

**MWCA Board of Directors
Winter Meeting
January 16, 2007
Red Lion Colonial Inn**

Minutes

Members present: Scott Bockness, Dave Brink, Dale Butori, Clint Clark, Jason Smith, Jack Eddie, Margie Edsall, Ellen Engstedt, Jim Freeman, Kim Goodwin, Jim Ghekiere, Jim Gordon, Melissa Half, Jim Larson, John Moodry, Marijka Wessner, Paul Wick, Dick Zoanni, Carla Hoopes, Carla Lawrence, Fred Bell & Dan Dobler

Members excused: Marilyn Marler, Dave Burch & Diane Rice

Members not present: Bob Gilbert, Paul Helland, John Maki, Steve Saunders, Dave Schulz, John Simon & Joe Wiegand

Guests Present: Barry Rice

Meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m.

2006 Late Fall Board Minutes

Margie Edsall moved to approve the minutes Dale Butori seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Old Business

Review Finances

Margie reviewed the current P & L and investments. We have gained \$510 in the mutual fund and the CDs are at \$14,000. Coordinator support was over-budget due to NAWMA expenses. Sending extra people to D.C. will incur more expenses, but we should be able to absorb the expenses. ***Jack Eddie motioned to approve and Jim Ghekiere seconded. All were in favor.*** Ellen Engstedt suggested that the fixed assets and other investments be reported on the financials every time.

07 Annual Conference update

John reported that we were at 295 pre-registered for the conference. About 40 online registrations were paid. The agenda looks good and John is predicting that all the sessions will be well attended. The legislators look to attend in good numbers so John encouraged everyone to be there. He reviewed the procedure for the business meeting in the morning and Dale asked about information in area meetings. John explained that any issues regarding bylaws and board structure need to be brought up now as we do not have a lot of time in the morning to address them. Area reps need to make sure to address this issue in their meetings. Dale requested that officers go to the area meetings.

Bylaws/Policies Updates

Policies have been drafted and will be reviewed and voted on at the board orientation meeting. Scott reported that a speaker has been contracted to come to that board orientation and he will discuss governance issues. The Board orientation will take place on February 7, 2007 at Chico Hot Springs.

D.C. Weed Awareness Week update

Scott reported that the four attending the conference have gotten registered and have secured their tickets for that trip. Jim Larson reported that there will be side-bar meetings with NRCS and FSA. The meetings have been put together in a format that the states bring the issues to D.C. and not visa-versa. Montana will be focusing on fire issues, the Sheep Institute, and weeds and roads. NAWMA did try to create some provisions so that we would have a voice back there. Becky reported that the DC contingent had gotten together, but now that there have been additional changes; they will need to meet again. NAWMA is pushing to create a "second round" and have the DC folks tour the states. Jim Larson and Ellen Engstedt discussed the state of the President's budget and that Rehberg was re-appointed to appropriations.

Website

Becky passed around the design of the homepage that was created and approved. Online registrations had been coming in with a few glitches, as could be expected the first time. Partners was coordinating with the MWCA and Etapestry to generate a site map and help us create a better website.

New Business

Conflict Resolution Workshop update

Marijka reported that 21 folks had signed up for the workshop to date and Becky reported that there were online registrations taking place for that as well. The workshop will take place after the board orientation on February 8, 2007. The speaker for this workshop has been asking for ideas of conflict that weed professionals deal with. Marijka received several issues from the board for conflict issues. The workshop is limited to 50 – 60 people. Marijka passed around registration forms for the board.

BOD Orientation Meeting

As mentioned above, Scott reiterated the importance as board members to attend this meeting on Wednesday, February 7, 2007 at Chico Hot Springs. Loren Soft will be speaking to the board about governance at that time.

Executive Secretary Report

Becky reported on her various activities which included, but were not limited to realtor trainings, planning and implementation of duties associated with the annual conference, continued efforts with Zero Spread, preparation for NIWAW, PPL grant completed and drafted policies for the association.

BOD Issues/discussion items

Kim Goodwin reported that the license plates did have professional formats for the advertising of the plates and she wanted to encourage outside publication and marketing for the plate. Becky reported that with the development of the marketing workgroup would help us a great deal in hitting the right markets.

Paul Wick did want to recognize that the calendar committee did a great job in getting the calendars out this year and he had nothing but good feedback about the calendar.

Jim Larson wanted to make sure the board did not forget the good things that are happening on the ground and that we make sure to recognize those efforts.

Jim Gordon wanted to make sure that the board joins NAWMA and we continue to support Jim Larson as President of this Association and that organization. We need to encourage membership in NAWMA. Jim Larson encouraged MWCA membership to NAWMA. ***Dave Brink moved to have membership with NAWMA and Dale Butori seconded the motion. All were in favor.***

Scott thanked everyone for their input and service on the board. And John wanted to reiterate what Scott had said. He also reviewed his priorities:

- 1) In accordance with the MWCA's work plan and objectives the first goal is to implement the re-structure of the board and committees of the MWCA by 2008.
- 2) To involve the membership of the MWCA as both customers and producers to become a proactive organization both for our members and the general public.
- 3) Encourage the collaboration between like natural resource groups and agencies to work towards common goals and objectives.

Board of Realtors

Fred Bell reported on history of their involvement with the MWCA. He reported that they had 4,300 realtors in their organization. They were responsible for getting the buy/sell agreement in realtor contracts. Kim asked how the realtor handles this responsibility. Fred explained the contract and brought samples of the contracts. Fred also discussed the merit of knowledgeable application (i.e. of herbicide) information through weed booths at special events.

2009 Annual Conference

Marijka asked about the 2009 location for the conference and John Moodry and Scott both stated it would likely be back in Helena in a legislative year.

Scott adjourned the meeting at 3:32.