

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

**JUNE 10, 2019**

**1:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**MSU Livestock Pavilion**

**ATTENDEES**

Ron Bates (Co-Chair), Warren Suchovsky, Jason Darling, Christine Alexander, Mary Kelpinski, Tom Zimnicki, Dean Letter, Scott Lonier, Lori Phalen, Brian Geerlings

**RESOURCE**

Joe Kelpinski, Josh Appleby, Heather Casteel (Scribe), Erica Rogers, Andrea Stay, Laura Doud, Christy Roman

**PARTNER/GUESTS**

Tess Van Gorder, Emily Helsen, Kendra Kissane, Sarah Fronczak, Kevin Gould

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

Ron Bates started the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

No additional agenda items.

**MOTION: SCOTT LONIER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 8, 2019. SECONDED BY MARY KELPINSKI. 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.

**SYSTEM COMMITTEE REPORTS  
FOREST, WETLANDS AND HABITAT**

Jason Darling read through the suggested changes from last meeting. Discussion on 1.12) with a decision to remove the new language.

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

**LIVESTOCK**

The Livestock System Sub-committee had no additional changes since the last meeting.

**MOTION: MARY KELPINSKI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LIVESTOCK\*A\*SYST. SECONDED BY DEAN LETTER. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.**

## **FARMSTEAD**

Laura Doud presented two new additional education questions.

**MOTION: SCOTT LONIER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FARM\*A\*SYST, AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY WARREN SUCHOVSKY. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.**

## **CROPPING**

Changes presented for the Greenhouse\*A\*Syst only for consistency.  
No changes to Nursery and Christmas Tree, Field Crops and/or Fruit.  
Necessary updates to this A\*Syst to be consistent with other FAS and LAS tools.

**MOTION: BRIAN GEERLINGS MOVED TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE GREENHOUSE\*A\*SYST. SECONDED BY DEAN LETTER. ALL IN FAVOR SAY AYE, UNANIMOUS AYES, HEARING NO NAYS, MOTION CARRIED.**

Ron Bates thanked each of the committees for their year-long efforts and the work involved with these Standards.

## **MAEAP FUTURE EFFORTS TASK FORCE**

Tom Zimnicki reported that the group has not met to discuss this topic.  
Tom asked for guidance from the Advisory Council (A.C.) on talking points for the group's discussion.  
Tom asked which direction the A.C. wanted them to focus and where do they see MAEAP going in the future.  
Discussion on the scope of the program and how to report metrics for MAEAP producers, verified and in-process.  
Tom will provide feedback at the October A.C. meeting.

## **COMMUNICATIONS WORKGROUP**

Meredith Smith reported to the group that the new web site is set to launch in the second week of July.  
The workgroup will be sending out additional postcards, launching google ads, and compiling a new set of farmer testimonials.

## **MAEAP VERIFICATION REPORT**

Joe read the MAEAP Verifications Over Time spreadsheet.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ron Bates asked the A.C., partners and supporters to consider hosting a meeting in 2020. Discussion on the October 14<sup>th</sup> A.C. meeting and 2020 schedule, where the second Monday of the month falls on a federal holiday. The committee recommended meeting on the third Monday in the month of October.

**MOTION: MARY KELPINSKI 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 2:24 p.m.

**NEXT MAEAP AC MEETING**

**Host:** TBD

**Location:** TBD

**Date:** Monday, October 21, 2019

**(Changed to October 21<sup>st</sup> due to October 14<sup>th</sup> being a federal holiday)**

**Time:** 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Casteel