

WCO Board of Directors Meeting

Chula Vista Resort Laguna Visa Room WI Dells, WI

Monday February 20th, 2023

Roll call: Ray Liska, Josh Bartholomew, Exec Director - Maria Woldt, Isaac Lemmenes, Amanda Krepline, Bill Smith, Joe Sanford, Pat Johnson, Derek Ducat

President Ray Liska called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Agenda approval: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Josh, seconded by Bill. All were in favor. Agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes: (12/1/22 meeting) Motion to approve was made by Bill, Derek seconded. All were in favor. Minutes approved.

Treasurers Report: Maria gave the treasury report. 2023 year to date financials were presented. Checkbook total is \$68,405.32. She reported that for 2022, we made a minor profit on the year of \$1,782.46 which was due to not giving out the mini grant and other cost savings measures. She went over the profits made from the first auction hosted by Hanson auction group. Different sponsorships will be discussed. The 2023 budget which was presented in draft form in December was brought back for final review and approval

Approval of Jan 2023 financials: Josh Bartholomew made the motion to approve the January financials, Derek seconded. All were in favor. The Jan 2023 financials were approved.

Approval of budget for 2023: Bill Smith made the motion to approve the 2023 budget as presented, Amanda seconded. All were in favor. The 2023 budget was approved.

Executive Directors Report: Maria discussed open receivables for sponsorships. All have been contacted. Membership is looking good; symposium will be a big bump as usual. Board responsibilities were discussed for the annual meeting.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee: Joe discussed one applicant has not met the GPA requirement. The board decided to extend the time to give her a chance to improve her grades. **Josh made a motion to extend, Amanda seconded. All were in favor. The time period for this applicant's scholarship was extended.** Joe discussed that we hope we get a good pool of applicants because of other options other than just college education. Also discussed was the non-academic option of a grant, etc. by the board. It was decided that the committee will decide on a case-by-case basis based on applications received. Joe discussed how applications are reviewed and ranked.

Bill made a motion to include non-academic options in the WCO scholarship/awards program. Derek seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed. Joe and Maria will continue to refine the application to include language about non-academic training opportunities.

Recruitment/Nomination Committee: Bill and Maria discussed our nominees running and the voting that will take place at the annual meeting. Operator director candidates are Jeremy Heim, John Osterhaus. Members will vote for two. Corporate director running is Randy Clark. Members will vote for

one. At this time each candidate is running unopposed, but we allow write-in candidates and candidates from the floor.

Newsletter/Media Committee: There will be two press releases following the annual meeting; new directors and officers, and to promote the scholarship program. Maria discussed that the ads might be down this year due to some companies coming down in status from platinum. Everything else is business as usual. There are some media interview opportunities coming up and Maria appreciates the directors willing to talk to reporters.

Special Projects Committee: Maria discussed the survey special project. WCO has retained Nate Dudenhoeffer from Dudenhoeffer Agricultural Technology Acumen. We did not get enough people to fill out the survey to publish the data. We have worked to streamline, but we need to push the group to complete the survey. The survey will remain open to capture additional applicants. Hopefully we will get enough data to publish. Once finalized, data will be available on the WCO website

Safety/Regulations Committee: Isaac brought to attention some lawsuits that are going on in the state related to manure application. Farm service CDL update was given by Maria and Ray, the bill has been drafted and circulated for co-sponsorship. 15 assembly reps and 10 senators signed on as co-sponsors. This bill extends the farm service CDL from 180 days to 210 days, a great step in the right direction supported by WCO members and directors. Dairy Day at the Capital update was also given by Maria. It is April 19, 2023. Ray brought up the DNR's attempt to eliminate the general permit option for CAFO's. This is in early stages, and we are following closely.

Education/Conference Committee: Board member responsibilities for the Forage Symposium and the agenda were further discussed. Board members help moderate the sessions, make introductions and hand out surveys and tickets. Special thanks to Meyer Manufacturing for donating two cash gift cards again this year. \$100 and \$75. If attendees complete a survey, they get a ticket. Drawing is made at Wednesday lunch.

Old Business: None

New business: None

Adjournment: Josh Bartholomew moved to adjourn. Bill seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is our annual meeting on Wednesday morning at 8am.

Respectfully submitted by Josh Bartholomew