

WCO Annual Meeting

Chula Vista Resort- Wisconsin Dells, WI

February 19, 2025

Roll call: John Osterhaus, Jeremy Heim, Randy Clark, Pat Johnson, Amanda Krepline, Bruce Dannenberg, Exec Director - Maria Woltdt, Isaac Lemmenes, WCO members.

President John Osterhaus called the meeting to order at 8:00 am

John led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

There was an introduction of the board by each member.

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

Secretary's Report: Randy reviewed the 2/19/24 meeting minutes. Ray Liska moved to approve the secretary's report, Isaac seconded. All were in favor. The meeting minutes from the 2024 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 \$250,608.56 considering cash and investments. Luke Vander Kinter moved to approve the treasurer's report and Daryll Manthe seconded. All were in favor. The treasurer's report was approved.

President's Report. John gave the President's report. He discussed work with the board. Also discussed the learning experience of serving in this capacity. Encouraged others to take on leadership roles.

Executive Directors Report: Maria thanked our sponsors and the group. She discussed her 11 years with WCO and membership and sponsorship. She discussed the budget and our investment portfolio. The auction and fundraising opportunities were brought up to the group. Legislative opportunities were touched on. She brought up the Tractor safety event last July which was a direct result of the meeting last year.

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 explained that new this year there will be a 1-page sheet that is laminated and mailed to all members 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 four winners. 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 were a few ideas shared. Scholarships for the 2025 round are due May 1, posted on the website, social media, and via email and newsletter to members. Last year at the meeting, a tractor safety training was brought up, and a group from central Wisconsin rallied and planned a training in an area that was previously lacking. WCO was a sponsor, and the group will host the training again in 2025.

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: John went over the meeting that the board had discussing the conference. The collaboration with MFA and PNAAW was discussed.

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

Tabulation occurred. Isaac was recognized for his service to the board.

Safety/Regulations Committee: Maria explained the budget process and reviewed budget and policy priorities that WCO supports. Maria explained WCO's legislative partnerships with Dairy Business Association and WI Farm Bureau. WCO is following these things in the budget process: transportation infrastructure, support for clean water initiatives, research and education, regulatory fairness, and others. Maria asked members to reach out if they have an issue in their local community as we can help elevate it to elected leaders. WCO is a sponsor and will promote to members and send rep. Certification events were discussed.

Election results were as follows:

For At-Large director, Charlie Schultz was elected, and for corporate director, Steve Pesik was elected.

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

The \$1000 drawing went to Jake Zutz of R Braun Inc.

Old Business: None

New business: None

Adjournment: Randy moved to adjourn. Jeremy seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned.

Member announcements and discussion: A few members voiced concerns over no-fee permits being withheld from townships, member cannot get an answer from the town. A workaround was shared by another member. Ongoing concerns with being stopped and officers not having a deep enough understanding about the IoH rules and regs.

Respectfully submitted by Maria Woldt