

**Michigan Onion Committee
Annual Meeting Agenda
December 9, 2020, 7:00pm
GL Expo Virtual Event**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84926880709?pwd=cHg0UEowd2M5TG1WTDdJdjF1WWRKZz09>

In attendance online: Bruce Klamer, Michael Bosch, Mitch Schreur, Kristin Oomen, Mark Nail, Heather Throne (MDARD), Ben Werling (MSU Ext), Darryl Warncke (onion trials), Greg Bird (Exec Dir)

1. Call to Order – Chairman Bruce Klamer

7:03pm

2. Minutes: June 18, 2020 (see doc)

Motion to approve minutes from previous meeting.

Motion: Mike Bosch

Supported by: Kristin Oomen

Motion approved

3. 2020 Onion Season Review - Bruce Klamer

The group of appointed board members took turns giving updates on season. Bruce Klamer said the season was average to above average. There are almost no onions left in Michigan as they have sold and many due to the federal food boxes. The stored onions will be gone during January most likely. Mike Bosch said the onions on muck were good but the onions on mineral soil were poor due to small size. Kristin Oomen said it was above average across the board with pretty much the same in Wisconsin.

4. Financial Reports – Mike Bosch (see doc)

Mike reviewed the Onion Committee profit and loss, balance sheet, cash flow, and crop payment reports. Future updates may involve phasing out the ash flow document and the crop payment document. These 2 documents can be pulled from Quickbooks and just add double entry work if they are stored separately in a spreadsheet. Motion made to accept financial documents.

Motion: Mark Nail

Supported by: Mitch Schreur

Motion approved

5. MDARD Report – Heather Throne

The next round of Specialty crop Block Grants will be released on Jan 7, 2021 and will be due February 28, 2021. Value Add Grants were opened again and had 50% of the normal award amounts. Anticipate these in February 2021. The Rural Development grants were due November 20 and MDARD received 140 applications.

6. Executive Director's Report - Greg Bird

- a. Grant Report (see doc)

The grant report spreadsheet was displayed.

- b. Program / Research Priorities for 2021 (see doc)

The committee would like to add white campion to the list as this is something new which was brought to our attention by Sushila Chaudhari. More information on this weed is desired. Purple Amaranth can also be added to the list. The list as it was displayed plus these two additions can be submitted to MSU and was approved by consensus.

- c. Conflict of Interest Document (see doc)
 - i. Board members sign the document ahead of time and have it submitted by annual meeting.
- d. Distribute audit by Cooley Hehl Sabo & Calkins (see doc)

A motion was made to accept the audit document as presented.

Motion: Mitch Schreur

Supported by: Kristin Oomen

Motion approved

- e. Promotion Money to NOA
 - i. Budget 2014-15 \$2500 NOA promo, 2016-2019 \$200 research books, 2020 expo giveaways etc \$500

The promotion details were appreciated by the committee. NOA is looking for some money to make some advertising. The committee will discuss this in more depth at the February meeting.

7. MSU Extension Report – Ben Werling

Ben would very much like to get the Onion Committee to do some work with Sushila Chaudhari this upcoming year. The white campion or pepper weed are 2 good opportunities. Ben noted that the status of in person meetings is still an unknown for 2021.

8. Onion Seed Variety Trials 2020 and 2021 – Darryl Warncke (see doc)

Darryl reviewed the onion trial results spreadsheet for the year. There was a motion made to go ahead with Darryl performing the onion trials again in 2021 in the same fashion as in 2020.

Locations used will be Bruce's and Mike's.

Motion: Mike Bosch

Supported by: Mitch Schreur

Motion approved

9. 2021 Calendar - Greg Bird

- a. February 9, 2021
 - b. June 17, 2020, at Celery Co-op, Hudsonville
- As it stands now, the February 9 meeting will most likely be virtual. However, the State Government would need to pass new legislation to allow this as the last extension for virtual checkoff meetings ends Dec 31, 2020. Heather says they are working on this new legislation and imagines it will pass. The June meeting will stay at Celery Co-op and e reviewed as date approaches.

10. Other Business

11. Adjourn

Motion: Kristin Oomen

Supported by: Mark Nail

Motion approved