Musing the Minutes: January 19, 2012
By Brian Brown, Secretary MGCSA

The MGCSA Board of Directors met on February 16, 2012 at Prestwick Golf Club.

President Scottie Hines, CGCS called the meeting to order. Treasurer Paul Eckholm, CGCS reported that revenues are down quite a bit. Many vendors have held off sponsoring the association during the time of management transition and change of Hole Notes to the digital version. Some of the bundle packages have reduced the total revenue that the association might get from a vendor. Revenues will be looked at closely this year through the committee. Mackenzie will pursue vendors for advertising.

Business Office: Jack Mackenzie, CGCS is enjoying the position. Vendor sponsorship for the GIS Hospitality night is $7,000 to this point. Member preregistration has brought in $1,000. Mackenzie has had discussion with the Green Expo about a local hospitality night. This could possibly be held at the Convention Center Rotunda. Kevin Clunis, CGCS has been spending many hours on the BMP water guidelines.

Arrangements/awards: Bill Gullicks reported that Minnesota Valley Country Club is willing to host the 2013 Mega Seminar if schedules allow. Next year GIS is early February and the Mega will be planned for late February or early March. Gullicks is talking with Dr. Horgan about combining the Field Day with the Scholarship Scramble.

Bylaws/Historical: Eckholm is pouring over prior decisions in old minutes. The minutes are being scanned for Historical purposes. Eckholm is looking at a number of wording by-law changes.

Communications: Dave Kazmierczak, CGCS and Bob Porter reported that the Hole Notes publication with templates is progressing. John Meyer will be writing Personal Profiles. Technicians have an association and we would like to get articles from them. Board member participation with short answers to topics will be placed in Hole Notes. Porter researched data management and website services. This was difficult because each vendor offers much different services. Porter recommended the contract with LCMB and the board made a motion to accept the contract.

Conference/Education: Eric Counselman and Jake Schmitz reported that the speakers for the 2013 Northern Green Expo are all approved and only the schedule of when they speak need to be finalized.

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The Mega Seminar went well. The 2nd day afternoon attendance dropped off significantly. The consolidated lodging got dropped with the management transition. Happy hour was a great idea and will be placed on the agenda. Discussion was given about a possible Association Hospitality event after the Wednesday session.

Fund raising/Industry Relations: Joe Churchill and Kerry Glader reported that he will be sending a letter or survey to vendors about their preferences about the GIS and possible local Hospitality Night.

MN Government Affairs: Eckholm reported that there has developed an authority conflict between the Department of Agriculture and Minnesota Pollution Control. There is a bill that was introduced to put all Pesticide use under the authority of the Department of Agriculture. Work with the NPDES permit was beneficial in that the permit uses current regulations and does not change most golf course aquatic permit requirements.

MTGF: Jeff Ische reported that the Green Expo attendance was flat with 6062. Roughly half of the attendance was either Vendor or Trade-show only. Super Tuesday attendance was 98 with $1,400 in profits. Pesticide Recertification brought in $4,600 with MTGF getting $1,400. Total booth sales were up 35 to 833. Total companies represented were flat at 325.

New Business: 1. A motion was made to nominate Jerry Murphy for the MGA Hall of Fame. 2. Superintendent Posting. There is a mixed history about job posting requirements and the qualifications of candidates that were hired. A motion was made to change the hiring posting policy so that superintendent positions will be posted with a disclaimer that the MGCSA holds no responsibility of whom the Clubs hire. Mackenzie will create posting templates and work with courses on their postings.