

# MINNESOTA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

## BOARD MEMORANDUM

**Date** | 6/21/2021

**To** | MGWAF Directors and Staff

**From** | Jarrod Cicha

**Regarding** | Draft Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 10, 2022 quarterly meeting

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Zoom meeting: 11:00

Attendance: Stu Grubb (President); Kara Dennis; Julia Steenberg; Ellen Considine; Katrina Marini; Eric Mohring; Tony Runkel, Jarrod Cicha.

### **Financial Update – Kara**

HOP down \$4.8K this quarter, down \$4.8K (-5.71%) YTD

Gibanski down \$18.8k this quarter, down \$18.8K (-6.90%) YTD.

Total endowment down \$23.6K this quarter, down \$23.6K YTD.

Kara: Rough quarter, as expected. All accounts are down but the performance of each account beat the DOW and S&P 500 over the quarter.

Stu mentioned classic P&L sheet. Sean suggested including a couple lines on the current financial report to summarize income and loss.

Sean. We received several small donations. They have been entered into our donations received document. There are several thank you letters that need to be sent.

#### *Action Items:*

*-Eric will write thank you letters for the Gil Gabanski Student Scholarship Fund donations.*

*-Scott will continue write letters for the Pfannkuch/Alexander Hydrogeology Field Camp Award Fund donations.*

*-Julia will write letters for the Education Activities donations.*

### **Scholarships - Julia**

Regular awards-

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Two undergraduate, Anna Klein and Andrew Vierbicher, and two graduate students, Brad Evraets and Philip Margrite were selected by the scholarship committee for \$1,500 scholarships.

Additional award-

An additional applicant stood out this year who clearly took a nonstandard path toward finishing her degree, but through adversity finished a hydro degree and is now a grad student at the U of MN. Her essay is heartfelt, she has financial needs and hopes to share her knowledge to address water resource problems with the tribes. June Sayers stood out and the committee suggests funding a 5<sup>th</sup> scholarship. None of the board sees any issue with adding a 5<sup>th</sup> scholarship this year.

Kara motions to award 5 scholarships of \$1,500, Eric seconds the motion. Approved unanimously.

*Action Items:*

*Julia will prepare scholarship award letters for the 5 winners and those that didn't receive an award. Julia will communicate with Jennie to get checks for the direct payments that will go out in the award letters.*

*Award winners will also be invited to the spring conference. Tony will talk with the incoming MGWA president about introducing the award winners at the spring conference.*

*The Scholarship Committee will contact The Newsletter Committee and suggest the newsletter host a feature on the award winners.*

*The Scholarship Committee will discuss scholarship process with DEI committee in order to better capture ways to better support non-traditional or BIPOC students.*

### **MGWA Update – Tony**

The MGWA is preparing for the virtual spring conference. The goal is to have speakers that give statewide coverage of the Minnesota DNR groundwater provinces.

The University will no longer allow the MGWA to rent the conference room as the MGWA is not associated with the University. The MGS may be able to sponsor the reservation of the conference room.

The fall 2022 conference is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference of the MGWA. The hope is to have an in-person conference, or at least a hybrid event.

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Sean –

Enrollment in the MGWA is declining, how do we get enrollment up? Katrina suggested that some years conferences don't include topics that industry folks are working on. Tony mentions that a large portion of members are nearing or have reached retirement age, and this could be a cause of the declining enrollment.

*Action Items:*

*Any ideas about improving membership numbers should be sent to Tony.*

The next MGWAF meeting is scheduled on June 2, 2022 – 11:00 AM

Stu motions to adjourn, Julia seconds. All in favor.