

**Michigan Onion Committee  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
December 11, 2019, 12:45pm  
Great Lakes Expo  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Devos Place Grand Gallery Overlook C D  
Lunch provided for board members at 12:00pm**

Attendees: Bruce Klamer, Michael Bosch, Kristin Oomen, Mark Nail, Mitch Schreur, Greg Bird (Exec Dir), Heather Throne (MDARD), Darryl Warncke (MSU), Ben Werling (MSU Ext), Kristin Esch (MDARD)

1. Call to Order – Chairman Bruce Klamer - 12:45pm
2. Minutes: June 13, 2019 (see doc)

*Motion: Mark Nail*

*Supported by: Mike Bosch*

*Motion approved*

3. Financial Report – Mike Bosch (see doc)

*Motion: Kristin Oomen*

*Supported by: Mark Nail*

*Motion approved*

4. MDARD Report – Heather Throne
  - a. Conflict of Interest Document (see doc)
    - i. Received signed Conflict of Interest Document from all 5 board members.
  - b. MOC Number of appointed members on board
    - i. Motion needed to officially change this from 7 to 5, Heather will take to Ag Commission.
    - ii. Mark Nail moves to request that the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Director and Commission agree to changing the Michigan Onion Committee, created by the Onion Promotion and Development Program established under Public Act 232 of 1965, from seven committee members serving at-large to five committee members serving at-large.

*Motion: Mark Nail*

*Supported by: Bruce Klamer*

*Motion approved*

5. Executive Director's Report - Greg Bird (see docs)
  - a. Reviewed Grant Report
  - b. Reviewed Program / Research Priorities for 2020
  - c. Updated processes per MDARD review - These processes were sent to board prior to meeting. The board will review and any discussion will be completed at the February MOC meeting, hopefully getting board approval at that point.
  - d. Financial Review currently underway with Cooley Hehl Sabo & Calkins for \$1850. This is the 2nd of 3 reviews needed during this 5 year referendum.
6. MSU Extension Report – Ben Werling
  - a. Marketing ideas for 2020. - Ben brought up the idea of coming up with onion marketing. Maybe the Expression by Bejo could be marketed as a Michigan Sweet onion. Bruce brought up the idea that NOA has lots of marketing for the nature's ninja logo. Perhaps MOC could use this. More to be discussed at the February meeting.
7. Onion Seed Variety Trials 2019 – Darryl Warncke (see doc)
  - a. Future goals of trials and options - It was determined by the onion committee that the onion variety seed trial would be planted at only 1 location for the 2020 growing season. Darryl would continue this seed trial work in 2020. It will most likely occur at V&W Farms since this is where the twilight dinner is hosted. Perhaps in 2021 the trials could be moved to the same location that seed companies have their trials (I believe this was the idea).
8. 2020 Calendar
  - a. February 27, 2020, at MSU Agronomy Farm
  - b. June 18, 2020, at Celery Co-op
9. Other Business

- a. Bruce Klamer gave a crop report. 5,000-10,000 acres of onions in Idaho and Washington froze. Some of these frozen onions went to storage and will eventually get shipped to midwest markets.
- b. The MOC believed that the budget did not include money for the 2019 onion variety trials. Mitch made an amendment to add to the FY19 budget to \$1500 to pay Daryl Warncke for the 2019 onion variety seed trials.

*Motion: Mitch Schruer*

*Supported by: Mike Bosch*

*Motion approved*

10. Adjourn - 1:31pm

*Motion: Mike Bosch*

*Supported by: Mark Nail*

*Motion approved*