

Crow Wing River Basin Forage Council meeting notes

Date: October 29th, 2015

Attendees: Jeff Duchene, Ivan Reinke, Chuck Horsager, Kent Solberg, Jim Chamberlin, Leonard Koering, Mel Weins, Greg Booth, Dan Pazdernik, Brenda Miller, Dennis and Beth Linder.

Meeting called to order by Chuck at 9:00.

Secretary's report: None Given..

Treasurer's report:

Balance: ~\$2,794.

Lost ~\$300 on summer tour.

Motion made by Mel to approve payment of \$65 to Lisa Baker for services provided. Leonard Seconded. Motion carried.

Summer Tour

Evaluations were lost. The general consensus was that the evaluations were taken by U of M staff and no one from the forage council has them.

Discussion ensued regarding mailing and/or emailing a follow-up survey to replace the lost evaluations. The consensus was that if Diomy needed the surveys to fulfill his grant requirements, he can develop/send out another survey. The forage council will not. Jim will follow up with Diomy.

Overall, everyone felt that the summer tour went well. Discussion took place regarding the summer tour for 2016 and potentially 2017. The group discussed whether the summer tour for 2016 should be held at Greg and Vickie's to showcase silvopasture again. After discussion, it was decided that a tour of another silvopasture site should wait until at least 2017 to allow for Diomy to synthesize the data and have more to present at a field day. Tentatively, the group is considering hosting a tour at Ivan Reinke's farm in 2016 to show grazing management, pasture renovation, temporary fencing options, among other topics...

Winter Meeting 2016

Dr. Kris Ringwall of NDSU Extension is lined up to speak on February 10th in Guthrie and February 11th in Staples. The forage council would like to partner with the Hubbard SWCD to make this happen. Basically, all costs associated with the speaker would be split between the Hubbard SWCD and the forage council. After discussion, it was decided that it may be best for the forage council to take the lead with regards to paying Dr. Ringwall, so the Hubbard SWCD would pay their share to the forage council. The estimated costs for travel (see estimated budget) for the speaker is ~\$1,000, which would be split equally between Hubbard SWCD and the forage council. The forage council is planning to apply for a GLCA grant and a SARE grant to help cover some of the costs. Any grants received would lower the cost equally to both groups. Dan stated that the SWCD board would need to approve any expenditures of money. **Jeff will put together a formal budget proposal to send to Dan and Melissa Koebernick (Hubbard SWCD District Manager) to be presented to the Hubbard SWCD board.**

More discussion into the partnership: Each group would advertise separately. The presentation would be the same at both sites. The partnership would be for the speaker costs only (travel, hotel rooms, per diem, etc.). Any other costs (advertising, lunch, etc.) would be handled by each organization separately.

Jeff will be responsible for following up with the GLCA on their grant opportunity.

Jim will work on developing a proposal for the SARE grant.

Jeff and Jim will work with Dan and Melissa to let them know if either of these grants are accepted and on all other partnership tasks.

The group discussed a back-up plan in case the weather in North Dakota prohibits Dr. Ringwall from making the trip. After much discussion, it was decided that Kent, Jeff, and Ivan would be the back-up plan if this were to happen.

Agenda:

Registration: 8:30-9:30

Dr. Ringwall presentation: 9:30-3:00 or 3:30

- 3 hour working sire workshop.
- 1.5-2 hours of several topics. Potential topics include:
 - Overview of current research at the Dickinson research station
 - Animal health/embryo health
 - Cow size/efficiency
 - Calving season (early vs. late calving)
 - Pasture management
- Kris wants this to be an interactive workshop and wants people to bring their bull sale catalogs as well as the registration numbers of their current bulls. He also would like internet access, if possible. Guthrie does not have internet access. Staples will have internet access.
- Ivan will contact Kris to nail down other specific topics as well as how Kris would prefer the day to go (breaks, ending time, etc.)

Lunch: 1 hour catered by Lois Detloff. Jim and Mel will contact Lois.

Breakfast at the Spot Café: Mel will line up for the morning of February 11.

Cost: Motion made by Mel to charge \$25/person. Jim seconded. Motion carried.

Event Location: Ivan has lined up the large assembly room at CLC in Staples.

Save the Date Card: Vickie will develop. It was decided not to include the cost on the card. Kent said that SFA could send out the Save the Date card through their email blasts and post on their Facebook page.

Speaker honorarium: Discussion ensued regarding giving Dr. Ringwall an honorarium above and beyond what his normal pay is (his speaker fee will be covered by his regular work duties with NDSU Extension). It was decided that the Guthrie and Staples sites should try to give the same amount seeing that the presentation will be the same. Dan said that any amount would need to be approved by the Hubbard SWCD board. As such, it was decided to give the honorarium separately. Motion made by Brenda to give \$150 honorarium to Dr. Ringwall from the Staples site. Greg seconded. Motion carried.

Sponsorship letter: Does Vickie have this? Jim will work with Vickie on getting this sent out. Please send any additions to the potential sponsors list to Jess or Jim. The sponsorship letter will be sent out by November 15th.

Brochure: Vickie will develop.

Sandwich boards: Ivan got bids on sandwich boards for \$195 each with the SFA/forage council logos on. Motion made by Mel to purchase 3 sandwich boards @ \$195 each. Greg seconded. Motion carried.

Soil Health Summit February 17 and 18 at Arrowood Resort near Alexandria.

Next Advisory Group Meeting: Thursday, December 17th @ 9:00 AM @ Brick's Café.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40.