

GrassWorks Inc.

May 16, 2013

Board meeting: Schmeekle Reserve, Stevens Point

Members present: President Dave Johnson, Treasurer Kay Craig, Secretary Wendy Galbraith, Vice President Dan Olson, Bob Winkel, Kevin Mahalko, Dave Vetrano, Peter Arnold, Julie Engel, Cheyenne Christianson

Advisors present: Laura Paine, Brian Pillsbury

Associates: Executive Director Jill Hapner, Lanice Szomi, Heather Flashinski, Joe Tomandl III

Guests: Gerald Berg, Jerry Jaeger

Meeting called to order by President Dave J.

MMS to accept March minutes as printed. Passed

Treasurer report: \$18,532.64

Grants received: Speakers bureau \$2,351

Education grant \$5,803.18

Apprenticeship \$78,543.18 in and out again of checkbook

No outstanding debts

Gift of \$100 sent to Dennis Cosgrove foundation

MMS to send letter to UW River falls of our sadness at Dennis Cosgrove passing. The grazing community will miss him greatly for his support of grazing, research and training for grazing. We hope UWRF will hire a forage specialist that will carry on Dennis's work. Passed

Conference committee:

Heather is updating mailing addresses collected at other conferences.

Public relations: the GrassWorks newsletter was a page in *Graze Magazine*. Also available on our website- should give a plug to *Graze Magazine*

Cheyenne: will be writing in *Graze* about fall annuals for GrassWorks, will include pictures

Bob: represented GrassWorks at the Central Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Festival, April 12-14, 2013.

Paul Onan hosted a pasture walk (to Clear Water Brewery) this was a conservation minded crowd, very good press

Teal Fyksen did an excellent job explaining Rotational Grazing's role in Prairie Chicken Habitat preservation to the group

Laura: working in Southern WI to train wildlife biologists about grazing

Booth display: link to strategic plan

Membership committee:

Must unlink membership from conference

Renew before conference info sent out

Conference committee will work on this

Annual for all at the same time, or individual? Either easy with Databank

Heather: if separate, send out membership in Sept before conference info out

Public Affairs GLCI funding not added back to state budget. Reps Schilling and Williams very supportive.

Brian: we need to ask NRCS if SW WI grazing specialist position will be refilled

Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship:

Joe Tomandl III: Thank you Dave Johnson for work with the State Legislature

Web site is up and running

1 year than out of funding- working on sponsorship

Foundation development

501c3 status applied for

Investment models

June 24, 2013 board meeting

There are 9 apprentices

GrassWorks Foundation: \$9900 as of 5/9/13

Send out donation requests 2 times a year, one e-mail, one snail mail. One early fall, one late December.

Ag coalition: we were represented by Dave J and Gerald; we are now seen as part of mainstream ag

There was a Discovery farm presentation

Tourism committee

Opposed to raw milk

Farmers Union happy we are there!

Speakers Bureau:

Jill: speakers will be called, "Grazing Ambassadors", sponsored by GrassWorks Inc. Presently focusing on Madison area, are there groups in your area that are looking for speakers?

Executive director Jill's report:

In September the Education grant runs out.

Lanice is the Social media person

Web site is up to date

Pasture sticks will cost \$6, sell for \$10 available mid- June

Laura: SARE grant for dairy products.

30/20 grants were not cut, it will pay for a farmer to be paid as a mentor. Looking for mentors

To be put on a list

Fund raisers:

Dan: the good news: Byron seed has sold 48,000 lbs of GrassWorks seed, we will get \$4800

Disappointing news: cattle at the sale sold very low. \$1200 received

Next time: our own day and auctioneer

Membership should have a perceived value, coupon book?

Foundation: list donors at levels? With solicitation for donations in Graze magazine in a different add from GrassWorks newsletter

Data Bank we need a usage policy

WI Farmers Union proposal should we join them on Raw Milk view?

Primary motions and many amendments

MMS Final Motion: Get the opinion of GrassWorks members if the board should support the Raw Milk Policy of Farmers Union. The board will then make final decision. Passed

Policy: sponsorship, branding, logo use

Private sector branding

Like Byron seeds and GrassWorks seed mix

MMS to invite Tom Weaver to talk to Board in September. Passed

Work on policy after meeting with Weaver

Summer Picnic: should be held in NW quadrant with local network

MMS to hold picnic and pasture walk at Cheyenne and Katie Christianson farm July 20th, 10am-3pm
Passed

Kevin: Train the trainer program at his farm, June 26, 9:45 \$10

Dave J: conference call o short meeting July 20, Sept meeting at Mead Wildlife refuge

MMS to adjourn. Passed

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Galbraith