

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF TIMBERMEN
BOARD MEETING
10-14-22 Mackinaw City, MI

Board Members Present: Wes Windover, Anne Harmon, Joe Doyle, Glen Tolksdorf, Bob Bazuin, James Maeder, Brian Nelson, Steve Anderson, Vaughn West(via phone)

Employee present: Michelle Sears

Guest Speaker: Eric Rule

Meeting called to order at 9:58 by President Joe Doyle

Anit-trust was reviewed and signed by all present

Motion to accept amended agenda by James Maeder; support by Brian Nelson; motion carried

Motion to accept minutes from 8-24-22 meeting by Bob Bazuin; support by James Maeder; motion carried

President's report:

ED position offered to Mike Smalligan with salary of 90,000 plus benefits. Offer was declined.

Wes and Joe met with VanOss and SRI about Master Logger program. They recommend moving forward with ML using their services to oversee the operations of the program.

Went over roundtable attended with Rep Bruce Westerman (AR) (Natural resources committee) and Rep Tom Tiffany (WI) during Logging Congress.

Denny Olson called on Christmas tree program. Doyle Forest Products will be transporting the tree to the capital. The tree is being taken in St John MI on 10-28-22. All board members are invited to attend. Michelle will represent the association by attending as well. Hudsonville Trailer is donating the use of a trailer for hauling (contact Jeff Root). Denny has stated that he is actively looking for someone to take over the Christmas tree program.

Treasurer's report:

Waiting on budget in order to involve possible new ED. Budget meeting now scheduled for 11-10-22 via conference call with committee members. Motion to carry over budget from last year until 11-10-22 made by Wes Windover; supported by Joe Doyle; motion carried.

Went over names on income list that were removed from invoice list for not paying dues. Emailed same list with regions of possible members. Please review for your region and contact or update if out of business.

Audit committee will be meeting in Newberry on 11-4-22 at 10am.

Working on proposal to possible recommend switching to QuickBooks online verses desktop due to annual subscription costs and streamline capabilities.

ALC pledge discussed as form needs to be submitted; discussion and **decision to maintain 4000.00 per year pledge.** **Michelle will submit form.** Some discussion on Forest pledge to ALC that they will not be renewing.

Motion to accept treasurer's report by Joe Doyle; support by Bob Bazuin; motion carried

Legislative report: given by Jason Wadaga via phone.

Presentation by Eric Rule (ED for GNC) on progress for the Great Northern Co-op. Finalizing fundraising. First station will be in Escanaba. Been working with Southern co-op on how to work and set up. there will be an annual fee. Stations will be unmanned using cards to track transactions. Investment opportunities for all. Profit to be paid out to members and investors. Strictly for agriculture members only. Will have on/off road diesel and DEF. No gasoline

Old Business:

ML meeting with SRI and Brock VanOSS last Tuesday. Recommend that we move forward with them running the operation end of the program, but MAT will still oversee it. Discussion on Memorandum of Understanding and what their intentions are for the program. Items discussed included annual fee; application cost; point system for state bids; where will funding come from; getting records to them and requirement of MAT membership. Wes will talk to Randy Keen about Arauco funds donated and how they want them handled.

Motion to sign MOU as written with an understanding that the membership requirement in the program will by addressed by Wes Windover; support by Bob Bazuin; motion carried

Little Bridges grant update. Didn't get as much as expected in additional funds. **Michelle is to contact Mike.** May have 4 vouchers without enough funds to cover with difference between expired vouchers from initial funds and new ones from extension. May need to contact members and put them on hold until we see if they are all turned in. **Follow up to be done by Michelle with notice to executive committee first.**

New Business:

Corporate Sponsor discussion. Decision was made to continue with Annual Sponsorships but not turn away money for specific events if offered (would also receive annual sponsorship benefits of qualifying level) **Michelle is to follow up with previous sponsors; solicit additional possible sponsors and schedule in person meetings.**

Registration for Convention reviewed, and fees updated. **Michelle will make changes and email updated form along with sponsorship packets to board so that they can hand them out to people as they promote items.**

Award recipients discussed. **Michelle will send Requests to members along with all major mills,etc in an effort to receive more submissions for awards.**

Shanty Creek proposal for convention 2024 reviewed. Michelle will call to verify room capacity as the limit on form is only 200. Will consider if clarification results are favorable for a larger group.

Discussion about having musicians to play during lag time in program. Bob will check with contact and report back to the board.

Spam emails from Joe Doyle were discussed. Michelle will delete the board group she has and will make a new one.

Warren board seat discussed. He has told Michelle he will be working as advisory capacity moving forward. Glen will be taking over his position on Executive Committee for region 1. Need to communicate with Warren and see if he wants to continue on board and make sure that he knows he is welcome anytime. The value of his knowledge and experience is irreplaceable. Michelle will contact his son and ask him to contact Joe to discuss.

Jim Locklear will be making videos of his safety presentations. Discussion on whether we could put them on the member only section of the website. Michelle to keep us informed as they become available.

Timber talk: Need information by first of November. Member spotlight was going to be lifetime achievement write up on Warren Suchovsky. Michelle will email rest of board to see if they are amenable to award. Need to come up with something different for plaque. Picture lasered onto wood plaque? Submit other ideas.

Funding requests must be submitted for Master Logger and SFI. Board will be asking for 1000 per training session for SFI and will refer request for ML operating funds to Brock VanOss. Michelle to follow up on both.

Motion to adjourn at 3:24 by Anne Harmon; support by Wes Windover; motion carried