



Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association AGM

Friday, February 9, 2018

Victoria Inn, Brandon, MB

ATTENDANCE:

MFGA BOARD: Present: Dave Koslowsky (producer/chair), Darren Chapman (producer/vice chair/Mb Hay Exporters rep), Ryan Boyd (producer/finance chair), Larry Wegner (producer), Andrea Hamilton (producer), Pam Iwanchysko (Mb Ag- ex officio), Charlotte Crawley (DUC- ex-officio), Jim Lintott (producer), Emma McGeough (U of M Exofficio), Gord Adams (producer/MBP rep)

MFGA BOARD: Regrets: Kristelle Harper (producer), Mae Elsinger (AAFC-ex-officio), Lawrence Knockaert (producer/DFM rep), Glenn Campbell (producer)

MFGA Staff/Contractors: Duncan Morrison (Executive Director), Henry Nelson (MFGA Aquanty Project Manager)

GUESTS: Hon. Ralph Eichler Manitoba Minister of Agriculture, Len Islietson (MLA Brandon East), Maureen Cousins (MBP), Don McIntyre (producer), Don Guilford (producer/MBFI), Matt Van Steelandt (producer), Ken McKay (MBP), Wray Whitmore (Mb AG), Harvey Dann (Producer), Mike Kagan (Mb AG), Brian Lemon (MBP), Ramona Blyth (producer/MBP/MBFI), Stefan Bouw (producer), Jonathon Bouw (producer), Shauna Breault (producer), Clayton Breault (producer), Glenn Friesen (Mb AG), Kim Wolfe (MB AG), Ben Fox (producer/MBP), Miles Beaudin (MB AG), Curtis Hullick (MHHC), Heinz Reimer (producer/MBP/CCA), Kate Kowbel (producer), Dean Brooker (West Souris CD), Colin Hunter (producer/Mb Sheep Association)

MFGA Chairperson Dave Koslowsky called the AGM to order at 7:00 AM. He welcomed all present and thanked MBP for the opportunity to have the MFGA run their AGM in conjunction with their AGM.

The attendance sheet was circulated and quorum was declared.

Dave introduced Minister Eichler. Minister Ralph Eichler spoke about the value of the MFGA and the potential of the CAP agreement. He mentioned the importance of Manitoba's forage and grassland industry as well as made mention of the MFGA Aquanty project, the province's livestock strategy and Manitoba Beef and Forage Initiatives and encouraged innovative ideas to be brought forward by MFGA to move the industry forward. The Minister congratulated the MFGA board and staff for their dedication and good work.

Minutes of the Feb 3, 2017 were circulated.

MOTION: Larry Wegner/Heinz Reimer to approve the minutes as circulated. **CARRIED**

Dave Koslowsky thanked the Minister for the Minister and Manitoba Agriculture's support and provided overview of his chairperson's report as printed and called on. Glenn Campbell and Jim Lintott are leaving the board. Dave thanked the current board of directors, citing the younger members on the board. He spoke on the MFGA carbon position and the MFGA Aquanty project as well as the ongoing consultations with government and networking opportunities and the MBFI partnership. Dave thanked MFGA staff for their hard work and affirmed his belief that good days are ahead for MFGA. Dave will be stepping down as chairperson as his term has come to an end at the end of this AGM and taking on the role of past-chairman.

Executive Director report was given by Duncan Morrison. He gave an overview of the MFGA core programs and the increasing MFGA profile. Duncan made mention of MFGA Aquanty, MFGA Green Gold Program and MBFI as core programs and partnerships. He re-iterated the need for continued support from corporate sponsors and producers in the industry. Currently the MFGA is proposing support from CAP funding programs including the MFGA Aquanty model next phases and user group access.

Financial Committee Report was read by MFGA finance chair Ryan Boyd. Ryan pointed out that the MFGA Aquanty model has required support from MFGA bank account and that he and MFGA Finance manager Chris Yuzdepski are keeping tabs on it. Ryan also pointed to good days ahead for MFGA, singling out the work of the staff in gaining this momentum with board support.

MOTION: Ryan Boyd/Don Guilford to approve the financial report as presented. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Ryan Boyd/Larry Wegner to appoint Rosanna Sternat as auditor for March 2018. **CARRIED**

There were no changes to the MFGA By-Laws this year. They were passed/approved by the board in 2017.

An MFGA Aquanty update was given by Duncan Morrison. This project was announced in the fall of 2016 and was led by MFGA via primary AAFC Agri-Risk Funding and secondary Manitoba Agriculture funding. The project is better known within Manitoba as MFGA has been more deliberate in promoting the model that will look at the role of forages and grasslands in times of flood or drought in the Assiniboine River Basin. The next steps will be to engage more stakeholder groups in Saskatchewan and North Dakota. MFGA sees MFGA Aquanty model as a critical decision-support tool and MFGA wants to make the model accessible to as many stakeholders as possible. There have been 3 workshops in Brandon/Winnipeg and one tour in Russell, MB held and one more workshop in Regina Feb 13, 2018. Phase 1 of the model is on schedule for March 31, 2018 completion. Ryan Canart of the upper Assiniboine river conservation district has secured a contribution agreement to drill down on the model in the Birdtail River area of his CD and MFGA will retain the licence for this drill down and provide 2 reps on steering committee via Darren Chapman and Larry Wegner.

Dave Koslowsky recognized the list of Funders and Supporters and thanked them for their continued support. MFGA will be rolling out their 2018 Corporate Support Campaign in near future and membership renewal under way.

Outgoing MFGA Board member Jim Lintott was also presented with a plaque for his years of dedicated service on the MFGA Board Executive including a decade as MFGA chair. Jim thanked the MFGA and spoke about the carbon sequestration importance and food production and agriculture as well as

protection of the land. Retiring MFGA Board member Glenn Campbell from Onanole was also acknowledged for his years of service to MFGA.

Duncan introduced those who have agreed to serve on the 2018/2019 MFGA board (new members in red) including:

Producer Representatives: Dave Koslowsky (Past Chair – Killarney), Ryan Boyd (Forrest), Andrea Hamilton (Glenboro), Kristelle Harper (Brandon), Larry Wegner (Virden), Shauna Breault (Ste Rose), Matt Van Steelandt (Melita)

Appointed Commodity Groups or Associations/Member

Lawrence Knockaert, Dairy Farmers of MB; Gord Adams, Manitoba Beef Producers; Darren Chapman, Manitoba Hay Exporters; Colin Hunter, Manitoba Sheep Producers

Ex-Officio Board Members: Mae Elsinger, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Charlotte Crawley, Ducks Unlimited Canada; Pam Iwanchysko, Manitoba Agriculture; Emma McGeough, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Manitoba

MOTION: Jim Lintott/Ryan Boyd to approve the 2018/19 Board of Directors **CARRIED**

Dave offered some closing remarks, thanked everyone for attending.

MOTION: Darren Chapman MFGA AGM adjournment 7:55 AM.