

**Minnesota Grape Growers Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Zoom

January 20,2025

**I.Roll Call and Agenda Review**

President Josie Boyle called to order the Monthly Meeting of the Minnesota Grape Growers Association Board of Directors at 9:03am on January 20, 2025, over Zoom.

Drew Horton present. Luke Stultz joined after the start.

Roll call

X	Josie Boyle		Jenny Ellenbecker
X	Krista Kopperud		John Taylor
X	Becca Moinichen		Paige Bouc
	John Howe		Richard Uytdewilligen
	Blake Luehmann	X	Jamieson Lindquist
X	Bryan Forbes		
X	Randy Gutzman		
X	Ben Banks		
	Kevin Kautz		

## 1. Welcome, Roll Call and Agenda Review

a. Agenda approval - Josie Boyle. Approved by Randy, seconded by Jamieson.

## 2. Minutes Approval – Becca Moinichen

a. 12/16/2024 Minutes - Krista motioned to approve. Seconded by Bryan.

## 3. Finance Committee – John Taylor

a. Treasurer's Report

## 4. Website – Josie Boyle

a. New website update - Still a work in progress, but working on it. Josie shared the new website with the basic information. Can take membership renewals through the website, and the CCC information is linked along with a few FAQs. Going to continue building the website, including the classifieds section. Members will have to create a new account. There was a lot of good feedback from the group. The website is much easier to operate from user and moderator perspectives. There have been 5 or so people who have already joined the website.

## 5. By-laws and Membership – Josie Boyle

a. Listening session recap - attendance was very low, but those that were present were supportive of the by-laws changes. No pushback, but some input. One suggestion was to add membership categories as part of the by-laws; the executive committee decided to talk about that at the next annual meeting vs worrying about it now - these should be defined better before considering adding to the by-laws. No changes from what we have written so far.

b. Non-profit attorney to review final by-laws restatement - to be taken care of in the next month before we vote on it. Luke to reach out to Legal for Good for more information.

c. Drew began a discussion about how to get more members involved and participating in meetings with MGGA (in regards to the low attendance for the by-laws input meetings). An individual, direct approach was suggested to let everyone know that we are making changes - by-laws, name-change/incorporation. Moving forward, let's show our members that we have something to offer - to help them, in order to get more participation. It was suggested that the Executive Board take this on as an action item - create a plan to communicate with members - ask members what can we do, what do you need? Show members that we are here for them. Drew, Randy and Jameison offered to help make calls or whatever is needed.

## 6. Cold Climate Conference – Josie Boyle

a. Update - website is up, another reminder email every week for the next four weeks to be sent out (Josie), 7 tickets sold so far. Still finalizing the agenda - Josie gave a recap of what the schedule looks like so far - looking for things you can't get from a webinar - wine tastings, panel discussions, etc. maybe have a board member as a presenter. Still looking for a keynote speaker. Hoping to finalize the schedule this week.

b. Annual Meeting Agenda - committee report and financial statements from last year. Committee chairs to give updates on what they worked on in the last year. Reelection for board members up for reelection and nominations for new board members. Voting on by-laws.

c. Board Member coupon code: Board members who would like to attend can use a coupon code for 50% off ticket price.

#### 7. Nominating Committee – Josie Boyle

a. Formation and member suggestions - Josie has a few people she intends to approach. Drew and Jameison to be on the committee. Luke offered to reach out to those who are interested to make a paragraph bio about them.

#### 8. Executive Director –

a. Extending Luke's contract - only thing to change from the previous contract are the dates of the contract. Under hours in the fall, but 10 hours/week is still thought to be reasonable. The proposal is to be voted on at the next meeting.

#### 9. Legislative Committee – Jenny Ellenbecker

a. Update - neither Jenny nor John were present. Add state grape discussion to the annual meeting agenda.

#### 10. ICCWC – Ben Banks

- a. All expenses were taken care of back in November. Last thing to do is share revenue with UMN. Ben to work with finance committee to do this some time next week. Intends to use put a report together to advertise to get more people involved in the competition.

#### 11. New Business

- a. Josie's goal for board members who are not currently involved in a committee is to see what their interests are and get them involved.

12. Adjourn at 9:54am - motion by Bryan, seconded by Krista.