

## NDWCA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### SEVEN SEAS, MANDAN

January 6th, 2014

#### Yet to be Board Approved

President Gary Hartman called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. Members present were Joan Lorge, Derrill Fick, Ron Manson, Kevin Schmidt, Dan Dew, Dan Folske, Jim McAllister, Leon Pederson, David Hirsch, Bill Walker, Rachel Seifert Spilde, Carrie Larson, and Merlin Leithold.

Additional agenda items were: under new business - pollinator plan draft.

Merlin read the minutes from the September board meeting. Corrections: Change the wording from land yards to laneyards. Derrill moved to accept the minutes with one correction. Joan seconded the motion. M/C

Merlin gave the financial report. He passed out a map indicating which counties, cities and agencies have already paid their dues for 2014. Kevin moved to accept the financial report, Leon seconded the motion. M/C

Took a few minutes to grab pizza.

#### Committee Reports:

Education: Derrill stated that the pad folios were ordered and sent to Merlin's house. The pad folio was passed around. They will be handed out during the convention, one per full registrant. Passed around the history books that were printed. They will be given out at the convention. Discussed the association logo. The decision of the board is to go forth with the logo as it is on the history books front cover. He also has four youth coloring posters to be judged again this year, during the convention.

NAISMA: Derrill reported on the convention in Jackson. With the convention this fall in Fargo, Derrill and Stan met with Dr. Rod Lym recently, and toured the greenhouse at NDSU. One of the tours being scheduled will be through the greenhouse facility.

Convention: Merlin stated that he has all the speakers in place for the convention. Pre-registration went well. Around 100 preregistered. Merlin asked about refunds. The registration form states no refunds after December 31st. Merlin has had a few refund requests due to the extreme cold weather. Consensus of the board is: follow the registration form, no refunds after December 31st. Derrill stated that Jeff Weispfenning and Myron Dieterle will be the history portion of Wednesday afternoon. Merlin will also be a part of it. Derrill wants this to be a give and take with anyone from the group to talk, if they so desire.

Bylaws: Dan Dew handed out the bylaw changes that were taken to all the area meetings. Will take to the annual meeting. Merlin has incorporated the changes into the full bylaws document, to be handed out at the annual meeting.

## Agency Reports:

Government: Dave has been in contact with other agencies to try and get them involved in our association and to get them to become members. Dave and his crew helped out at several leafy spurge field days this past summer. They were able to send some beetles to several western states to help those states in establishing insectaries. Rich Hanson was one of the first persons to release flea beetles in ND. He is now working with bio control for Houndstongue. Hopefully we can get some in ND this coming summer.

NDDA: Carrie stated that Rachel has accepted a different position in the department, and will be leaving noxious weeds. Rachel will be a plant protection specialist. Her new phone number is 701-328-4128. She will still be involved in noxious weeds until a new person is hired and trained in. Their portion of the convention is ready to roll. They may have one speaker not coming. May use a speaker phone for her.

Industry: Bill gave the 2014 outlook from industries view. Dow: prices on milestone and Tordon should be stable. Some of their other chemicals may increase by 3%. They are still pursuing an aquatic label for milestone. Chaparral will be discontinued while Opensight will be registered. Opensight is the same as Chaparral, and slightly a better chemical. DuPont: They are still pursuing the registration for Perspective for range and pasture. Possibly later this fall, but no guarantees. Prices should be stable for Escort and Telar. BASF: Plateau prices should be very stable in 2014. Overdrive will be higher. Frequency will possible have a rate/acre increase to 16oz/acre for bareground control. Amine prices should be stable. Glyphosate prices should be stable for now. Dicamba products are in extremely short supply. We could see some significant price increases this season.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Empower the taxpayer lawsuit: Merlin has not heard anything since the hearing. There may be another hearing at the Supreme Court.

IRS letter: Merlin stated that he contacted the tax team, and they have not heard anything. The IRS should be satisfied since nothing has been heard by now.

Trust Fund: Stan could not make our meeting due to the weather out east. Stan and Jim and Derrill met a couple of weeks ago with Ag Commissioner Doug Goehring concerning a potential trust fund. Doug feels that we should apply for a grant through the heritage fund. Stan will bring this up at the annual meeting.

Jim feels that as an association, we may need to make a lot of changes before we get such a grant. We have never gone the direction of research before. Possibly even the bylaws may need changing.

Awards: Merlin stated that Debbie Trostad from Nelson County was the only nomination for senior career award. We had none for junior career award. After discussion with the executive committee, we accepted a nomination for a lifetime achievement award. We will award this to Myron Dieterle. Discussion was held on awards, and how we don't see nominations anymore.

Ron moved that we look at the entire award process at the March meeting. Leon seconded the motion. M/C

Container Recycling: Bill did a lot of research to see what was out there, and to see what his company, CPS, is doing. Larry Bricco from IBCNA out of Chicago will give a presentation on Wednesday morning. Jim, Derrill, Bill and Gary will possibly visit with Larry afterwards.

Presidents Transition: Gary thanked the board for allowing him to be their president this past year. He then turned over the presidency to Jim.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Pollinator Plan: President Jim passed out the NDDA Pollinator Draft Plan. He asked everyone to look at the last page in the plan. It addresses roadside rights of ways. This could be damaging to spraying. We definitely need to be aware of this.

The meeting was recessed at 7:40 pm until Thursday, January 9th at noon. We will have lunch during the meeting.

### **Thursday, January 9th.**

President Jim McAllister called the meeting back to order at 12:06 pm. Members present were: Joan Lorge, Derrill Fick, Ron Manson, Kevin Schmidt, Dan Dew, Gary Hartman, Leon Pederson, David Hirsch, Bill Walker and Merlin Leithold. Also present was Stan Wolf, Cass County weed officer.

Additional Agenda items: container recycling, funding for research, possible refund of registration, Ag Coalition

Area I Director: Leon stated that he talked to Kadie Benson, the 1<sup>st</sup> alternate in his area. And she said that she would be willing to step up to director in area I, since Leon is the new 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president.

Trust Fund: What is the feeling of the board? Possibly education should be the focus instead. Possibly focus on both research and education. Should we have a committee? We may see a need in the future to hire someone part-time to administer the funding. We may be able to utilize EARP funds for the education portion.

Jim appointed Stan to chair a research committee to seek funding from the Heritage fund for research. Ron is willing to be on the committee along with Dan. Possible suggestions included Mike Foley, USDA Research, Bill Kemp, Red River Valley Research, and someone from NDSU.

Education committee will meet and work on applying for EARP funding.

Jim told the board that everyone needs to look over the association bylaws between now and our March meeting, to see if changes are needed. We need to follow our bylaws when it comes to special funding.

Container recycling: What route do we want to go? Discussion was held on what avenue to take, what is the best for our members. It was suggested that we start with 5 sites, one for each area. Bill stated that there is a possibility that CPS trucks could transport empty containers from one location to another, if they had the room, and it is in their planned route. Funding this program: Could we use EARP funds. What kind of dollar amounts will be needed to fund a recycling program? Discussion needs to take place with Larry Bricco and his company as well as meeting with the AG Dept. Jim and Leon are willing to meet with Jim Gray to discuss a recycling program, etc.

Pad folios: Merlin stated that they went over real well. He heard a lot of thank you from the members receiving them. Our cost for each one is \$9.75. What should the remaining ones for? Leon moved that we sell them for \$14/each. Joan seconded the motion. M/C

Discussion was held on changing the wording for our annual convention. The word convention is prohibiting some from being able to register to attend. Change the annual convention to annual meeting, as it was in the beginning.

Convention:

Vendors: Tuesday set up from 8-11:30 and from 1-3pm. give them 10 minutes for presentations on Wednesday mornings.

We grossed slightly over \$3,000., for the auction. About normal. No complaints about having the business meeting on Tuesday afternoons. Merlin will discuss with the Ag Dept. to see if we can make this change permanent. Appreciate their cooperation this year. Merlin stated that he heard a lot of good comments from their portion as well. Moved right along this year.

Meals were excellent. Wednesday's banquet in the larger room went over real well. Everyone liked the entertainment, Tigerlily.

Ag Coalition: Kevin stated that he would like to see us join the Ag Coalition again. He will find out more about their dues, voting privileges, and bring back to the March meeting.

Web site: Merlin stated that we pay \$50 annually for the website. He is not sure if it is paid directly to Terry Volk or somewhere else. He will talk to Terry for more information. Terry was not at the convention. Joan moved to pay the web fee of \$50. Dan seconded the motion. M/C

Refund of convention registration: Jim asked that the board consider refunding Dick Anderson's convention registration since his health prevented him from coming. Leon moved that we refund his registration, Joan seconded the motion. M/C

Budget: Ron stated that a mistake was found in the 2014 budget, under the expense column. Corrections were made. Bill moved to approve the corrected budget, Ron seconded the motion. M/C

Meeting Dates for 2014: All at the Seven Seas in Mandan

March 25th - 9:00 am

June 24th - 9:00 am

Sept. 23rd - 9:00 am

Jan 5th, 2015 - 6:00 pm

2015 Convention Dates January 6 - 9, 2015 at Seven Seas in Mandan

Executive Secretary's contract for 2014: Merlin left the room. Discussion was held. Dan moved that we hire Merlin for 2014 at \$600/month. Bill seconded the motion. M/C Merlin reentered the room and accepted the contract. Contract will expire on January 9th, 2015.

Jim thanked everyone for coming.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectively submitted:

Merlin Leithold

Executive Secretary