

**WCO Board of Directors Meeting**  
Holiday Inn, Fond du Lac  
**Wednesday, December 7, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

**Roll Call:** Ike Lemmenes, Bryce O’Leary, Kathy Vander Kinter, Bill Arneson, Chuck Rabitz, Maria Woldt, Kevin Shiners

**Absent:** Cole Olson, Matt Digman, Troy Meyer,

**Agenda approval** – Bryce moved to approve, Bill seconded. Agenda approved.

**Approval of minutes (July 19, 2016 meeting)** – Bryce moved to approve, Bill seconded. Minutes approved

**Approval of Treasurer’s Report-** Chuck Rabitz presented the financial report. A new accounting program was written for WCO by Denmark State Bank. Detailed financials were not presented because Chuck has not had enough time to enter all the detail, but they will be ready in time for year-end. The total balance in the WCO check book is \$64,322.54 Kevin moved to approve, Bryce seconded. Treasurer’s report approved.

2017 draft budget was presented for review and vote at the next meeting in January. Q3 investment report shows a YTD growth of 960.92 for a total value of \$21,475.16. Investments plus checkbook total is \$85,797.70. WCO’s financial position is strong.

**Executive Director’s Report:** (Woldt) – The format of the annual meeting was discussed. We will follow the script as we have for the last few years as it seems to work well. Memberships and sponsorships have been mailed and are coming in. A member gift will be selected and distributed at the annual meeting.

Mike Biadasz memorial fund – This summer it was suggested by several members that WCO should donate to this fund to honor member Mike Biadasz who died in a farming accident. Kevin moved to donate \$400 to the fund. Bill seconded. Motion was passed to donate to the fund. The donation will be mentioned at the Symposium.

Bylaws – there are several insignificant changes that need to be made to the bylaws. However, since they do not impact the mission and vision of the organization (changes are mostly “clean-up”), WCO legal counsel determined that the board could vote to make the changes. In order to make these changes, all board members need to sign a “Director Consent Form”. The form was distributed and signed by those in attendance. The remaining signatures will be collected in Jan. Copies of the current bylaws and the proposed changes were handed out. A vote will take place in January.

**Committee Reports:**

**Scholarship & Awards Committee** (Shiners) – Scholarships - Fall semester grades must be submitted by our three scholarship winners to verify that they have over a 3.0 GPA. Kevin will make these requests. Once we have their grades, checks will be issued directly to the students.

Awards – There were four applicants for the WCO employee of the year award. The committee met via email and selected the winner to be announced at the Symposium. Both the winner and the nominator will be contacted ahead of time to ensure that they are at the event. Non-winners will be contacted and encouraged to apply again in the future. The application will also be amended to encourage people to complete the application and follow the areas of the award that WCO requests.

**Recruitment/Nomination Committee** (Woldt) three positions on the board are scheduled to expire by the next annual meeting in January: Kathy Vander Kinter / North Region Director, ke Lemmenes / SE Director and Troy Meyer / Corporate. Josh Harkenrider and Ritchie Magnusson have submitted materials for the corporate spot. Derek Ducat is interested in the North region spot. We are still seeking someone for the Se spot. Tim Strobel was discussed as a potential person to contact. A postcard will also be sent to remind people to come to the WCO annual meeting.

**Newsletter / Media Committee** (Woldt) There will be three newsletters again in 2017. There may be a need to transition to 12 pages as it is getting heavy on ads versus content. Two press releases will be sent on the last day of the Symposium. New officers/BOD and employee of the year. Media invitations will also be sent inviting media to our annual meeting and sessions.

**Special Projects Committee** (Woldt for Digman). The WCO survey has launched. Reminder emails have been sent to collect data. Results will be presented at the annual meeting.

**Safety / Regulations Committee** (Woldt/O'Leary/Arneson) Updates were given on the NR 151 rule revisions and the WCO members who are involved. There will be two certification sessions at the Symposium. An email will be sent to members to let them know to attend one of the two sessions – “Hidden Danger: Staying Safe Around Silage Bunkers” and “Worker’s Compensation & Safety: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities”. Both sessions are at 4 p.m. on Tuesday.

Plans are underway for the March safety/business development meeting. The location will be at FVTC in Appleton to be closer to more members. Maria will be on maternity leave if the event is held in March, so Kathy will be helping to coordinate. FVTC doesn't have their spring break until April, so a date needs to be selected that isn't too late.

**Education / Conference Committee** (Vander Kinter) – Board members are required to help as room chair people for the conference. They will again hand out surveys to people in the room. Troy has again volunteered to donate a \$100 Visa gift card to encourage people to complete the surveys. At the January meeting, a sign up will be handed around for folks to select sessions that they will moderate.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30. Next meeting is Jan 23, 6 p.m. at the Symposium in the Laguna Vista room. Dinner will be provided.