

MINUTES OF MEETING NO.12-21

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LOCATION	Lundar Golf Club	DATE	August 27, 2021

Present:

N. Brandstrom	Member	WIWD
B. Fleury	Member	WIWD / Producer
J. Cruise	Member	Producer
B. Sigfusson	Member	WIWD
H. Rosing	Member	Producer
T. Cook	Member	Producer
M. Maksymchuk	Watershed planner	ARD
L. Miller	Manager / Financial Admin	WIWD / Producer
I. Zotter	Financial Adm. Assistant	WIWD

REGRETS:

K. Webster	Member	WIWD / Producer
P. Watson	Watershed planner	ARD

WRITTEN BY: I. Zotter

ITEM		ACTION BY
1.0	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>N. Brandstrom called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.</p>	
2.0	<p>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</p> <p><u>50-21: J. Cruise – H. Rosing</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Local Grow Committee (LGC) approved the agenda as presented</p>	CARRIED
3.0	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p> <p><u>51-21: B. Sigfusson - J. Cruise</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approved the minutes of the LGC Meeting # 11-21 June 30, 2021 as presented</p>	CARRIED
4.0	<p>UPDATE ON PROJECTS GROW Trust 2020-2022 and GROW Trust 2021-2023</p> <p>L. Miller presented brief update on the projects in progress. Staff inspected the locations for approved alternative watering sites, ongoing communication with applicants continues. Seeding sites are inspected, collected data being organized and recorded. Projects are being monitored by staff, 79 contracts completed to date.</p>	
5.0	<p>REVIEW OF SEEDING RATES STANDARDS</p> <p>The Local Grow Committee reviewed presented Seeding Rates. Throughout the discussion the LGC identified the most common seeding rates in the area, and agreed that Perennial Seeding Rates chart must be reduced by 75% in order to be accepted as WIWD standards.</p> <p><u>52-21: J. Cruise – T. Cook</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approved to accept presented Perennial Seeding Rates as Standards, on the condition that rates must be reduced by 75%</p>	CARRIED

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6.0	<p>REVIEW OF FENCING RATES STANDARDS</p> <p>The LGC presented with fence cost calculations. Members discussed presented quotes and calculations. Members understood that there will be many external factors involved for each individual project: such as landscape, availability of materials, personal preferences of practices. In order to apply equal approach to any project involving fencing, LGC decided to establish Fencing Standards for the WIWD. The cost for future projects will be calculated based on approved Standard. Standard may be revised by the LGC if deemed necessary.</p> <p>53-21: B. Fleury – H. Rosing BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approved rates for the required number of materials per 0.5 mile as presented in the Cost Calculation for 3 Strand Barb Wired Fence. Unit Price may fluctuate based on current prices, supported by invoice or quote from the supplier.</p>	CARRIED
7.0	<p>REQUIREMENTS FOR CLAIM</p> <p>LGC discussed requirements for upcoming claims. Throughout the discussion the LGC decided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ All expenses must be verified by the 3rd party (supplier or service provider, cashed cheque image is acceptable); ➤ If the producer used his own materials, quotes supporting current price must be provided; ➤ All expenses must be itemised; ➤ If materials/services bought from individuals without registered business number, the LGC reserve the right to refuse these expenses as part of an Expense Claim; ➤ The LGC reserve the right to assess the value of used materials, depreciation will be applied. 	
8.0	<p>ELIGIBLE EXPENSES FOR PAYMENT UNDER GROW TRUST</p> <p>The WIWD submitted a Question to the GROW Trust.</p> <p>Question: Can producers provide new materials to a project that they already have on hand (fencepost) as they were bought in bulk but purchased several years ago and claim current pricing or submit a receipt from three years ago?</p> <p>Answer/Trust Decision: If a producer wishes to be paid cash for materials and supplies then they need a valid invoice from a lumber supplier that is within the current project timeline as identified in the contribution agreement. Therefore they could not be paid for materials and supplies purchased prior to the project approval date. Fencepost already purchased <u>can</u> be used as producer <u>in-kind match</u> valued at <u>today's market prices</u> and instead producer time could be paid as part of a cost shared agreement.</p> <p>The LGC discussed the answer: Members expressed that while they understand the Trust Decision, in agricultural business it is very common practice for producers to purchase supplies in bulk and keep the stock of supplies on hand for years. The LGC will submit a Letter to the GROW Trust expressing their opinion on this matter.</p>	

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9.0	<p>WEATHER CONDITIONS AND ITS EFFECT ON PROJECT'S COMPLETION</p> <p>The WIWD submitted a Question to the GROW Trust.</p> <p>Question: A producer signed an agreement for conversion from annual cropland to (annual?/perennial?) forage-for alfalfa as a new practice. Due to weather conditions the forage did not have any establishment. The producer had to put something in so seeded oats. He will have to reseed with alfalfa in the fall. How is this handled? Is the producer "punished" because of weather? He is not necessarily looking for additional funds but is concerned because he doesn't want to violate the terms of agreement.</p> <p>Answer/Trust Decision: MHHC-pays based on producer effort, not necessarily results based. The supports are intended to mitigate risk to the producer. The district would need to prove enhancement was attempted by the producer with a receipt for initial seed, pictures, a site visit, or a note to file, the agreement can be amended to lengthen it for another year, and the additional costs for reseeding (based off the cost share agreement) could be covered by as part of the agreed upon Trust funding budget.</p> <p>The LGC discussed the answer: It is anticipated that under current weather condition the scenario reflected in Question may be common for few producers. Throughout the discussion the LGC decided that the producer must inform the WIWD staff about outcomes, however there will be no payment awarded for the re-establishment of perennial forages the following year. Producer may use the Crop Insurance (if applicable) and will be responsible to re-establish perennial forages at their own cost.</p>	
10.0	<p>SPRING 2022 CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST</p> <p>Intake for Letter of Interest for the GROW Trust 2022 will be open 2022.</p> <p>The LGC discussed proposed project. Members decided that WIWD will be requesting \$ 500 000 for 2022-2024 for the following activities: Riparian Area Management and Upland Restoration and Enhancement. Focus of delivery: alternative watering systems, riparian and cross fencing, seeding perennial forages and cover crops / polycrops. Establishment of Shelterbelts to be reduced to maximum 1 km due to very low interest for the establishment of shelterbelts at this time.</p>	
11.0	<p>REMAINING FUNDS GROW TRUST 2021-2023</p> <p>According to "projected expenses" in Year 1, approximately \$ 239000 from the GROW Trust was reserved for Year 2. Due to high demand for Alternative Watering Systems this year, the LGC decided to accept all applications on hands up to August 27, 2021. Staff to monitor that there will be sufficient amount of matching funds in place.</p>	
12.0	<p>NEXT MEETING:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To be determined</p>	
13.0	<p>ADJOURNMENT 54-21: B. Sigfusson - B. Fleury BE IT RESOLVED THAT we adjourn at 11:05 p.m.</p>	CARRIED

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	<p>These minutes are the writer's best interpretation of discussions held during the meeting. Please inform the writer of any noteworthy omissions or errors</p>	
	<hr/> <p>Neil Brandstrom, Chairperson LGC</p> <hr/> <p>Linda Miller, Manager / LGC</p>	