

MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 43-25

NAME	Local GROW Committee (LGC)	PAGE	Page 1 of 5
LOCATION	WIWD Office	DATE	July 21, 2025
PRESENT:	B. Fleury	Member (Chairperson)	Producer / WIWD
	H. Rosing	Member (Vice- Chair)	Producer
	G. Metner	Member	Producer / WIWD
	J. Cruise	Member	Producer / WIWD
	T. Cook	Member	Producer
	B. Sigfusson	Member	WIWD
	T. Nevakshonoff	Member	WIWD
	C. Cuvelier (zoom)	Watershed Planer	ECC
	I. Zotter	Member (Manager /GROW Coordinator)	WIWD
	D. Kaartinen	Resource Technician	WIWD
	K. Christensen	Financial Administrator	WIWD
REGRETS:	J. Olson	Peonan Point Representative	Producer
WRITTEN BY: K. Christensen			

ITEM		ACTION BY
1.0	CALL TO ORDER B. Fleury called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.	
2.0	APPROVAL OF AGENDA <u>248-25: B. Sigfusson – G. Metner</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Local Grow Committee (LGC) approved the agenda as presented.	CARRIED
3.0	APPROVAL OF MINUTES <u>249-25: J. Cruise – B. Sigfusson</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approved the minutes of the LGC Meeting #42-25, June 9 th , 2025, as presented.	CARRIED
4.0	Delegation by A. Rawluk A. Rawluk joined the meeting at 9:11 a.m. A. Rawluk presented 2 projects to the LGC on behalf of the landowners he is working with. H. Rosing joined the meeting at 9:18 a.m. A. Rawluk left the meeting at 10:10 a.m. The LGC discussed the projects, approval or disapproval of projects to decided later in the meeting under 8.0.	
	Old Business	
5.0	GROW and PWCP Funds and 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	

MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 43-25

NAME
LOCATION

Local GROW Committee (LGC)
WIWD Office

PAGE
DATE

Page 2 of 5
July 21, 2025

	<div><div>Funds Expended to date:</div><div><div>GROW 2023-2025</div><div>\$499,634.65</div></div><div><div>GROW 2024-2026</div><div>\$ 52,326.44</div></div><div><div>GROW 2025-2027</div><div>\$125,954.99</div></div><div><div>Total</div><div>\$677,916.08</div></div></div> <div><div>Projects in progress:</div><div>\$446,311.00</div></div> <div><div>Funds for future distribution:</div><div>\$107,370.07</div></div> <div><div>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.</div></div> <div><div>GROW Coordinator informed the LGC that Manitoba Habitat Conservancy (MHC) will be doing a site visit and an audit of the WIWD's GROW program in September. Supporting documentation regarding GROW Trust Program Review and Audit Framework and Process Overview were presented to members. It was suggested by the GROW Coordinator that the LGC be present for the site visit allowing the opportunity to have a discussion with MHC regarding the GROW program. It was also suggested by a member that the Executive board be present during the site visit as well.</div></div> <div><div>Technician reported on the current allocated funds for PWCP funding for the 2024-25 fiscal year:</div></div> <div><div>Awarded PWCP funds:</div><div>\$885,000.00</div></div> <div><div>Additional awarded funds:</div><div>\$43,646.96</div></div> <div><div>Cover Crops:</div><div>\$148,365.00</div></div> <div><div>Rotational Grazing:</div><div>\$537,055.52</div></div> <div><div>Nitrogen Management:</div><div>\$243,226.44</div></div> <div><div>Total Projected cost:</div><div>\$928,646.96</div></div> <div><div>Technician reported on the current allocated funds for PWCP funding for the 2025-26 fiscal year:</div></div> <div><div>Awarded PWCP funds:</div><div>\$1,025,000.00</div></div> <div><div>Cover Crops:</div><div>\$ 115,250.00</div></div> <div><div>Rotational Grazing:</div><div>\$ 467,719.37</div></div> <div><div>Nitrogen Management:</div><div>\$ 158,965.74</div></div> <div><div>Total Project cost:</div><div>\$ 741,935.11</div></div> <div><div>Supporting documentation of current funds is available on file at the WIWD office.</div></div> <div><div>Committee members were presented with information on two added practices under OFCAF: supplementary guidance on the eligibility of equipment purchases and upgrades for adopting cover cropping, and on the eligibility of equipment purchases and infrastructure for virtual fencing for adopting rotational grazing. Members discussed the practices.</div></div> <div><div>250-25: J. Cruise – G. Metner</div><div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves 85% coverage for virtual fencing under the Rotation Grazing BMP under the Prairie Watershed Climate Program (PWCP), following the rules and regulations set out by Manitoba Association of Watersheds (MAW) and the WIWD. Each application received will be reviewed and approved, or rejected, by the LGC.</div></div> <div><div>251-25: J. Cruise – Glen</div><div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves that under the Cover Cropping BMP equipment purchase activity under the Prairie Watershed Climate Program (PWCP) it is eligible to purchase only sod seeders, to be reviewed on a per applicant basis by the LGC to ensure the equipment meets the standards of being a disc opener.</div></div>	<div>CARRIED</div> <div>CARRIED</div>
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MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 43-25

NAMELocal GROW Committee (LGC)

LOCATIONWIWD Office

PAGEPage 3 of 5

DATEJuly 21, 2025

6.0	<p>Shelterbelt Establishment and Enhancement</p> <p>Technician gave a brief update on the shelterbelt planting; M. Christensen’s eco-buffer is now complete.</p> <p>Financial Administrator provided members with a report on the 1,400 tree eco-buffer planting, including pictures and an update on how the tree planter worked.</p>	
7.0	<p>RALP</p> <p>RALP 2023-2024 Projects:</p> <p>T00072 “Exclusion Fencing in the West Interlake Watershed District to Enhance and Restore Riparian Areas” – Project has been completed. The Manager has finalized and submitted all necessary reports. Waiting for final payment.</p> <p>T00071 “Creating Pollinator Habitats in the West Interlake Watershed District” – project is completed reports have been submitted. Waiting for final payment.</p> <p>RALP 2024-2025 Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 identify and prioritize project locations.• <p>RALP 2025-2026 Projects:</p> <p>Funding approved for the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2025 Riparian Restoration and Water Quality Improvement in the West Interlake Watershed (\$100,000.00) Agreement has been signed.• Cultivating Environmental Resilience through Perennial Forage Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed in 2025-2026 (\$100,00.00) Agreement has been signed.• Agroforestry Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed District 2025-2026 (\$21,900.00) Agreement has been signed. <p>Staff are identifying and prioritizing project locations for all three projects and working with landowners.</p>	
8.0	<p>Approval of GROW and PWCP Applications</p> <p>The Technician and GROW Coordinator gave an overview on proposed projects for the 2025-26 fiscal year. The GROW Committee members discussed the projects.</p> <p>B. Sigfusson left the meeting at 12:08 p.m.</p> <p><u>252-25: G. Metner – H. Rosing</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves 75% of an Alternative Watering System for the estate of A. Dyck for funding through the GROW Program for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, subject to the conditions that they adhere to all GROW guidelines established by MHC and WIWD, successfully complete the Final Project Inspection, and contingency on available funds with fair distribution amongst participants</p> <p><u>253-25: J. Cruise – T. Cook</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves 75% of an Alternative Watering System for R. LeChance for funding through the GROW Program for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, subject to the conditions that they adhere to all GROW guidelines established by MHC</p>	<p>CARRIED</p> <p>CARREID</p>

MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 43-25

NAME

Local GROW Committee (LGC)

PAGE

Page 4 of 5

LOCATION

WIWD Office

DATE

July 21, 2025

	<p>and WIWD, successfully complete the Final Project Inspection, and contingency on available funds with fair distribution amongst participants</p> <p><u>254-25: G. Metner – T. Nevakshonoff</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves the 2-mile riparian Fencing project around Olson Lake for P. Doerkson to be funded under RALP.</p> <p><u>255-25: G. Metner – H. Rosing</u> 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.</p> <div><div>➤ BMP: PWCP Cover Crops G. Gudmundson J. Gleich</div><div>➤ BMP: PWCP: Soil Testing C. Wimmer H. Hueging</div><div>➤ BMP: PWCP Legumes G. Gudmundson K. Kell C. Wimmer D. Olson J. Watt</div><div>➤ BMP: PWCP Manure H. Heuging L. Law</div><div>➤ BMP: PWCP ESN/Urease Inhibitors F. Engelberg H. Hueging D. Olson</div><div>➤ BMP: PWCP Split Fertilizer Application H. Hueging</div><div>➤ BMP: PWCP Rotational Grazing E. Nottveit M. Wildhager K. McIntosh D. Kimber R. Geisler K. McIntosh D. Springer</div><div>➤ BMP: PWCP Alternative Watering System D. Hummel C. Reykdal</div><div>➤ BMP: GROW Perennial Forage Establishment</div><div>➤ BMP: GROW Alternative Watering System P. Grose</div></div>	<div>CARRIED</div> <div>CARRIED</div>
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NAME LOCATION	Local GROW Committee (LGC) WIWD Office	PAGE DATE	Page 5 of 5 July 21, 2025
	<div>K. McIntosh K. McIntosh</div> <div><div>➤</div><div>BMP: GROW Riparian Fencing S. Hoosier</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>BMP: GROW Cross Fencing</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>BMP: GROW Sisal Twine</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>BMP: GROW Windbreak Panel</div></div> <div><div>➤</div><div>BMP: RALP Riparian Fencing</div></div>		
	NEW BUSINESS		
9.0	<div>MFGA and MAW Conference</div> <div>The Manitoba Forage and Grasslands (MFGA) Regenerative Ag Conference will be held on November 12th and 13th, 2025 at the Victoria Inn in Brandon, MB. The Manitoba Association of Watersheds (MAW) Annual Conference will be held in Brandon in the beginning of December; staff are still waiting to receive confirmation on the dates.</div>		
	<div>Review of Action Items:</div> <div><div>•</div><div>N / A</div></div>		
10.0	<div>NEXT MEETING:</div> <div>August 11th, 2025 9:00 a.m. WIWD Office</div>		
13.0	<div>ADJOURNMENT</div> <div>256-25: T. Cook – J. Cruise</div> <div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT we adjourn at 1:25 p.m.</div>	CARRIED	
	<div>These minutes are the writer's best interpretation of discussions held during the meeting. Please inform the writer of any noteworthy omissions or errors</div>		
	<div><div>Bill Fleury, LGC Chairperson</div><div>Irina Zotter, Manager / GROW Coordinator</div></div>		