

MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 44-25

NAME	Local GROW Committee (LGC)	PAGE	Page 1 of 4
LOCATION	WIWD Office	DATE	August 11, 2025
PRESENT:	B. Fleury H. Rosing (zoom) J. Cruise J. Olson T. Cook B. Sigfusson T. Nevakshonoff C. Cuvelier (zoom) I. Zotter D. Kaartinen K. Christensen	Member (Chairperson) Member (Vice- Chair) Member Peonan Point Representative Member Member Member Watershed Planer Member (Manager /GROW Coordinator) Resource Technician Financial Administrator	Producer / WIWD Producer Producer / WIWD Producer Producer WIWD WIWD ECC WIWD WIWD WIWD
REGRETS:	G. Metner	Member	Producer / WIWD

WRITTEN BY: K. Christensen

ITEM		ACTION BY
1.0	CALL TO ORDER B. Fleury called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.	
2.0	APPROVAL OF AGENDA 257-25: J. Cruise – T. Nevakshonoff BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Local Grow Committee (LGC) approved the agenda as presented.	CARRIED
3.0	APPROVAL OF MINUTES 258-25: T. Cook – H. Rosing BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approved the minutes of the LGC Meeting #43-25, July 21 st , 2025, as presented.	CARRIED
4.0	GROW and PWCP Funds/Programs Update The GROW Coordinator reported on the GROW 2023-2025, 2024-2026 and 2025-2027 funds allocated and expended to date; Awarded GROW Funds from MHC: GROW 2023-2025 \$500,000.00 GROW 2024-2026 \$467,442.50 GROW 2025-2027 \$264,520.00 Total: \$1,231,962.50 Funds Expended to date: GROW 2023-2025 \$499,634.65 GROW 2024-2026 \$ 52,326.44 GROW 2025-2027 \$125,954.99 Total \$677,916.08 Projects in progress: \$446,311.00 Funds for future distribution: \$107,370.07 The projected cost data is subject to frequent fluctuations, affecting the availability of funds for future allocations. However, the GROW program's financial position remains strong. Technician reported on the current allocated funds for PWCP funding for the 2024-25 fiscal year: Awarded PWCP funds: \$885,000.00 Additional awarded funds: \$43,676.96	

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Cover Crops: \$148,395.00
 Rotational Grazing: \$537,055.52
 Nitrogen Management: \$243,226.44
 Total Projected cost: \$928,676.96

Technician reported on the current allocated funds for PWCP funding for the 2025-26 fiscal year:

Awarded PWCP funds: \$1,025,000.00

Cover Crops: \$ 129,600.00
 Rotational Grazing: \$ 490,719.37
 Nitrogen Management: \$ 184,315.74
 Total Project cost: \$ 804,635.11

Supporting documentation of current funds is available on file at the WIWD office.

Members discussed the possibility of having different funding rates for riparian fencing projects where the riparian fence also serves as a perimeter fence. Factors discussed included the watershed benefit versus the producer benefit. This matter will be reviewed again at the next meeting.

GROW Coordinator provided a verbal update on status of RALP funds.

RALP 2023-2024 Projects:

- T00072 “Exclusion Fencing in the West Interlake Watershed District to Enhance and Restore Riparian Areas” – Project has been completed. Waiting for final payment.
- T00071 “Creating Pollinator Habitats in the West Interlake Watershed District” – project is completed. Waiting for final payment.

RALP 2024-2025 Projects:

- Agroforestry Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed District (\$20,000.00) – Project site location has been determined; technician has designed an eco-buffer planting consisting of 1,405 trees. Trees have been received and planted.
- Exclusion Fencing in the West Interlake Watershed District to Enhance and Restore Riparian Areas (\$100,000.00). – 4 site locations have been identified; Staff are currently calculating the required fencing supplies, placing orders, and retaining contractors.
- Cultivating Environmental Resilience through Perennial Forage Establishment. (\$100,000.00) - Staff continue to work with producers.

RALP 2025-2026 Projects:

Funding approved for the following projects:

- 2025 Riparian Restoration and Water Quality Improvement in the West Interlake Watershed (\$100,000.00) Multiple site locations have been identified; Staff are currently calculating the required fencing supplies, placing orders, and retaining contractors, working with producers.
- Cultivating Environmental Resilience through Perennial Forage Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed in 2025-2026 (\$100,00.00) Staff continue to identify and prioritize project locations, and working with producers.
- Agroforestry Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed District 2025-2026 (\$21,900.00) Location has been identified.

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5.0	GROW Trust Program Review GROW Coordinator provided update on the upcoming meeting with Manitoba Habitat Conservancy (MHC). Tentative meeting dates are between September 22 nd and 25 th , 2025. Members were in favour of inviting L. Nichol from MAW, and the manager & staff from East Interlake Watershed District and Redboine Watershed District to attend the meeting with MHC.	
	Approval of GROW and PWCP Applications The Technician and GROW Coordinator gave an overview on proposed projects for the 2025-26 fiscal year. The GROW Committee members discussed the projects. 259-25: B. Sigfusson – J. Olson BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves the following projects for funding through the PWCP, GROW, or RALP Program for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, subject to the conditions that they adhere to all PWCP, GROW, or RALP guidelines established by MAW, MHC, MB Agriculture, and WIWD, successfully complete the Final Project Inspection, and are contingent on available funds with fair distribution amongst participants. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the LGC authorizes the flexibility to move projects between the PWCP, GROW, or RALP programs based on the best fit for the program and to the benefit of the producer, provided that all program guidelines and requirements continue to be met.	
6.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ BMP: PWCP Cover Crops A. Metner L. Thorgilsson ➤ BMP: PWCP: Soil Testing ➤ BMP: PWCP Legumes ➤ BMP: PWCP Manure E. Sigurdson BraKir Inc. ➤ BMP: PWCP ESN/Urease Inhibitors ➤ BMP: PWCP Split Fertilizer Application ➤ BMP: PWCP Rotational Grazing C. Emms-Shalagan K. Yaworski ➤ BMP: PWCP Alternative Watering System ➤ BMP: GROW Perennial Forage Establishment ➤ BMP: GROW Alternative Watering System D. Thorgilsson R. Ebbers Gall Family Farms C. Ives ➤ BMP: GROW Riparian Fencing ➤ BMP: GROW Cross Fencing ➤ BMP: GROW Sisal Twine 	CARRIED

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ BMP: GROW Windbreak Panel ➤ BMP: RALP Riparian Fencing ➤ BMP: RALP Perennials EUR Ranch TriBar Ranch (max up to 70 acres) Chris Zuckowicz <p>260-25: I. Zotter – T. Cook BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves to move in-camera at 12:03 p.m.</p> <p>261-25: J. Olson – J. Cruise BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves to move out-of-camera at 12:29 p.m.</p>	
7.0	<p>Alternative Watering Systems and wells</p> <p>There was discussion regarding the possibility of providing funding for multiple wells per producer and 1 system, to allows producers to utilize mobile watering systems in-conjunction with their rotational grazing plan. It was decided that this matter can be discussed with Manitoba Habitat Conservancy (MHC) during the September meeting between MHC and WIWD.</p>	
8.0	<p>NEXT MEETING: September 29th, 2025 9:00 a.m. WIWD Office</p>	
13.0	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p> <p>262-25: B. Sigfusson – I. Zotter BE IT RESOLVED THAT we adjourn at 12:47 p.m.</p>	CARRIED
	<p>These minutes are the writer's best interpretation of discussions held during the meeting. Please inform the writer of any noteworthy omissions or errors</p>	
	<p>Bill Fleury, LGC Chairperson</p> <hr/> <p>Irina Zotter, Manager / GROW Coordinator</p>	