

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- MINUTES -
Thursday - Dec 11, 2014
NOON
Toledo Botanical Garden - Stables Room**

President Tom Wardell called the meeting to order at 12:09 pm.

Board Attendees (11): Josh Miller, Joe Perlaky, Tom Wardell, Bob Hoen, Anne Schenk, Kim Bunge, Deb Bettinger, Jill Bench, Jeff Creque, Ralph Keefe, Sara Brick-Sturt, Greg Barrow, Beth Scheckelhoff and Joe Perlaky. Robin Hawkins was excused. Walt Krueger was absent.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Report - Tom Wardell stated he and Joe Perlaky attended a meeting with Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur. They reviewed recent accomplishments achieved over the last year. Tom also attended various MVGA committee meetings held over the last two months

Vice-President Report - No report

Secretary Report - The minutes were read individually. Jeff made a motion to accept and Ralph seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Deb Bettinger gave the Treasurer's report and reported there is a checkbook balance of \$53,071.14 as of December 1, 2014. Josh Miller moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Jeff Creque seconded. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Joe Perlaky reported on his activities and hours spent since our last meeting. There were also 3 USDA grants awarded:

- The MVGA \$25,000 feasibility study to determine the viability of locating a food hub at the Erie Street Market in downtown Toledo is progressing. Joe is meeting with both community leaders and organizations gathering information. The Business Committee will be involved in the process starting in January.
- A dozen growers, USDA-ARS, UT administrators and researchers met on November 24th with six research representatives from Berkeley's Lawrence National Labs located in Oakland, CA. Discussions centered on how we can collaborate on future research and grant opportunities. The meeting was sponsored by Congresswomen Kaptur. Correspondence is ongoing.
- Documentation from our Annual meeting will be picked up from Brodbeck's later this afternoon and entered into our 2015 year of income/expenses.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Committee-Chair (s) Jeff Creque, Anne Schenk

- Jeff Creque reported on a meeting that he attended with other growers and The Ohio State University Extension. It is the hope that this meeting will open the door for better communication between research and growers.
- Anne reported that the market on gas has come down in recent weeks.

Education Committee-Chair (s) Gene Klotz, Josh Miller

- Josh Miller was interested in input for educational opportunities for 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

Elections were held for the 2015 Executive Committee positions. After minimum discussion, officers are as follows:

- President - Jill Bench
- Vice-President - Deb Bettinger
- Secretary - Sara Brick-Sturt
- Treasurer - Bob Hoen

Board members were asked to list preferences for committee positions for 2015.

2015 Meetings will be held at Palmer Energy located at 5577 Airport Highway on the 2nd Thursday of every other month at 12 Noon.

A brief discussion was held regarding a member not in good standing. Jill Bench will reach out to the individual to determine his status on the board to determine what actions needs to be taken to keep the board filled to capacity.

Josh moved to adjourn and Deb seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Bench
Secretary

Next Board meeting: Thursday, February 12th at Palmer Energy (5577 Airport Hwy.) at Noon