



## Musing the Minutes

By MATT MCKINNON  
MGCSA Secretary

The MGCSA Board of Directors met October 9 at Oakdale Golf Club.

**Paul Eckholm, CGCS,** brought up the discussion of raising the dues \$5.00 for 2007 and the need to have small annual increases. Eckholm made a motion to increase dues by \$5 for all members for 2007 - motion passed.

**President James Bade** reported that Dr. Donald White was inducted into the Minnesota Section of the PGA of America's Hall of Fame in honor of a lifetime dedication to the turf industry. James said there was a great attendance from Superintendents.

**Kevin Clunis, CGCS,** will attend and report on the

GCSAA Chapter Delegates Meeting in Lawrence, Kans.

**Dr. Brian Horgan** reported that interviews for the Dean's position have finished. There are three candidates for the position. Two are from out state and one internal. Also the department will be going through a review from the Federal government in December.

**The biggest topic of the meeting was Castlewood Golf Course** in Forest Lake. This could possibly become a research center for the MGCSA. Bade mentioned we need to gauge interest to move on and pursue this possibility. This opportunity could turn out to be great for the MGCSA.

## Nematodes-

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**8. Plant nematode populations develop slowly** since an average female nematode will lay only 30 to perhaps 500 eggs in her lifetime. And if that average plant nematode needs about 30 days (more in a cool summer, less in a hot one) to develop from an egg to an egg-laying adult, then there will probably be no more than four or five generations/year in a Minnesota golf green.

**9. We will be surprised if Global Warming** does not have the potential for increasing the pathological significance of plant nematodes in Minnesota. The activity levels of those organisms will increase and the length of their life cycles will decrease as golf green soils become warmer than they were just six or 10 years ago. Even though it is unlikely that some of the more "infamous" nematodes that inhabit Florida's greens will ever find their way up here, maybe some of our more pathogenic indigenous nematodes like the lance, lesion and root-knot, *Hoplolaimus*, *Pratylenchus*, and *Meloidogyne* spp. respectively, will become more significant and prevalent than they are now.

**10. And now, in 2006, what might be happening nematologically in greens** that don't have any problems caused by or attributable to the activities of plant nematodes? As superintendents are learning more about plant nematodes in their own golf courses, we think that we are hearing those superintendents at least wondering out loud about plant growth problems that for so long having been caused by other things and asking "Maybe its nematodes?"

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