

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

**APRIL 10, 2017**

**1:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Cherry Marketing Institute, Phil Korson  
12800 Escanaba Drive, Suite A  
DeWitt, MI 48820

**ATTENDEES**

Laura Campbell (Co-Chair), Dr. Ronald Bates (Co-Chair), Warren Suchovsky, Melissa Higbee, Scott Simon, Karel Bush, Tom Zimmicki, Sam Hines, Phil Korson, Brian Geerlings, Jody Sharrard, Jason Darling, Emily Marx

**RESOURCE**

Joe Kelpinski, Ben Schram, Josh Appleby, Laura Doud, Sherri Goodreau, Heather Casteel (Scribe)

**PARTNER/GUESTS**

Larry Haigh, Ben Chapin

**WELCOME, APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES AND ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS**

Laura Campbell started the meeting at 1:05 p.m. and thanked Phil Korson for hosting this meeting and providing the wonderful cherry pie and drinks that are available.

Meeting began with a round of introductions around the room.

No additional agenda items.

**MOTION: WARREN SUCHOVSKY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 6, 2017. SECONDED BY PHIL KORSON. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MEETING NOTES WERE APPROVED, MOTION CARRIED.**

**AROUND THE HORN**

Everyone around the room shared their recent activities and events from their organization.

**SYSTEM COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FORESTRY**

Ben Schram described the process and overhaul of the FWH. The tool had some re-arranging involved and questions were moved to newly created sections. Sub-committee recognized that the current tool was geared towards forestland but the wetlands and habitat sections have now been addressed.

Ben read through the 2017 recommended changes. (handout provided)

Discussion and clarifications on several items.

**MOTION: THE COMMITTEE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES, AS AMENDED, TO THE FOREST, WETLANDS AND HABITAT\* A\*SYST. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.**

## **CROPPING**

Josh Appleby read through the 2017 recommended changes that will apply to all Crop\*A\*Syst bulletins. (handout provided)

**MOTION: THE COMMITTEE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO ALL VERSIONS OF THE CROP\*A\*SYST'S. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.**

## **FARMSTEAD**

Laura Doud read through the 2017 recommended changes for Farm\*A\*Syst bulletin. (handout provided)

**MOTION: THE COMMITTEE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FARM\*A\*SYST. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.**

## **LIVESTOCK**

Ernie Birchmeier read through the 2017 recommended changes to the Livestock\*A\*Syst bulletin. (handout provided)

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

## **COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP**

Ben Schram reported for the MAEAP Communications Workgroup and informed the AC that the last meeting included people from "Water Words That Work", which follows the Western Lake Erie Basin and the farmer's focus group.

Top five documents for MAEAP have been reviewed by the group and will be revamped according to their recommendations. Workgroup is looking to gear our promotional materials towards the general consumers.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Larry Haigh informed the group that the Maple Syrup Industry has a need for proper disposal of the process tubing, which is normally left in piles by maple operations. Josh Appleby informed the group that Michigan will be offering certificated applicator certification. MABA, MSUE and MAEAP will play an educational role.

**MOTION: DEAN LETTER MOVED THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED. SECONDED BY JODY SHARRARD. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MEETING ADJOURNED.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

## **NEXT MAEAP AC MEETING**

**Host:** Jennifer Silveri, MIFFS

**Location:** TBD

**Date:** Monday, October 16, 2017

**Time:** 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Casteel