

WCO BOD Meeting

Kuhn North America, followed by a plant tour

Dec. 2, 2021

Roll call: Derek Ducat, Ray Liska, Josh Bartholomew, Exec Director - Maria Woldt, Kevin Shinnors, Isaac Lemmenes, Jesse Dvorachek, Matt Digman, Brian Luck, Pat Johnson, Bill Smith

President Ray Liska called the meeting to order at 11 AM

Agenda approval: Motion was made by Kevin seconded by Jesse. All were in favor. Agenda approved.

Treasures Report: Maria and Isaac gave the treasury report. Went over financials in the board packet. See profit and loss sheet. Many memberships and sponsorships are coming in December. Memberships mailing December 9 due to a delay in the Symposium schedule handout from MFA. **Bill moved to approve the treasurers report and Josh seconded. All were in favor. The report was approved.**

President's Report: Ray gave a president's report. He discussed a few upcoming events, the WCO bylaws and the Executive Director's contract. This fall Maria retained Aaron Stauffacher from McDaniel law office in Darlington to review the WCO bylaws. He recommended a few changes that could be made by the board versus the entire membership. A sheet of proposed changes was included in the board packet. **Kevin moved to accept the proposed bylaw changes. Jesse seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed and the bylaws were updated and filed.**

The next item for discussion was Maria's contract, which is up for renewal every December. For 2022, Maria requested a consulting fee increase of \$1,500 from \$16,000 to \$17,500. After discussion, the board discussed increasing the fee to \$18,500 paid in quarterly installments. **Kevin made the motion to increase Maria's fee to \$18,500. Isaac seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.**

Dairy Day at the Capitol is Jan. 18 in Madison. WCO is a sponsor. The Dairy Strong conference is Jan 19-20, also in Madison and WCO is a sponsor. Maria will contact people to get registered.

Executive Directors Report: Maria discussed that we are down to 127 members, due to no symposium. Membership renewals will go out Dec. 9 as previously discussed.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee: Kevin discussed our 3 winners and how we will verify their grades and send payment. Maria explained that our Mini Grant recipient, Calumet County ag stewardship alliance reached out and would like to carry over their grant to next year since they were not able to host the event they had in mind for the grant initially. They have been paid \$2500 and the remaining \$2500 is payable upon completion of the event. Jesse is involved with the group and shared his thoughts. **Jesse moved to carry the funds over and allow CCASA more time to plan their event. Bill seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion to carry over funds was approved.**

Kevin mentioned in July that he plans to retire Jan. 1 from UW-Madison. As such, he will be retiring from the board. Joe Sanford from UW-Platteville has agreed to join the board and take over as Scholarship and Awards chairperson. Joe introduced himself and talked a little bit about his research.

Recruitment/Nomination Committee: There are two spots up for nomination. One at-large director – Jesse Dvorachek and one corporate director – Isaac Lemmenes. Both are eligible to run again and have chosen to do so. Recruitment notices have been posted in the newsletter, on the website, on social and in a direct email to members (end of December). All nominees will have profiles published in the annual meeting booklet.

Special projects committee: Matt Digman and Maria will review the member survey as well as the 2020 data, which still needs to be analyzed. There is desire on behalf of the board to provide WCO members with more meaningful data analysis from the member survey since it is so involved to complete. Matt and Maria will look at options and come back to the board. In January, it was approved that each member will get a \$25 gift card for completing the survey as well as be entered to win a \$1,000 cash prize drawn at Symposium during the WCO annual meeting. Member survey will be launched 1/21/22.

Safety/Regulations Committee: Maria and Isaac gave a regulatory update. NR 151 revisions did not move forward. Dairy Day at the Capitol was discussed again. The WI farm support program was discussed, money for dairy exports and other bill updates – standards of identity etc. There will be a few sessions that are WCO certification approved at Forage Symposium, and they will be noted in the registration materials.

Education/Conference Committee: Maria discussed the keynote speakers coming to Symposium along with other sessions. Maria mentioned board member responsibilities at the events and how the board helps by introducing speakers and helping with surveys. Meyer Manufacturing typically gives a \$100 gift card drawn at the lunch on the last day. The board would like to encourage attendance and wondered if Meyer would consider donating a second gift card. Maria will reach out to Troy to inquire.

Old Business: None

New business: None

Adjournment: Kevin moved to adjourn the meeting at 1 PM. Isaac seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned. A tour of Kuhn North America followed the board meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Maria Woldt for Josh Bartholomew.