

Michigan Association of Timbermen MAT Board Meeting

Nahma Inn, August 23, 2019

Present: Wes Windover, Glen Tolksdorf, Warren Suchovsky, Lonny Lutke, John Fowler, Charley MacIntosh, Brian Nelson, Paul Burton, Anne Harmon, Jim Maeder

Absent: Steve Anderson

Staff: Denise Pallarito, Michelle Sears

Guest: Jason

Call to order by President Wes Windover at 8:15 a.m. Antitrust statement was verbal by all.

Moved by Lonny Lutke to accept the agenda, supported by Glen Tolksdorf, Ayes all. Motion carried.

Moved by Glen Tolksdorf to accept the minutes from 6/7/19, supported by Brian Nelson, Ayes all.

Motion carried.

Warren talked briefly about speaking with Denny about State tree and possible harvest on October 30, 2019.

Wes Windover gave President's report. Denise and Wes attended the Gov. Gretchen Whitmer luncheon at the UP State Fair in Escanaba on Aug. 15.

Denise gave her executive director report: She's spent time with each board member except Brian and Anne, she's learning from counties the issues they have with county roads, discussed forest funds with different counties, her and Jim met with Shannon Hannah to discuss recreational trails and logging. They talked about solutions and she will continue to be our ally. Denise discussed Biomas with DTE, Gary Mellow and Lonny Lutke, Denise also talked about GLTPA's stance on the log plate expense update which isn't what MAT agrees with so Denise will draft a letter to our members detailing our stance on the log plate increase.

Denise introduced Jason Wadaga from KDA to the board and staff. Jason announced KDA's excitement with representing with MAT. He discussed road funds and plate increase issue. He stated that there's a

battle on road funds in a lot of areas and claims that what they do in Lansing won't benefit us. Everyone agreed that Farm Bureau will support us on this issue. The MAT Lansing day on September 18th is currently booked until 1:00 PM. KDA is working on booking a couple more legislators to meet and build relationships with. The list of talking points was created and will be sent out by Denise.

Treasurer's Report was read by Warren Suchovsky. He discussed account balances, H & S report and expenses and income.

Michelle gave her Office Administration report. Michelle discussed the response from sending out directories to all who did not attend the annual meeting. The response was small but good, discussed the website updates that have been done, issues with further updating the website until we get full admin rights, Michelle updated the file cabinet in the office with paper copies of all meeting minutes. Denise will look into the necessary steps needed to take to get full admin rights to the website. Michelle will look into training opportunities on Website security.

Discussion was held regarding forming committees for MAT events.

Denise presented the budget to the board and everyone discussed ways to save money. Landline options will be explored; grant options, car expenses, and Timber Talk pricing will be further examined. Denise stated that she has set a goal to make Timber Talk pay for itself. Discussion was held regarding bonding all those who handle money for MAT. **Moved by Glen Tolksdorf to accept budget, supported by Warren Suchovsky, Ayes all. Motion carried.**

Discussion was held regarding internal policy changes. Only full time employees will get cell phone reimbursement. **Moved by Jim Maeder to accept changes, supported by Charley MacIntosh, Ayes all. Motion carried.**

Discussion was held regarding election of board members and changing the process on electing members. Warren would like the membership to be notified 90 days before annual meeting. **Moved by Wes Windover to change business meeting to Saturday morning at Annual Convention, supported by Warren Suchovsky, Ayes all. Motion carried.**

Discussion was held regarding our 2020 Media Kits. Michelle will make the changes discussed with the sponsorship amounts and benefits they get. Denise will look into changing the dates from Thursday, Friday to a Friday, Saturday.

Discussed the Biomass Policy Denise put together for MAT. **Moved by Brian Nelson to accept the policy on our stance on Biomass, supported by Paul Burton, Ayes all. Motion carried.**

Discussed Enbridge policy, the executive board members were asked to sign as support. **Moved by Wes Windover to accept the policy, supported by Glen Tolksdorf, Ayes all. Motion carried.**

Each board member was asked to bring award nominations to our next meeting. **Moved by Warren Suchovsky to give Alvin Rush Friend of the Timbermen award, supported by Jim Maeder, Ayes all. Motion carried.**

Next meeting date and place was set for December 13th starting at 10:30 AM. Denise will send out email to board members with possible dates and places.

Moved by Glen Tolksdorf, supported by Jim Maeder, to adjourn meeting at 1:30 pm. Ayes all. Motion carried.