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 Fyksten 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