

**MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE PROGRAM
ADVISORY COUNCIL (AC)**

JULY 13, 2014

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Van Buren Conference Center
490 S. Paw Paw Street
Lawrence, MI 49064

ATTENDEES

Scott Piggott (Co-Chair), Warren Suchovsky, Jeffrey Zimmer, Melissa Higbee, Michelle Napier Dunnings, Jan Wilford, Brian Geerlings, Karen Potter-Witter, Lori Phalen, Laura Doud, Marisa Bramer, Jim Scott, Diane Smith, Ken Blight, Rich Bowman

RESOURCE

Joe Kelpinski, Josh Appleby, Stephen Shine, Ben Schram, Heather Casteel (Scribe)
Elaine Brown, and Emily Reinart

GUESTS

Laura Campbell, Laura Moser, Larry Haigh, Hollie Whitmire, Ellen Hendrickson, Brenda Reau, Lindsay Daschner,

WELCOME TO THE VAN BUREN CONFERENCE CENTER

- Scott Piggott started the meeting at 12:59 p.m.
- Scott thanked Lori Phalen and the Van Buren Conservation District for hosting this AC meeting, tour and luncheon.
- There were introductions around the table.

APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES FROM MARCH 10, 2014

- Scott Piggott asked if there were any corrections to the May 12th meeting notes. No changes were suggested.

MOTION: MELISSA HIGBEE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 12, 2014. SECONDED BY LORI PHALEN. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.

AROUND THE HORN

- Marisa Bramer reported that Gratiot Conservation District is partnering with Gratiot County Farm Bureau and MSUE to host a MAEAP Phase 1 event, Harvestable Filter Strips, on July 31, 2014.
- Ken Blight announced that Michigan Cattlemen's Association is also hosting a Round Up field day on June 27th, at the Lake City Research Center, Lake City.
- Kyle Mead, Van Buren C.D. MAEAP technician, reported that there are seven big blueberry growers in his area and he is working on the last two, out of five, to be MAEAP verified.
 - Scott Piggott said he has heard many good things about Kyle and the work he has done in his district, and thanked him for his dedication to the program.
- Emily Reinart reported on the developing MAEAP and Crystal Flash relationship. Crystal Flash will be donating a fuel tank to be given away at this year's Ag Expo.

- Josh Appleby also reported that Crystal Flash representative will be touring potential MAEAP verified farms with fuel storage challenges.
- Jan Wilford reported that the Decision Makers tour with EPA is July 16th, 2014.

VERIFICATIONS OVER TIME SPREADSHEET

- Jan highlighted totals in the handout provided. (Attached)

LIVESTOCK SYSTEM STANDARDS

- Laura Doud updated the group on the two additional questions regarding Site Selection and Category 4 locations. (Handout)

MOTION: THE COMMITTEE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LIVESTOCK*A*SYST. SECONDED BY JIM SCOTT. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.

FARMSTEAD SYSTEM STANDARDS

- Jeff Zimmer presented the Farmstead System Sub-committee recommended changes to the Standards. Handout (Attached)
- Jeff Zimmer read through the recommended changes that included the DEQ's Well Isolation Distance Reduction document/worksheet.
- The MDEQ/MDARD MOU (related to the well isolation distances) is currently on MDEQ's desk ready to be signed. The MOU will be sent out electronically to the AC when it is ready.

<p>**ACTION ITEM** HEATHER CASTEEL WILL ELECTRONICALLY SEND THE MDEQ/MDARD MOU, (RELATED TO THE WELL ISOLATION DISTANCES), TO THE AC ONCE THE SIGNED COPY IS RETURNED TO MDARD.</p>
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MOTION: THE COMMITTEE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FARM*A*SYST. SECONDED BY LORI PHALEN. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.

CROPPING SYSTEM STANDARDS

- Josh Appleby presented the Cropping System Sub-committee recommended changes to the Standards at the May 12th meeting. There were no additional changes.

MOTION: THE COMMITTEE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE VARIOUS CROP*A*SYST'S. SECONDED BY RICH BOWMAN. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.

FORESTRY SYSTEM STANDARDS – KAREN POTTER-WITTER

- Karen Potter-Witter presented the removal of question 1.11) to the Forestry Standards as requested by MDARD Director, Jamie Clover Adams. Handout (Attached)

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Scott Piggott reported that Jim Johnson, Jan Wilford and Scott will meet with Maggie Bethel and Ray Hammerschmidt, MSUE on August 15, 2014. Scott reported that his new Co-chair will be in place by the September 8th AC meeting.

**MOTION: MELISSA HIGBEE MOVED THAT THE MEETING BE
ADJOURNED. SECONDED BY LORI PHALEN. ALL IN FAVOR SAY
AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MEETING
ADJOURNED.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

NEXT MAEAP AC MEETING

Host: Weyerhaeuser Company, Todd Johnson

Location: Weyerhaeuser Company, 4111 West Four Mile Road, Grayling, MI 49738

Date: September 8, 2014

Time: 1:00 p.m. MAEAP AC Meeting begins

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Casteel