

MINNESOTA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

BOARD MEMORANDUM

Date | 9/14/2021

To | MGWAF Directors and Staff

From | Jarrod Cicha

Regarding | Draft Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 9, 2021 quarterly meeting

Zoom meeting: 11:00

Attendance: Stu Grubb (President); Kara Dennis; Jarrod Cicha; Julia Steenberg; Ellen Considine; Sean Hunt; Katrina Marini; Scott Alexander; Eric Mohring.

Absent; Lanya Ross.

Approve minutes from June, 2021 meeting

Ellen motions to approve minutes without any amendments, Kara seconds. All in favor, minutes approved.

Financial Update – Kara

HOP is up this quarter, up 5.3% overall in 2021.

Gibanski is up this quarter, up 8.32% in 2021.

Total endowment is up 5.32% in 2021.

The unrestricted Hiway account is up \$6378

- Julia – around 6k profit funding from MGWA into the unrestricted funds explains bump in Hiway Account

Kara is working on constructing a new financial report summary that is simplified and easy to read.

Julia – The new summary should also track MGWA credits and the distribution of those funds within the MGWAF accounts.

Sean – Include private donations and the accounts they went to

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Stu – This document sounds like a standard profit and loss sheet. He would chat with Kara about document formatting if she wants help.

Action item: Stu will meet with Kara and discuss P&L sheets

Kittson SWCD Grant Application

The MGWAF has funded the Kittson water festival before and the event has been successful at bringing water based education to the community. Kara motions to approve the \$1,000 grant application in full, Katrina seconds. All in favor, grant is approved.

Jarrod – Should we be requesting feedback from all grant winners? The MGWAF could use pictures for website or an event summary for the newsletter.

Action item: Jarrod will draft letter for grant award winners that includes a request for reporting on how the event went.

Action item: Disperse funds to Kittson CO SWCD.

Scholarship Committee

Removal of Letters of Recommendation

The approved Removal of Scholarship Letters of Recommendation memo will be sent to the scholarship committee once a new chair is chosen.

DEI scholarship update

The scholarship was a great opportunity for the scholarship winners. Being paid well was a large benefit to the award winners. The program was a lot of work for Carrie at the Freshwater Society but it was a good educational experience for the two students.

The MGWAF should ask for feedback at the end of the internship. This could be in the form of

- One to two paragraphs for the newsletter,
- a presentation by the participant to their class,
- a questionnaire from the MGWAF to the program participants

Action item: Kara will start draft questions for the students and share with the board. Board will add their input.

Action item: Request summary of the DEI scholarship program from the Freshwater Society.

Check-in/updates on the student scholarships and field camp awardsout DEI scholarship

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Scott - Nothing new for the Field Camp scholarship

Lanya emailed Stu and Jarrod that she plans to resign. The current scholarship committee consists of the following people: Lanya Ross, Mike McDonald, Joy Loughry, Jim Lundy, and Eric Mohring.

Stu - We should have the head of the scholarship committee on the board

Sean – Amanda Strommer and Lanya would be the best resource for the scholarship committee inner workings for the next Committee Chair.

Eric indicated that he is willing to be the scholarship committee chair if Mike, Joy, or Jim do not want to be chair.

Stu – The committee needs to meet within the next two months to keep on track to award 22' scholarships.

Action item: Julia will send email to the remaining members of the Scholarship Committee and solicit a volunteer to take over the committee and join the foundation board.

Action item: Eric will send email to the Lanya asking for an explanation of the workings of the Scholarship Committee.

MGWA Update – Julia

Restrictions on large gatherings at the University of Minnesota are still in place. The fall conference “Rural and Sensitive: Groundwater across the 'Driftless Area' of Southeastern Minnesota and Adjacent States” is very likely to be held virtually.

Schedule next meeting

December 16th, 2021 – 11:00 AM

Adjourn

Eric motions to adjourn, Stu seconds, all in favor.