

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

JUNE 11, 2018

1:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Scott Simon, Greenstone FCS
3515 West Road, Room 112
East Lansing, MI 48823

ATTENDEES

Laura Campbell (Co-Chair), Dr. Ronald Bates (Co-Chair), Warren Suchovsky, Tom Zimnicki, Dean Letter, Emily Helsen, Lori Phalen, Mary Kelpinski, Betsy Dierberger, Jason Darling, Christine Alexander, Brian Geerlings, Melissa Higbee, Dale Allen, Phil Korson, Scott Simon

RESOURCE

Joe Kelpinski, Josh Appleby, John Switzer, Ben Schram, Laura Doud, Emily Reinart, Meredith Smith, Ben Tirrell, Sue Reamer, Heather Casteel (Scribe)

PARTNERS/GUESTS

Allison Trierweiler, Heath Bergman

WELCOME, APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING MINUTES AND ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Laura Campbell started the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

No additional agenda items. Moving Future of MAEAP - Tom Zimnicki to first topic.

Meeting notes approved from April 9, 2018.

MOTION: WARREN SUCHOVSKY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 9, 2018. SECONDED BY TOM ZIMNICKI. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MEETING NOTES WERE APPROVED.

AROUND THE HORN

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

FUTURE OF MAEAP

Tom Zimnicki reported to the AC that the work group consisted of: Tom Zimnicki, Dean Letter, Scott Lonier, Emily Reinart, Shelby Burlew, and Joe Kelpinski.

Discussion on 'What is public demand' (what is the public asking from the industry?) and Environmental Stewardship, water quality (is it water, is it air, or is it soil?) Goal is to avoid alienation of any producers.

Looking into any public polling information already collected, if no information exists, need to find some resources to do some polling.

Discussion on soil testing and having good soil test data and accumulating the statistics.

Discussion on air quality and wondered if MAEAP should be adaptable to focus on air emissions, in addition to water quality.

Discussion on how to translate MAEAP to another type of certification program.

Conversation will continue, requesting the AC to set goals for a timeline and how the AC should fit into this future.

Laura Campbell recommended that the taskforce reconvene to decide if we keep a narrow focus keeping MAEAP to what it is or do we make it more specific to emerging environmental issues.

Tom said that the next taskforce meeting will be in October. He will have a more focused requirement list to bring back to the AC.

Agenda for the October 8, 2018 will include follow-up on this topic.

SYSTEM COMMITTEE REPORTS

FOREST, WETLANDS AND HABITAT (FWH)

Jason Darling read through the recommended changes to the Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat*A*Syst.

Discussion on removing names of contacts and just listing the department and phone number. Best solution to put Josh Shields document "FWH List of Environmental Laws" in a supplemental document with the expectation that the work group will have pointed questions applying to applicable laws.

Suggested amendments to 1.07, 1.15, 3.01, 3.02.

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.

FARMSTEAD SUB-COMMITTEE (FAS)

Laura Doud reported to the group that the FAS sub-committee members have minimal recommended changes to the Farm*A*Syst this year.

Laura read through the recommended changes.

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.

CROPPING SUB-COMMITTEE (CAS)

Josh Appleby reported to the group that the CAS sub-committee members have minimal recommended changes to all the Crop*A*Systs (Field Crop and Vegetables, Fruit*A*Syst, Nursery and Christmas Trees, and the Greenhouse*A*Syst.

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.

LIVESTOCK SUB-COMMITTEE (LAS)

Dean Letter reported to the group that the LAS sub-committee has no recommended changes this year to the Livestock*A*Syst.

**There was one change made to the Farm*A*Syst last year, 10.09, regarding solid manure structures, that did not make it into the Livestock*A*Syst. This year's Livestock*A*Syst will reflect last year's changes to number 5.04 in the Livestock*A*Syst bulletin.

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

COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP

Emily Reinart reported to the group that the Communications work group has worked with MAIN radio spots and have completed six so far.

Workgroup is also cleaning up the MAEAP website and converting to the new MSU platform.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP (continued)

5,000 planning team has been organized to celebrate MAEAP reaching 5,000 verifications. March 2019 is the expected timeframe.

MI Farm News will provide a whole page to highlight growers, please send Emily the content text and photos every month for consideration.

MAEAP VERIFICATION REPORT

Joe read through the MAEAP Verifications Over Time spreadsheet.

MAEAP DATABASE UPDATE

Joe informed the group about the developments and progress with the new MAEAP online database.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

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

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

NEXT MAEAP AC MEETING

Host: TBD

Location: TBD

Date: Monday, February 11, 2019

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Casteel