

Rural Revival Minutes: January 24, 2022
Freeman City Library

Directors Present: Dennis Lehmann, S. Roy Kaufman, Brent Brockmueller, Andre Eisenbeis

Directors Absent: Lillie Eisenbeis, Richard Ensz, Dee Millar, Larry Eisenbeis

Members Present: Beth Kaufman, Phillip Eisenbeis, Glen Wollman, Lyle Preheim, Tim Eisenbeis, Dennis Jurkevich

Guests Present: Kyle Waltner, Susan Luschas

Minutes: Minutes from the November 22nd meeting were approved (S. Roy moved, Andre seconded, the minutes were accepted).

Treasurer's Report: Andre reported the current balance is \$6952.66.

Committee Reports:

1. Land Access

- Current owners of the Saner ground are in agreement with continuing with the land care as it is currently done. S. Roy recommends meeting with Northern Prairie Land Trust to discuss putting the land into a conservation easement.

2. Local Foods

- Will send out a survey to past vendors about their experiences with the Farmer's Market and potential suggestions. Potentially will advertise for more vendors soon as well.

3. Education

- No report.

Other:

- Susan Luschas (Manuel, husband) from Brandon shared about their family's desire to be involved in non-GMO/non-spray farming in SoDak or possibly Iowa. Does not need to be certified organic, wants it to be sustainable. Minimum investment of \$1.2M-2M. Goal of breaking even by year 5, ok with cash flow negative prior to that. Priority is to find the farmer first and then purchase the ground/operation. Would likely enter into an agreement with the farmer before any purchase is made.
- Lyle spent time with Ben Brockmueller over Christmas who is working with regenerative agriculture at the University of Wisconsin. Invited Ben to speak to RR about the work he is doing. RR would welcome his sharing and Lyle will follow up with Ben.
- Beth talked about the discussions she is having with her sisters about the future of their family farm. Also, about the farming in this community and how some of the time burden can be shared (i.e. sharing equipment, deliveries, marketing, butcher, etc...).

Adjournment: Dennis J. moved, S. Roy seconded, meeting adjourned. Next meeting: Monday, February 28, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Brent Brockmueller, secretary.