

**Michigan Onion Committee
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, June 3, 2025**

Meeting at 12pm.

Michigan Celery Promotion, 5009 40th Ave, Hudsonville, MI 49426

Attendees: Bruce Klamer, Mark Nail, Michael Bosch, Mitchell Schreur, James Young, Greg Bird

Jeff Haarer

Business Meeting

1. Call to Order - Mark Nail

Time: 12:15pm

2. Minutes – March 11, 2025 Annual Meeting - Mark Nail

Meeting minutes were approved

Motion: Bruce K

2nd: Mitch S

3. MDARD Report – Jeff Haarer MDARD

Jeff provided a report to the room in person. Jeff said that MDARD would be performing a review of the Onion Committee in person this summer and MDARD will be looking at the financials since MOC no longer needs an audit but once every 5 years. 3 232 programs had FOIA requests this spring. MI wine\grape is looking into a 232 program. MDARD will provide board training in 2025. Existing SCBG funds are moving forward. The SCBG projects submitted this winter are due back to USDA on 7/7, so it sounds like some of these will be awarded. There are MDARD grants available for waste water projects.

4. Finances – Greg Bird

a. Balance Statement and Profit and Loss.

Greg reviewed the balance statement and the profit and loss financial documents. The financial reports were approved

Motion: Bruce Klamer

2nd: James Young

b. Assessments from 2024 crop YTD compared to 2023 YTD

The assessments from 2024 were reviewed. Eding Brothers might be short 10,000 lbs as they are investigating with Hearty Fresh.

c. 2025-26 Budget

i. NOA memberships, pay for growers June 2025, How many and cost?

The board decided on 2025-26 budgets items, including \$3,510 for 1800 acres worth of NOA memberships for all MI growers. Plus, 2025-26 the board felt \$27,000 in assessments was a realistic goal. The board would like to ask growers to voluntarily help fund the costs of the NOA memberships by adding a request in the newsletter and on the assessment form. The rest of the budget was completed and approved.

Motion: Bruce Klammer

2nd: Mitch Schreur

5. Executive Director's Report - Greg Bird

- a. 2025 onion crop price report, MI did not do one in 2023 or 2024?

MOC needs to get with USDA they do the report. USDA will want to work with the shippers and that should not be too hard, there are only 3 main shippers in MI. Contact Chuck Lippstreu and Doug Bulgrin to ask for assistance in market reporting.

- b. Director's contract for 2025-26

- c. Quickbooks price increase, time to change?

The board agrees it is time to see what other options are out there besides Quickbooks. Greg will investigate and bring a choice back to the board. Greg's contract was brought to the board for 2025-26. The board approved the contract.

Motion: Bruce Klammer

2nd: James Young

- d. Appointed committee members update

5 names were nominated to the governor's staff, but Greg has not recently heard back from the contact at the Governor's office. supposedly 4 of the 5 nominees have filled out an application. Greg informed the one who had not to get the application filled out ASAP. The new board members are due Aug 15. There are 3 positions up for filling (Mitch schreur, James Young, and Mark Nail)

6. White Champion Trial Update - Mitch Schreur

The trial for 2025 is only on Woodwyk fields and the field is very rough. The board went to look at the field with Jordan from Vriesland Growers. There is one more spray for the field and if that does not work it may be over for that field for the year. Woodwyk's field might not be preferred for use in 2026. The board wants to get the new weed scientist involved in the project. Funding to help the new weed scientist was set aside in the budget.

7. Onion Trials Status - James Young

In 2025 the seed companies will bring all the onions to the dinner trials. The onions will not be kept for Expo. The seed companies must bring the same number and variety of onions to the Expo. This will let the seed companies manage the quality of the stored onions until December. James will draft a letter and send a reminder.

8. 2025 Onion Trials and Twilight Steak Dinner - Greg Bird

- a. Contact Syngenta

Bruce was checking with Syngenta on when the mobile grill was available. The date will be as normal in the later part of August.

9. Other business

10. Next Meeting - Nov 10, 2025, afternoon, location TBD

11. Adjournment - Mark Nail

Time: 2:32pm

Motion: Mitch S

2nd: Mike B