



Musing the Minutes

By Rick Traver, CGCS
Monticello Country Club

I must tell you all I am in a state of euphoria today. We received a little over an inch of rain last night and while it may only be a temporary relief from dragging hoses and moving quick couplers, it is quite the relief. Especially since my club championship is this coming weekend. We do have an automated system but it is single row and we have seen no rain to speak of in seven weeks, which has left me with some serious dry spots. Might be a good time to push for an irrigation upgrade, eh! I understand some of you are having a worse time, and my prayers are with you.

To the business at hand, your Board of Directors met on August 1 at Brackett's Crossing Country Club. I would like to personally thank Tom Proshek for the accommodations. That has to be one of the nicest board rooms we have had the privilege of using.

Scott Turtinen reported from the business office that the Turf Tourney generated \$15,720 for research. The Scholarship

scramble generated \$3,250 from its golf event. Scott also reported that Kevin Clunis, who has generously donated his time, is registered as our delegate with the GCSAA.

Jack MacKenzie, CGCS, editor of *Hole Notes*, requested that we explore the idea of publishing bi-monthly. His logic stems from the time and energy it takes to put each issue together, as well as obtaining member-generated articles. Speaking as a former editor, Jack has done an excellent job of elevating the quality of content in our publication and takes pride in maintaining a quality publication. As a Board we discussed this issue and asked Turtinen and MacKenzie to look at how this would affect the bottom line. *Hole Notes* is not a huge revenue source for the MGCSA, however, it does generate income.

Paul Eckholm, CGCS reporting on the state legislature and the DNR's new usage tax/fee on irrigation, was something that slipped through committee during the state legislative special session. Paul stat-

ed that many things were slipped in during the special session, many to generate revenue, but many to spend more of our tax dollars as well. He had a copy of the bill with him and it was quite large. It appeared to me from the expressions on Mr. Eckholm's face as well as the things he said that his faith in our state legislature has waned a bit over the last couple of years.

James Bade reported on the EXPO and stated all speakers are lined up for January. He also informed us that the March-Mini would be at the Town & Country Club, Host Superintendent, Bill Larson, CGCS.

Dr. Eric Watkins, reporting on the University of Minnesota, thanked everyone for the participation at Field Days on July 28. Hearing from people who attended it sounded like an excellent event.

Dr. Brian Horgan reported on his trip to the United Kingdom with his students. That sounded like a great learning experience for them all. We all volunteered for the next trip, but I don't think he had a whole lot of faith in any of us as chaperones. Must have thought we would all be out golfing or something.

As you all go into the fall, I hope your aerations go well and that your play is plentiful and profitable.

Take care and have a great month!

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