

WCO Board of Directors Meeting
Chula Vista Resort Laguna Vista Room WI Dells, WI
Monday, February 19th, 2024

Roll Call: Pat Johnson, Bill Smith, Isaac Lemmenes, Jeremy Heim, Maria Woldt, Amanda Krepline, John Osterhaus, Randy Clark, On the phone: Brian Luck

Absent: Joe Sanford and Matt Digman

Agenda approval: Motion was made by Jeremy Heim seconded by Randy Clark. All were in favor. Agenda approved.

Approval of minutes: Jeremy Heim approved; John seconded. All were in favor. Minutes were approved.

Treasurers report: Sponsorships are down currently. Komro said no to sponsoring WCO at this time. Jeremy Heim was going to talk to R Braun possibly about their past due sponsorship from last year. Amanda suggested talking to Rob Vanderloop at Vanderloop Equipment about their past due sponsorship. Memberships are going strong. Hoping we gain memberships due to our fees staying the same. MFA went up to \$60/year this year. Investments are going rather well, and we are recovered from most of what we lost last year. Jeremy Heim moved to approve the treasurer's report, John Osterhaus seconded the motion. All were in favor. Treasurer's report was approved.

Executive director report: We discussed board member responsibilities at Symposium. Everyone signed up for moderating the room, handing out surveys and introducing speakers. The second meeting on Wednesday will need to be moved to our break as the speaker at 9:40 is one we asked to come and is going to be a great speaker. We discussed the spring auction. Buyer's fee will be where our cut comes from for this auction. Of the 7% fee, WCO will get .5 and PNAAW will get .5.

Scholarship report: Applicants can be pursuing any level of post-high school educations. They can also be pursuing professional development or other non-educational training. This year we currently have 4 candidates. 1 in 4-year, 2 in CDL and 1 in tech college. The CDL timeframe is a little different than college, so we are working with our candidates once they show they are enrolled in a CDL course. One candidate needs an extension - James Ackley. Randy made a motion, Jeremy seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed. Applications for scholarships are due May 1st.

Recruitment/Nominee report: There are 2 spots open. Pat Johnson has an option for serving another term. Bill Smith will be retiring off the board this year. Both are wonderful people, and we thank them for all they do on the board. We have one candidate for Bill's spot, Bruce Dannenberg from Mineral Point.

Newsletter report: There is a newsletter coming out in March. We will be posting the election results in the newsletter. We will also have an article with the scholarship announcements and requirements. Bill had an awesome experience at the Driftless Beef Conference meeting that will be discussed in newsletter. He served on a panel with other custom operators.

Special projects report: We discussed the member surveys. The plan is to have the rough draft by Wednesday. The survey that was shared on Facebook was attacked by fake survey takers. Maria had to remove this and work with the data to ensure accuracy.

Safety regulations report: Dairy day at the Capital is tomorrow so unfortunately, we will not be able to attend this year. The restrictions on manure trucks are a very gray area still currently as far as things like tax for fuel on the roads whether is required, and some haulers not licensing their trucks properly. These are things that need to be clearer for farmers and operators.

Old business: There is no old business.

New business: There is a major lack of tractor safety around the state, especially Dane County area/SE/SW WI. There is more regional tractor safety though. WCO would like to become more engaged in tractor safety training throughout the state. Brian Luck talked about some things that Agriability, including hiring a safety coordinator that will work on a variety of things including tractor safety training. We will look at ways to get more involved in this issue as safety is a cornerstone of WCO.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Amanda Krepline