

**Indiana Invasive Species Council
Virtual Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Webex meeting

10:00 AM

1. Welcome, roll call and introductions: – IISC chairperson Michael Warner

Council members present:

Michael Warner, (IISC chair) Certified Forester at ArborTerra, representing industry,
mwarner@arboterra.com

Megan Abraham, representing Department of Natural Resources' Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology, MAbraham@dnr.IN.gov

Linda Broadfoot, Director - Indianapolis Parks and Recreation, lindabroadfoot@indy.gov

Eric Fischer, representing Indiana Department of Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife, efischer@dnr.in.gov

Matthew Kraushar, representing Indiana Department of Transportation, mkraushar@indot.in.gov

Heather Reynolds, Professor of Biology at Indiana University representing research,
hlreynol@indiana.edu

Kate Sanders, representing Indiana State Department of Agriculture, kasanders1@isda.in.gov

Kelli Werling, Representing Indiana State Board of Animal Health, kwerling@boah.in.gov

Steve Yaninek, Professor of Entomology, Representing the Dean of Agriculture, Purdue University,
yaninek@purdue.edu

Council members not present:

Rick Haggard, Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association, representing industry,
haggard.rick@att.net

Other attendees:

Phil Marshal, DNR, PMarshall@dnr.IN.gov

Elizabeth Barnes, Purdue University, barne175@purdue.edu

John Baugh, Director of Agricultural Services, Purdue College of Agriculture, baughj@purdue.edu

Ellen Jacquart, IISC Invasive Plant Advisory Committee, ellenjacquart@gmail.com

Doug Keller, DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife, Invasive Species Supervisor, dkeller@dnr.in.gov

Dawn Slack, The Nature Conservancy/(Chair) IISC Invasive Plant Advisory Committee,

dawn.slack@tnc.org

Greg Hitzroth, Illinois-Indiana Seagrant, hitzroth@illinois.edu

2. Adopt 19 May 2020 agenda: Motion to approve agenda by Steve Yaninek as amended, second by Matt Kraushar. Motion carried.
3. Approval of February 18 2020 meeting minutes: Motion to approve minutes as amended by Matt Kraushar, second by Eric Fischer. Motion carried.
4. Old business:
 - Status of filling IISC member vacancies – Mike Warner followed up with Michael Nossett, Deputy General Council, Governor's Office, confirmed reception of request, but no actions to report

5. New business:

- Biennial conference status – Dawn Slack
 - Conference had 300 registrants, but coronavirus forced the meeting to be postponed and rescheduled for August 20th 2020; all speakers on board with rescheduled meeting; had to pay half of cater's fee because of contract obligations
 - Concerns about putting 300 people into a conference room given potential health concerns
 - Elizabeth suggest spacing daylong conference out over several days
 - Steve – can presentations be recorded in a webinar format?
 - Elizabeth – easy to capture presentations as webinars, she could add close-capping but would take time; also concerned about meeting liability
 - Phil – consider limiting number of people from same organizations
 - Mike – where you able to retain the sponsorships? Dawn – year, so far
 - Doug – continuing education credits possible? Elizabeth - yes, we already do this with EAB University; Phil shared positive experience with being able to receive continuing education credits from webinars offered by Cornell University
 - **Action Items:** The Council encourages the Biennial meeting committee organizers to anticipate offering the rescheduled conference as a virtual meeting and consider in an person meeting only as a possible fall back position if the coronavirus situation changes dramatically.
- Invasive Species Field Guide status – Dawn Slack
 - Field guide is done. Plans to produce 550 copies on waterproof paper with two rings at \$10 each; production paid for off a grant
 - Doc off to printer this week thanks to payments from Indiana Native Plant Society (\$2000), TNC (\$1800) and IISC (\$1660)
 - Will still need assembly after production to punch holes and add rings
 - Shared layout in ppt presentation online.
 - PDF of doc will be available from the Indiana Native Plant Society, SICM and IISC websites for wider circulation
- Senate Bill 99 status and preparation of presentations for the legislative study committee - Mike Warner
 - SB 99 and about 50 others were not assigned to a legislative study committee for this summer
 - Dawn - SB 99 committee will continue to meet and consider next steps; only two years left for III and 27 CISMAs that know exists
 - Mike – sees a lot of traction around that state that was not there before; a carbon bill was assigned to a committee, still might be a place where invasive species concerns are expressed; Dawn - TNC working on a couple of white papers regarding the impact of invasive species that she will share
 - John – state budget looking at a revenue shortfall of about a billion dollars; the increase the legislature planned for the second year of the biennium expected to be flat at best, but more likely with new cuts; Purdue is preparing for 10% cut
- Invasive Plant Advisory Committee updates---Dawn Slack
 - Looking for guidance from Council regarding the use of the federal definition of invasive species to avoid confusion with the public and maintain consistency within state agencies; problem includes social media postings by some state agencies; consulted with individuals from several state agencies and it was suggested she draft a letter to DNR requesting that the federal definition be used as the basis for the state definition going forward
 - Elizabeth- what is definition?
 - Federal definition as per Executive Order 13112 (Section 1. Definitions) - an "invasive species" is defined as a species that is:

- 1) non-native (or alien) to the ecosystem under consideration and
 - 2) whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.
- Heather – Invasive species impact the ecosystem services in urban as well as non-urban systems
 - Steve – do the state agencies use a definition that is different from the federal government definition?
 - Eric – Division of Fish and Wildlife uses a definition that aligns with the federal definition, if not verbatim
 - Megan – Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology (social media?) website should be “fixed” and now is up to date
 - Doug – read definition now on their updated website which does align with the federal definition
 - Division of Fish and Wildlife coordinates with the DNR programs
 - Heather – consider using microbes instead of diseases
 - Working with Eric Imboden (Purdue webmaster) to update terrestrial plant lists to reflect new terrestrial plant rule on IISC website
 - Other New Business
 - Economic analysis of plants in trade listed as highly invasive - IPAC is working with DNR Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology and Megan on updated economic analysis
 - Steve concerned about assuring that the IISC meetings be presented as “public meetings”
 - Megan– new plant rule now in effect; inspectors have been out all spring and have been busy enforcing the new terrestrial rule which has required some operations to remove and destroy illegal plant material; now tracking plants in trade listed as highly invasive plants by IPAC to aid in economic impact analysis
 - Heather noted that, on behalf of the Council, she had sent Kris Krouse a card and gift certificate to REI in appreciation for his service; she then shared a reply from Kris that thanked the Council for the experience and opportunity
 - Managing invasive plants - Dawn what should people do with invasive plants that people want to remove? Is there IDNR guidance? Don’t put into mulch piles? Megan – the new terrestrial plant rule gives the agency authority in exempting individuals on how best to remove and destroy invasive plant material; the agency is not issuing permits, but can provide an official letter authorizing method is needed
6. Next meeting date: July 21, 2020 (currently on TNC calendar); also note that fall meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2020.
7. **Action Items:**
1. The Council encourages the Biennial meeting committee organizers to anticipate offering the rescheduled conference as a virtual meeting and consider in person meeting only as a possible fall back position if the coronavirus situation changes dramatically.
 2. Council members should continue to work with SB 99 committee and III issues – Matt Kraushar, Rick Haggard

12:00 PM– Adjourn