

WCO Board of Directors Meeting
Tuscan Tavern & Grill - Lake Geneva, WI
Tuesday, July 19, 2016 @ 5:30 pm
President Kathy Vander Kinter presiding

Roll Call: Matt Digman, Bryce O'Leary, Troy Meyer, Kathy Vander Kinter, Adam Danzinger, Bill Arneson, Chuck Rabitz, Maria Woldt

Absent: Cole Olson, Ike Lemmenes

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

Approval of minutes (March 18, 2016 meeting) – Bryce moved to approve, Bill seconded. Minutes approved.

Approval of treasurer's report- Chuck Rabitz presented the financial report in a new format. A new checking account has been opened at Denmark State Bank where Chuck works in Agribusiness banking. Chuck will be doing the WCO bookkeeping. Bryce moved to approve, Bill seconded. Treasurer's report approved.

Exec Director Report: (Woldt)

Maria gave the update on the admin/financial transition. All membership data is stored online in a secure location. The financial transition is complete and Chuck will begin to categorize expenses in a way that matches the budget. The website is also now mobile friendly since the majority of members and farmers access it from their phones.

A list of non-renewal memberships was also discussed. Maria shared the list with board members and it was decided that board members would make a personal contact with non-renewers that they are familiar with. New members (roughly 20) were sent a new member gift and personal note.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship: (Woldt) 3 - \$1,000 scholarship recipients have been selected for 2016. They are Kristin Woldt, Matthew Schmidt and Brook Trustum. Awards will be distributed following grade qualification requirements this Winter.

Employee-of-the-Year Award was explained / introduced in our last newsletter. Josh Harkenrider from NH expressed possible interest in sponsoring the program. The nominations are due November 1 and are posted online.

Recruitment/Nomination: (Woldt) 2 positions on the board are scheduled to expire by the next annual meeting in January: Kathy Vander Kinter / North Region Director and Troy Meyer / Corporate Representative are both concluding their second terms. Ike

Lemmenes / At-Large Director has decided not to seek a second term therefore this position will also be available in January. Discussion continued relating to Ike. If he actually resigns immediately, would we need to fill the position temporarily until the annual meeting. Ike will remain on the board until January when his term expires. Nominations are open until election time at the annual meeting. Various names discussed as possible candidates: Joe Manthe, Mike Maass, Ron Wussow, Brian or Cory Sullivan, Travis Juckem

News/Media: (Meyer/Woldt) Maria doing a great job keeping the newsletter fresh. Discussion took place on continuing to modernize the website including a more “mobile friendly” design. Latest newsletter was rolled out earlier this month. Maria suggested sending out the newsletter online in addition to in print.

Special Projects: (Digman) The last Safety Certification Session took place at the Arlington Research Station on March 18, 2016. Members have hinted at possibly taking a year off on the certification program or potentially incorporating something into the trio-conference in the future. The committee has been idle since the Arlington event. However, since safety is a pillar of WCO, there will likely be another certification event in March but location and timing are critical.

Digman was contacted by Greg Bussler (USDA-NASS) relating to our rate survey. Matt shared some of WCO’s finding with Greg. We will continue to review NASS data but would like to expand on WCO survey as well. Special projects will need to meet prior to the December board meeting (maybe in September) in order to keep the new survey moving forward. We will present either as a mini-session at the conference or possibly during the annual meeting.

Safety / Regulations: (Vander Kinter) The Certification Program will now be moved from Special Projects Committee to the Safety Regulation Committee since it is functional. Matt nominated Bill Arneson to Chair the committee as Ike L will be stepping aside. Bryce O agreed to co-chair the group.

Education / Conference: (Vander Kinter) This committee met prior to the board meeting today. Topics are narrowed down comfortably and plans are in place to meet and finalize on August 3, 2016.

New Business:

Sec/Treasurer board position. Since Chuck Rabitz joined the board and Shelly’s departure in the book keeping aspect of the organization, WCO has been discussing the split of the secretary / treasurer duties which are both held by Troy Meyer. Upon review of the Bi-laws it was noted that the positions are separate anyway. Bill Arneson moved to separate the two positions and appoint Chuck Rabitz as the treasurer effective immediately. Troy would maintain secretary duties. Motion was seconded by Bryce O’Leary. Motion carried

Maria suggested that it may be a good time to review the balance of the WCO Bi-laws. We noticed some inaccuracies in our short review. Maria will take a look.

Adjourn/Next Meeting: Move to adjourn by Bryce O'Leary, second by Bill Arneson. Next board meeting will be Wednesday, December 7

Respectfully submitted by: Troy Meyer - Secretary WCO