All reports and any associated documents presented during a Board meeting can be accessed by contacting the Office the Secretary, Legal Counsel at (608) 224-5023.