

GrassWorks Inc.

July 19, 2012

Board meeting

Schmeekle Reserve, Stevens Point

Board members present: President Dave Johnson, Treasurer Kay Craig, Secretary Wendy Galbraith, Peter Arnold, Kevin Mahalko, Bob Winkel, Dan Olson, Cheyenne Christianson, Dave Vetrano (new board member replacing Peter Pitts); Executive Director Jill Hapner; Advisors present: Paul Daigle (came late due to teaching students at Stevens Point); Associates: Lanice Szomi; Guests: Gerald Berg, Jerry Jaeger

- **Meeting called to order** by President Johnson

Secretary report

M/M S by Kevin and Kay that we accept Secretary minutes as printed, passed

Treasurer's report see inserts \$2,463.53 in checking, and check to deposit from Byron seeds from GrassWorks seed sales \$4010

Apprenticeship grant is difficult to administer, Kay and Jill will be working on this

Accounts receivable is \$0, accounts payable is \$0

We need a spread sheet to keep track of 3 grants:

Education grant

Speakers Grant

Conference grant

We need a financial review of books. Kay will look into FCS or others to do this

MMS by Bob and Cheyenne to accept the treasurers report. Passed

Conference committee

Lanice: SARE may hold its Educator meeting at the conference

They have **Ian Mitchel** from South Africa coming

We are trying to get Shannon Hayes- she has a new book

We need lots of sponsorship and help with speaker fees

MOSES would like to help

Mother Earth News is a Platinum sponsor with in kind advertising

We will contact Lely, and Cell Com

Livestock auction

Dan: \$1500 went to GrassWorks

We will repeat next year, maybe earlier in spring, and an additional sale in the fall

Would the Grass Fed beef coop be willing to share their feeder sale?

GrassWorks Booth

Cheyenne and Kevin: Booth needs work; help with layout, slogan and multi-species grazing.

Money can come from conference grant, \$1,000- \$2,000 range. 2 sets

Grass Works Grazing apprenticeship

Peter: meetings have worked on Case study writing and foundation formation.

There are 10 apprentices

The meeting with DFA went well.

Bob: DFA has a National grazing specialist, they want a WI, MI, IL, IN specialist that would share duties with GrassWorks apprenticeship. It would be a full time job; DFA would be main employer, \$60-\$80,000 range.

DFA wants the GrassWorks contacts. We will proceed with caution. GW would be in control, there would be a limited time contract, and may be in place by the end of Fall- before the end of 2012.

Public affairs:

Executive Director Jill Hapner report:

Ag Reform food ad jobs act

GLCI gets no more money from Ag chemical fund

Sec. Brancel says we need tech support in all corners of the state
Farm Bill: Big Farmers reduced from 19 to 17 million, the house reduced them from 19 to 10 million.
Equip stays the same, NRCS big loss; CSP contracts cannot be renewed.

Data Base

Jill: Data Bank is up and running- over 2,000 data points

Kay will use bank to keep track of membership and group e-mails

Core proposal is a document that says who we are and what we do and what grants we want. Useful for grant writing or speaking points.

Speakers Bureau with Dick Cates

GLCI: grow Wisconsin with grazing

Dave: GrassWorks has a great reputation, but is not well known by farmers

M/MS by Kay and Kevin to accept Bridget's resignation. Passed

M/MS by Bob and Kevin to hire Lanice as new communication director for 5 hours per week. Passed

Lanice will have to hire someone to help her with the conference

Dave Vetrano presented as a replacement for Peter Pitts on the Board. He was a Fisheries Biologist in the driftless area of the state. He raises Jersey steers and pasture poultry. Has worked extensively with Trout Unlimited. He feels the future of grazing and other conservation measures will rely more on cooperating with other groups rather than government.

M/MS by Dan and Kay to ratify Dave to board. Passed

M/MS by Cheyenne and Peter: To appoint Peter Pitts as GrassWorks Representative to the State Technical Committee. Passed

Bylaws *Bylaw changes must be reviewed 3 times*

Dues: Board suggests the same fee (dues) for all levels (voting, nonvoting and professional). Allow \$25 supporter contributions.

M/MS by Kay and Dave P: Dues for GrassWorks be \$50 for voting and nonvoting membership as per bylaws. Drop \$75 professional membership. passed

Needs Striking: the bylaws presently allow officers of board to hold more than one position on the board

Needs clarification: No board member shall receive compensation. After much discussion, we all agreed that this does not include reimbursement. The Treasurer position is voluntary, but a bookkeeper may be paid for their time. Board members who work on the Apprenticeship steering committee may receive a stipend for their time- it is not compensation.

Paul's plan see handout. This is a response to the Governor's 30/20 plan

M/MS by Kevin and Peter: That GrassWorks endorse "**The Case for Balanced Growth in the Wisconsin Dairy Industry**". Passed

We need letters from other groups in support of this document.

Foundation: GrassWorks would be the endowment; the apprenticeship would be a sub category

M/MS by Dave P and Cheyenne: GrassWorks pursue and plan for the establishment of a GrassWorks Foundation. Passed.

Social Media

Lanice will set up Facebook account

Next meeting focus: review strategic plan, look at an annual budget

M/MS by Bob and Dan to adjourn. Passed

Next board meeting, Thursday, **September 20, 2012, 10a.m.- 2p.m. Schmeekle Reserve, Stevens Point**

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Galbraith