

**MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 23-23**

NAME Local GROW Committee  
 LOCATION WIWD Office

PAGE Page 1 of 3  
 DATE March 27, 2023

PRESENT: N. Brandstrom Member (Chairperson) WIWD  
 J. Cruise Member (Vice- Chair) Producer / WIWD  
 B. Sigfusson Member WIWD  
 B. Fleury Member Producer / WIWD  
 H. Rosing Member Producer  
 T. Cook Member Producer  
 I. Zotter GROW Coordinator WIWD  
 K. Christensen Financial Administrator WIWD

REGRETS: D. Timmerman Watershed Planner ARD

WRITTEN BY: K. Christensen

ITEM		ACTION BY
1.0	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p> <p>N. Brandstrom called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.</p>	
2.0	<p><b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b></p> <p><b><u>106-23 B. B. Sigfusson – J. Cruise</u></b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the Local Grow Committee (LGC) approved the agenda as presented with the additions of 7.1 Workshops.</p>	<b>CARRIED</b>
3.0	<p><b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b></p> <p><b><u>107-23: B. Fleury – B. Sigfusson</u></b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC approved the minutes of the LGC Meeting # 22-23 March 6, 2023 as presented.</p>	<b>CARRIED</b>
4.0	<p><b>Update on Program and Funds</b></p>	
4.1	<p><b>GROW</b></p> <p>I. Zotter presented the “Current GROW Funds” excel table to the LGC. LGC discussed the need to do more advertising to promote programming. Staff are to organize workshops throughout the district to highlight programming opportunities, and gather rates for doing a mail out flyer to residents via Canada Post.</p>	
4.2	<p><b>Prairie Watershed Climate Program (PWCP)</b></p> <p>D. Kaartinen joined the meeting to provide an update on the PWCP</p>	
4.3	<p><b>Review of PWCP Conditions</b></p> <p>LGC discussed the need to remove the 500 acre per producer limit on both the PWCP and GROW programs, and increase the amount per acre awarded for manure spreading.</p> <p><b><u>108-23B. Sigfusson – J. Cruise</u></b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC approved to remove the 500 acre limit per producer for both the GROW and PWCP funding.</p>	<b>CARRIED</b>

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PAGE Page 2 of 3  
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ITEM		ACTION BY
	<p><b><u>109-23 J. Cruise – B. Sigfusson</u></b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC approved to increase the payment per acre for manure spreading from \$20.00/ acre to \$30.00/acre for the PWCP funding, pending approval from MAW.</p>	<b>CARRIED</b>
5.0	<p><b>Approval of 2022-2023 PWCP Projects</b></p> <p><b><u>110-23 H. Rosing – T. Cook</u></b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC approved the following projects to be funded through the PWCP for the 2022-2023 fiscal year if all rules and guidelines are followed by the applicant:  <b>Cover Cropping:</b> SKV Building</p> <p><b><u>111-23 B. Fleury – B. Sigfusson</u></b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC approved the following projects to be funded through the PWCP for the 2023-2024 fiscal year if all rules and guidelines are followed by the applicant:  <b>Nitrogen Management:</b> H. Hueging  <b>Cover Cropping:</b> E. Sigurdsson</p> <p>D. Kaartinen left the meeting.</p>	<p><b>CARRIED</b></p> <p><b>CARRIED</b></p>
6.0	<p><b>Review of GROW Rates and Conditions</b></p> <p><b><u>112-23 T. Cook – H. Rosing</u></b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC approved the following GROW activities to be funded at the below percentages for the 2023 year, pending approval from MHHC and financial review of in-kind contribution outlook, and funding availability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Alternative Watering Systems: 75% up to \$15,000.00 for total project of installing Alternative Watering System (including the well &amp; watering system, fencing around the watering system)</li> <li>➤ Riparian Fencing: 100% materials, 75% labor &amp; equipment</li> <li>➤ Cross Fencing: 50% materials, 50% labor &amp; equipment</li> <li>➤ Perennial Establishment: 75% of perennial seed</li> <li>➤ Soil Health Establishment: % determined by score sheet, based on the five principles of soil health: 1.Plant Diversity, 2.Continual Live Plant/Root, 3.Soil Armour, 4.Minimizing Soil Disturbance, 5.Livestock Integration.</li> <li>➤ Shelterbelt/Buffer Strip Establishment: 35% of project</li> </ul> <p>**All projects must be approved by the WIWD’s LGC prior to construction/establishment. Funding will only be awarded once all requirements are satisfied.</p> <p>It was brought to staff’s attention that producers who were previously funded through Conservation Trust for their soil health crops, and have been moved to GROW were negatively affected by the difference in scoring systems. The LGC discussed the option of reimbursing the difference to those affected for the 2022 year</p> <p><b><u>113-23 J. Cruise – B. Fleury</u></b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC move In-Camera at 4:00 p.m.</p> <p><b><u>114-23 B. Fleury – J. Cruise</u></b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC move Out of Camera at 4:15 p.m.</p>	<p><b>CARRIED</b></p> <p><b>CARRIED</b></p>

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PAGE Page 3 of 3  
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ITEM		ACTION BY
	<p><b>115-23: J. Cruise – B. Fleury</b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC approved to award additional payment for the three producers who were affected by difference in scoring system between the Conservation Trust and the GROW.</p> <p>Staff are to ensure that all produces are aware of the scoring system and the beneficial practices which they are being scored on.</p>	<b>CARRIED</b>
7.0	<p><b>Review and Approval of revised GROW Applications</b></p> <p>LGC received copies of revised application prior to meeting for review.</p> <p><b>116-23: B. Sigfusson – J. Cruise</b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> the LGC approved the “Perennial Forage Establishment”, “Soil Health Crop Establishment”, “Alternative Watering System”, “Fencing Establishment”, and “Buffer Strip and/or Shelterbelt” applications as presented with the proposed additions and removals discussed. Copies are on file at the office.</p>	<b>CARRIED</b>
7.1	<p><b>Workshops</b></p> <p>The WIWD was asked to attend a Workshop in Ashern hosted by Covers &amp; Co. on Tuesday March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The event was advertised on social media that there would be alcoholic beverages served with lunch. Members shared their concerns of the WIWD attending, as it may be viewed that the WIWD is sponsoring the event. The LGC discussed that since the WIWD was asked to attend as a guest to give a brief presentation on programming and available funding, staff would still attend the event. Future events that are serving alcoholic beverages should not be attended by any WIWD staff. This matter will be discussed at the next WIWD Executive meeting.</p>	
8.0	<p><b>NEXT MEETING:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>To be determined</b></p>	
9.0	<p><b>ADJOURNMENT</b></p> <p><b>117-23: H. Rosing</b>  <b>BE IT RESOLVED THAT</b> we adjourn at 5:02 p.m.</p>	<b>CARRIED</b>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>These minutes are the writer's best interpretation of discussions held during the meeting. Please inform the writer of any noteworthy omissions or errors</b></p>	
	<p>_____  <b>Neil Brandstrom, LGC Chairperson</b></p> <p>_____  <b>Kelsey Benson, Manager</b></p>	