

MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 41-25

NAME	Local GROW Committee (LGC)	PAGE	Page 1 of 6
LOCATION	WIWD Office	DATE	April 25, 2025
PRESENT:	B. Fleury	Member (Chairperson)	Producer / WIWD
	H. Rosing	Member (Vice- Chair)	Producer
	G. Metner	Member	Producer / WIWD
	J. Cruise	Member	Producer / WIWD
	J. Olson	Peonan Point Representative	Producer
	T. Cook	Member	Producer
	B. Sigfusson	Member	WIWD
	I. Zotter	Member (Manager /GROW Coordinator)	WIWD
	D. Kaartinen	Resource Technician	WIWD
	K. Christensen	Financial Administrator	WIWD
REGRETS:	T. Nevakshonoff	Member	WIWD
	D. Timmerman	Watershed Planner	ECC

WRITTEN BY: K. Christensen

ITEM		ACTION BY
1.0	CALL TO ORDER B. Fleury called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.	
2.0	APPROVAL OF AGENDA <u>230-25: H. Rosing – J. Olson</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Local Grow Committee (LGC) approved the agenda as presented.	CARRIED
3.0	APPROVAL OF MINUTES <u>231-25: B. Sigfusson – J. Cruise</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approved the minutes of the LGC Meeting # 40-25, March 10, 2025 as presented with the amendment of moving J. Olson from the present list to the regrets.	CARRIED
	Old Business	
4.0	Retroactive Approval of PWCP Projects for 2024-2025 Technician gave an overview on projects for the 2024-25 fiscal year under the PWCP program. <u>232-25: G. Metner – J. Olson</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves the following projects, for funding through the PWCP Program for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, subject to the conditions that they adhere to all PWCP guidelines established by MAW and WIWD, successfully complete the Final Project Inspection, and contingency on available funds with fair distribution amongst participants. ➤ BMP: PWCP Rotational Grazing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Darcy Hueging• Derek Yanke• EUR Ranches• Darrell Hueging ➤ BMP: PWCP: Soil Testing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Triple Oak Farms	CARRIED

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	<div><div>GROW and PWCP Funds and Programs terms Update</div><div>Technician gave updates from MAW on the 2025-2028 iteration of the PWCP program. The ‘Prairie Watershed Climate Program (PWCP) FY 2025 Limitations’ document was provided to all members, there was discussion regarding new rates and guidelines. Technician requested that there be a December 31st deadline for completing projects and submitting all required documentation, to allow staff adequate time to complete date entry and all required reports.</div><div><div>233-25: J. Cruise – B. Sigfusson</div><div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves the ‘Prairie Watershed Climate Program (PWCP) FY 2025 WIWD Limitations’ that was provided, in addition, a December 31st, 2025 deadline to be added to all applications for the 2025-26 FY.</div></div><div>The GROW Coordinator reported on the GROW 2023-2025, and 2024-2026 funds allocated and expended for the 2024-25 season.</div><div>Awarded GROW Funds from MHC:<div><div>GROW 2023-2025 - \$500,000.00</div><div>GROW 2024-2026 - \$467,442.50</div><div>Total: \$967,442.50</div></div></div><div>Funds Expended to date:<div><div>GROW 2023-2025 - \$ 65,712.48</div><div>GROW 2024-2026 - \$472,169.05</div><div>Total \$537,881.53</div></div></div><div><div>5.0</div><div>Projects in progress: \$525,441.96</div><div>Funds for future distribution: -\$ 95,880.99</div></div><div>The GROW Coordinator suggested removing the requirement for proof of payment on GROW projects, citing significant delays in processing time. Additionally, proof of payment by canceled cheque is often not feasible, as producers frequently charge on account and settle outstanding amounts at a later time, such as during livestock sales. The GROW Coordinator proposed that legitimate invoices from suppliers and service providers should be sufficient documentation, noting that this is a common practice among other districts.</div><div><div>234-25: H. Rosing – J. Cruise</div><div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC recommends to the Executive Board to remove the requirement of proof of payment by cancelled cheques for all GROW projects.</div></div><div>Technician reported on the current allocated funds for PWCP funding the 2024-25 fiscal year:</div><div>Awarded PWCP funds: \$885,000.00</div><div>Additional awarded funds: \$38,288.98</div><div><div>Cover Crops: \$156,870.00</div><div>Rotational Grazing: \$523,712.52</div><div>Nitrogen Management: \$242,706.46</div><div>Total Projected cost: \$923,288.98</div></div><div>Supporting documentation of current funds is available on file at the WIWD office.</div><div>The MAW offered additional funding for Activity 1 through PWCP; however, WIWD declined the offer since there are still unallocated approved funds available.</div></div>	<div>CARRIED</div> <div>CARRIED</div>
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6.0	<p>Shelterbelt Establishment and Enhancement</p> <p>Technician gave a verbal update on the current 2BT shelterbelt project.</p> <p>A member raised concern of the 10 acres per quarter section limit that was put in place for the Old Oak Stand incentive payments, members discussed.</p> <p><u>235-25: J. Cruise – G. Metner</u> BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves to set an annual incentive payment rate of \$50.00/acre for conservation of Old Growth Wooded areas, for a maximum of 20 acres per quarter of land, maximum up to 50 acres per applicant.</p>	CARRIED
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</p> <p>T00071 “Creating Pollinator Habitats in the West Interlake Watershed District” – project is completed reports have been submitted.</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. Tree Order has been placed, expecting the delivery in May.Exclusion Fencing in the West Interlake Watershed District to Enhance and Restore Riparian Areas (\$100,000.00). – 2 site locations have identified; 0.8 miles exclusion fencing along Dog Lake, and 0.62 miles along Burnt Lake Drain. Staff are assessing fencing material requirements to prepare for an upcoming order. Additional two sites have been identified and will be presented for approval today.Cultivating Environmental Resilience through Perennial Forage Establishment. (\$100,000.00) - Staff continue to identify and prioritize project locations. Meanwhile, seven claims have been processed, and corresponding payments have been issued. <p>Materials for projects have been purchased, will be delivered in the coming weeks.</p> <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)Cultivating Environmental Resilience through Perennial Forage Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed in 2025-2026 (\$100,00.00)Agroforestry Establishment in the West Interlake Watershed District 2025-2026 (\$21,900.00) <p>LGC reviewed two potential Riparian Fencing projects for T.J. O’Sullivan and L. Wirgau</p>	
8.0	<p>GROW 2025-2027</p> <p>The 2025-2027 GROW proposal was approved in the amount of \$528,703.00. The sisal twine portion of the proposal was denied, additionally, the project received a general deduction of \$272,363.00 for activities and outputs of the WIWD’s choosing.</p>	
9.0	<p>Windbreak Panels</p> <p>Members discussed the viability of the windbreak panel program, with concern of limited funds not being able to satisfy the application requests.</p>	

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	<p>236-25: G. Metner – I. Zotter BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC approves to reduce the payment rate of windbreak panels to 50%, with a maximum up to \$750.00 per assembled panel with boards. The maximum windbreak panel per producer remains at 10 panels per producer per lifetime.</p>	CARRIED
10.0	<p>GROW: Alternative Watering Systems</p> <p>A member suggested to review the rates for Alternative Watering Systems. After discussion, members felt the current rates of 50% of a new well cost, and 75% of the Alternative Watering System costs, with a maximum reimbursement payment of \$15,000.00 per system was sufficient, and no changes were needed.</p>	
11.0	<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>There was discussion regarding the denial of funds for the Sisal Twine rebate program. It was suggested that the LGC recommend to the Executive Board to allocate a portion of the core funding towards the program.</p> <p>237-25: J. Cruise – J. Olson BE IT RESOLVED THAT the LGC recommends to the Executive Board that \$15,000.00 of the core budget for the 2025-26 FY be allocated towards the Sisal Twine rebate program at a 50% cost-share basis.</p> <p>238-25: J. Cruise – G. Metner 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 contingency on available funds with fair distribution amongst participants</p>	CARRIED
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ BMP: PWCP Cover Crops➤ BMP: PWCP: Soil Testing➤ BMP: PWCP Legumes➤ BMP: PWCP Manure➤ BMP: PWCP ESN/Urease Inhibitors➤ BMP: PWCP Split Fertilizer Application➤ BMP: PWCP Rotational Grazing➤ BMP: PWCP Alternative Watering System<ul style="list-style-type: none">• K. Gudmundson• L. Law➤ BMP: GROW Perennial Forage Establishment<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EUR Ranches• B. Meisner➤ BMP: GROW Alternative Watering System➤ BMP: GROW Riparian Fencing	CARRIED

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	<div><div>➤ BMP: GROW Sisal Twine</div><div><div>S. Meisner</div><div>D. Yanke</div><div>C. Reykdal</div></div></div> <div><div>➤ BMP: GROW Windbreak Panel</div><div><div>W. Hayward</div><div>R. Kehler</div><div>D. Yanke</div><div>A. Brandson</div><div>G. Johnson</div><div>A. Clark</div><div>T. Fuchs</div><div>M. Farthing</div><div>S. Thorgilsson</div><div>E. Humel</div><div>D. Johnson</div><div>W. Thorgilsson</div><div>M. Emilson</div><div>L. Law</div><div>D. Gleich</div><div>J. Bezmer</div><div>J. McMahon</div><div>D. McMahon</div><div>J. Kiesman</div><div>K. McIntosh</div><div>L. Holm</div><div>Gall Family Farms Inc.</div><div>J. Frankemolle</div><div>C. Reykdal</div><div>J. Stefanson</div><div>K. Overby</div><div>J. Kostyshyn</div><div>F. Plohman</div><div>K. Johannson</div></div></div> <div><div>➤ BMP: RALP Riparian Fencing</div><div><div>L. Wirgau</div><div>T.J. O’Sullivan</div></div></div>	
	NEW BUSINESS	
	<div>Review of Action Items:</div> <div><div>N / A</div></div>	
12.0	<div>NEXT MEETING:</div> <div>May 12, 2025</div> <div>9:00 a.m.</div> <div>WIWD Office</div>	
13.0	<div>ADJOURNMENT</div> <div>239-25: G. Metner – J. Cruise</div> <div>BE IT RESOLVED THAT we adjourn at 1:01 p.m.</div>	CARRIED

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	<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> <p>_____ Irina Zotter, Manager / GROW Coordinator</p>	