

MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 34-24

NAME Local GROW Committee (LGC) PAGE Page 1 of 5
 LOCATION WIWD Office DATE May 13, 2024

PRESENT: B. Fleury Member (Chairperson) Producer / WIWD
 H. Rosing Member (Vice- Chair) Producer
 T. Cook (zoom) Member Producer
 J. Cruise Member Producer / WIWD
 B. Sigfusson Member WIWD
 J. Olson Peonan Point Representative Producer
 I. Zotter Member (Manager /GROW Coordinator) WIWD
 D. Kaartinen Resource Technician WIWD

REGRETS: G. Metner Member Producer / WIWD
 D. Timmerman Watershed Planner ARD
 K. Christensen Financial Administrator WIWD

WRITTEN BY: I. Zotter

ITEM		ACTION BY
1.0	CALL TO ORDER B. Fleury called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.	
2.0	APPROVAL OF AGENDA <u>187-24 H. Rosing – T. Cook</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Local Grow Committee (LGC) approved the agenda as presented.	CARRIED
3.0	APPROVAL OF MINUTES <u>188-24: H. Rosing – T. Cook</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approved the minutes of the LGC Meeting # 33-24 April 8 th , 2024 as presented.	CARRIED
	Old Business	
4.0	GROW and PWCP Funds and Programs terms Update The GROW Coordinator reported no changes in available funds for the following programs: GROW 2021-2023, 2022-2024, and 2023-2025. The allocated and projected funds remain the same as follows: : Awarded GROW Funds for Project Establishment over these three terms: \$1,146,762.00 Expended to date: \$705,431.39 Remaining available funds: \$441,330.61 Estimated projected funds for approved applications that were unable to be carried out in 2023-2024, will be being carried into the 2024-2025 fiscal year: \$181,181.00 Additional available funds for distribution for the 2024-25 fiscal year: approximately \$260,149.61 The GROW Coordinator is continuing to work on the final reports for GROW Trust 2021-2023 and GROW Trust 2022-2024, as well as the interim report for GROW Trust 2023-2025.	

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		<p>Technician reported no changes in the current PWCP budget.</p> <p>The allocated and projected funds remain the same as follows:</p> <p>Rotational Grazing: \$562,613.86 Cover Crops: \$138,666.97 Nitrogen Management: \$197,884.93 Total Projected cost: \$899,165.76</p> <p>Supporting documentation of current funds is available on file at the WIWD office.</p>	
5.0		<p>GROW 2024-2026: Proposal</p> <p>The revised project description, budget, output, workplan, and incentive payments tables have been submitted for the GROW Trust 2024-2026.</p> <p>The Contribution Agreement for the project 'Building Watershed Resiliency: A Sustainable Path' has been signed, with a total value of \$777,302, under the GROW Trust 2024-2026.</p>	
6.0		<p>GROW, Upland Enhancement: Ineligible Expenses – common practices</p> <p>Tabled</p>	
7.0		<p>Shelterbelt Establishment and Enhancement</p> <p>Staff collaborated with East Interlake Watershed District (EIWD) to accept the tree seedlings on behalf of West Interlake Watershed District (WIWD), as WIWD lacks the necessary facilities with refrigeration units to store the seedlings at a cool temperature and maintain their dormancy.</p> <p>The delivery of tree seedlings to the East Interlake Watershed District (EIWD) is scheduled for May 17, 2024. The technician has scheduled the distribution to the sites for May 22, 2024, where they will inspect the sites, ensure all conditions are met, and oversee the planting of the trees.</p> <p>Members discussed the need to purchase a tree planter and decided that owning one would be beneficial for the district. It would enable the district to provide it to applicants within the district and rent it to those outside the district, facilitating the implementation of the shelterbelt program. After inspecting a tree planter from a marketplace seller, two LGC members and a technician identified safety concerns and determined that it was not suitable for WIWD's needs. The GROW Coordinator will reach out to other district managers to inquire about the prices and designs of the tree planters they are currently using or ordering.</p>	
8.0		<p>RALP Applications</p> <p>The following 3 proposals for the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program were submitted on December 14th:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Agroforestry Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed District 2024</i> for the amount of \$20,000.00 • <i>Exclusion Fencing in the West Interlake Watershed District to Enhance and Restore Riparian Areas – 2024</i> in the amount of \$100,000.00 • <i>Cultivating Environmental Resilience through Perennial Forage Establishment.</i> In the amount of \$100,000.00 <p>No notification letters have been received as of this time.</p>	

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	<p>The GROW Coordinator communicated with C. Williams regarding project agreements T00072, "Exclusion Fencing in the West Interlake Watershed District to Enhance and Restore Riparian Areas", and T00071, "Creating Pollinator Habitats in the West Interlake Watershed District". The Coordinator submitted a request to the insurer to add MB Ag to the Certificate, finalizing our claims. Additionally, the required information for Fidelity and Crime Insurance coverage, as mandated by provincial requirements, was submitted. The updated Agreement has been sent to Cindy for her review.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">9.0</p>	<p>Approval of GROW and PWCP Applications</p> <p>The Technician and GROW Coordinator presented currently proposed projects.</p> <p>189-24: J. Cruise – B. Sigfusson BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves the projects listed below, based on applications received to date, for funding through the PWCP or GROW Program for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, subject to the conditions that they adhere to all PWCP or GROW guidelines established by the MAW or MHC, as well as LGC WIWD guidelines, successfully complete the Final Project Inspection, and are contingent on the availability of funds, ensuring fair distribution amongst participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ BMP: PWCP Cover Crops Elaine Keen-Porteous Kevin Johannson Wade Thorgilsson Karen Lindal Kevin Gudmundson Jacalyn Gleich Lonny Farthing Mark Farthing Kevin McIntosh Kevin McIntosh ➤ BMP: PWCP: Soil Testing Garnet Sigurdson ➤ BMP: PWCP Legumes Jack Cruise Ryan Hueging Brad Meisner Darcy Hueging Kevin McIntosh ➤ BMP: PWCP Manure Jack Cruise Kevin McIntosh Kevin Johannson Lorne Erickson Earl Sigurdson Michael Vigfusson ➤ BMP: PWCP Cross Fencing Charles Holm Lyle Thorgilsson Jack Cruise Jon Magarrell Josie Zook Lorne Erickson Wade Thorgilsson Glenn Gudmundson Garnet Sigurdson Jacalyn Gleich 	<p style="text-align: center;">CARRIED</p>

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	Kevin McIntosh Kolton McIntosh ➤ BMP: PWCP ESN/Urease Inhibitors Ryan Hueging ➤ BMP: PWCP Alternative Watering System Raymond Bazinet Darren Hueging ➤ BMP: GROW Perennial Forage Establishment Kevin Gudmundson Denis Perrault Wade Thorgilsson Robert Johnson Farrell Pott ➤ BMP: GROW Alternative Watering System Kolton McIntosh Michael Vigfusson ➤ BMP: GROW Riparian Fencing Kevin McIntosh Raymond Bazinet	
	NEW BUSINESS	
13.0	MFGA Conference <u>190-24 J. Cruise – B. Sigfusson</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves the attendance of four GROW committee members and two staff members at the 2023 MFGA Regenerative Ag Conference, with registration, lodging, and transportation expenses to be covered from GROW funds.	CARRIED
	Review of Action Items:	
16.0	NEXT MEETING: <p style="text-align: center;">June 10, 2024 9:00 a.m. WIWD Office</p>	
17.0	ADJOURNMENT <u>186-23: B. Sigfusson – J. Olson</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT we adjourn at 12:03 p.m.	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>	
	<p>_____</p> <p>Bill Fleury, LGC Chairperson</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Irina Zotter, Manager / GROW Coordinator</p>	