

GrassWorks Inc.

November 17, 2011

Board meeting Pioneer Inn, Plainfield, WI

Members present: President Gerald Jaeger, Treasurer Kay Craig, Peter Pitts, Bob Winkel, Dave Johnson, Dan Olson, Matt Hartwig, Ryan Klussendorf

Advisor present: Paul Daigle

Associates: Lanice Szomi, Bridget O'Meara; Guest: Gerald Berg

- **Meeting called to order** by president Gerald Jaeger
- **Secretary report M/MS to accept report. Passed**
- **Treasurers report:** Balance of **\$2,505.38**. Lots of activity since July meeting with the Dairy Apprenticeship program, conference expenses and new grazing guides being ordered.

Bridget/Lanice- updated the board on the number of apprentices, masters and the development of an online database being used to track potential masters/apprentices. Good response from new masters. Joe Tomandl III, Bridget & Lanice are working out protocols. There is a local advisory committee that meets monthly, monthly communication with the subgrantess (Dick Cates of the School for Beginning Livestock Producers & Paul Dietman of Farm Center), while Joe, Bridget & Lanice conference call weekly.

Grazing Conference Update – Bridget & Lanice gave an update about the number of registration brochures sent, sponsorships and exhibitors are coming in. Plans are coming along. Blue Skies Greener Pastures will have a session, as will the Grazing Apprenticeship program.

SARE grant- had a successful field day with Woody Lane in Lodi in October. Meeting in December to start planning for 2012 events.

DATCP grazing grant – The budget and timeline has been reworked and submitted to Laura.

Grazing Guide books – price will be set at \$40/each due to the increased cost of printing and brochures that are included.

GrassWorks meetings – Next meeting will be the Annual meeting at the conference. Dave suggested that GW met the 3rd Thursday of the odd months. Gerald to check on standing availability of Schmeckle Center in Point.

New Business: Jerald Berg informed the group of his New Zealand trip that was very informative and could possibly lead to establishing relationship with new partners.

Dan discussed some upcoming events that GW can partner with by helping to promote. Such as Jerry Bernetti and possibly tag team with Dr. Guy Jodarski from OV. This may happen in April 2012. Temple Grandin is slated to come to WI in June 2012. **M/MS to help out with these activities.**

Paul Daigle mentioned that a letter should be written to Pat Leavenworth, WI-NRCS State Conservationist to keep the cost-share rate in the 2012 EQIP cookbook and any contract that may come from the sign-up. **M/MS that a letter be drafted and sent to Ms. Leavenworth by Gerry.**

Dan said that MN/WI NRCS may approve the GrassWorks blend % for EQIP purposes.

Kevin asked ahead of time if the board would consider having Karl Hakanson as a speaker at the next meeting about his watershed work.

GrassWorks policy committee has met. Reviewed what the action sheet. They may need to diversify and reach out to other aspects/groups. Give any comments to Dave. **M/MS to make the current wording change.**

Respectfully submitted,
Lanice Szomi