

## WCO Annual Meeting

Chula Vista Resort- Wisconsin Dells, WI

February 21st, 2024

Roll call: Bill Smith, John Osterhaus, Jeremy Heim, Randy Clark, Pat Johnson, Exec Director - Maria Woldt, Isaac Lemmenes, WCO members.

President Bill Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 am

Bill led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

There was an introduction of the board by each member.

**Agenda approval:** Motion was made by Randy Clark, seconded by John Osterhaus. All were in favor. The agenda was approved.

**Secretary's Report:** Maria reviewed the 2/22/23 meeting minutes. Jeremy Heim moved to approve the secretary's report, Randy Clark seconded. All were in favor. The meeting minutes from the 2023 annual meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Isaac gave the treasury report. See profit and loss sheet in packet. WCO's overall financial position is \$209,539.11 considering cash and investments. Randy Clark moved to approve the treasurer's report and John Osterhaus seconded. All were in favor. The treasurer's report was approved.

**President's Report.** Bill gave the President's report. He discussed work with the board. Also discussed was a panel he served on at the Driftless Beef Conference in Dubuque in January.

**Executive Directors Report:** Maria thanked our sponsors and the group. She discussed her 10 years with WCO and the 160 members. She discussed the budget and our investment portfolio. The auction and fundraising opportunities were brought up to the group. Legislative opportunities were touched on.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Special Projects Committee:** Maria told the group about the incentives for survey takers. She told the group about the consultant that the board hired and the benefits. She went over some of the data with the group and asked that anyone who didn't complete the survey please do so.

**Scholarship Committee:** Maria gave the report in Joe's absence. She talked about each applicant and the two winners. There was a third applicant that did not meet GPA requirements that we are giving more time to. There is another applicant that is earning her CDL that is still in progress of taking the CDL course. When she is to that point, we will issue her check. Data on the scholarship awards was shared. The changes in the program emphasized regarding nonacademic scholarship opportunities. Maria went over the grant program opportunities. There was some discussion about a lack of tractor safety programming in Wisconsin and WCO's desire to get involved. This could be a grant opportunity. Scholarships for the 2024 round are due May 1, posted on the website, social media, and via email and newsletter to members.

**Newsletter/Media Committee:** Maria Woldt reported on our newsletter presence, social media, articles, and events. Also discussed was our website's effectiveness. Media interviews etc.

**Education/Conference Committee:** Bill went over the meeting that the board had discussing the conference. The collaboration with MFA and PNAAW was discussed.

**Recruitment/Nomination Committee:** John went over requirements to run for the board and the candidates. Each candidate introduced themselves and their businesses.

Tabulation occurred. Bill was recognized for his service to the board, this was led by John Osterhaus.

**Safety/Regulations Committee:** Maria went over the farm service CDL changes that we want to take place and how WCO got the ball rolling with this bill. Dairy Day at the capital was brought up. There was a conflict with the date this year, but it is a great event that WCO will continue to support. Certification events were discussed.

Election results were as follows:

For Southeast region director, Pat Johnson was re-elected, and for Southwest region director, Bruce Dannenberg was elected.

Isaac Lemmenes moved to destroy ballots; Daryll Manthe seconded. All were in favor. The ballots were destroyed.

The \$1000 drawing went to Daryll Manthe of D & J Manthe Forage Service LLC

**Old Business:** None

**New business:** None

**Adjournment:** Jeremy Heim moved to adjourn. Pat Johnson seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Maria Woldt