

Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc.  
Annual Meeting Agenda  
February 26, 2021 @ 4:30 pm  
Via Zoom

**Call to order**

**Introduction of Board**

**Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes**

**Approval of the audited FY 2019-20 Financial Statements**

**Establish Dues on 2020 Crop**

**Election of Board Members**

**President's Report**

- **Membership**
- **2021 Priorities**
- **"Peeler In Our Community" Legislative Award- Representative Julie Alexander**
- **Other Legislation**
- **Legislative Events**

**Other Discussion**

**Adjourn**

Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc.  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
February 14, 2020  
Soaring Eagle Casino, Mt. Pleasant

**The meeting was called to order by President** Dennis Iott at 9:09 am followed by an introduction of board members.

Rodney Kreuger **moved to approve 2019 annual meeting minutes which are included in the Conference Program** on page 36, seconded by Bruce Cotton. *Motion carried.*

Kevin Storm **moved to approve a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes to Net Assets – Cash Basis is included in the conference program** on page 38, seconded by Rodney Kreuger. This is from a review of the financial statements that was conducted by Condon, Hecht, Bisher, Wade & Co. A full copy of the review is available upon request from the office. *Motion carried.*

Bruce Cotton **moved to maintain dues at \$1.50 per acre of potatoes grown in 2019 for the 2020 membership year for Sustaining Members, \$200 for Associate Members and \$500 for Industry Sustaining Members** as recommended by the Board of Directors, supported by Kevin Storm. **Motion carried.**

President Iott highlighted some of the 2019 accomplishments of PGMI and discussed the 2020 priorities and upcoming events.

Seeing no other discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Turner

Manager

**Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc.**

**Financial Statements**

**June 30, 2020**

FINAL DRAFT



**YEO & YEO**  
CPAs & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

**Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc.**  
**Statement of Assets and Net Assets - Cash Basis**  
**June 30, 2020**

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**Assets**

Cash	\$ 35,496
Cash - PGMI PAC	<u>5,821</u>

**Total assets**

\$ 41,317

**Net Assets**

Without donor restrictions - undesignated	35,496
With donor restrictions	<u>5,821</u>

**Total net assets**

\$ 41,317

FINAL DRAFT

**Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc.**  
**Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets - Cash Basis**  
**Year Ended June 30, 2020**

	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Wth Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Membership dues	\$ 34,722	\$ -	\$ 34,722
Donations to PGMI-PAC	-	2,824	2,824
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>1,750</u>	<u>(1,750)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>36,472</u>	<u>1,074</u>	<u>37,546</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Lobbying and legislative	28,881	-	28,881
Administration	4,000	-	4,000
Membership dues	3,500	-	3,500
Insurance	814	-	814
Business and professional fees	2,370	-	2,370
Marketing and promotion	2,140	-	2,140
Miscellaneous	641	-	641
State campaign contributions	<u>1,750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,750</u>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<u>44,096</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,096</u>
<b>Change in net assets</b>	<u>(7,624)</u>	<u>1,074</u>	<u>(6,550)</u>
<b>Net assets - beginning of year</b>	<u>43,120</u>	<u>4,747</u>	<u>47,867</u>
<b>Net assets - end of year</b>	<u>\$ 35,496</u>	<u>\$ 5,821</u>	<u>\$ 41,317</u>



## ***Potato Growers of Michigan 2020-2021 Priorities***

Potato Growers of Michigan works to maintain and grow an economically viable potato industry in Michigan. Our efforts focus on providing accurate and timely information to elected officials as they work to enhance the lives of Michigan residents.

### ***By The Numbers***

- Michigan is the 8th largest potato producing state in the U.S.
- Michigan's potato industry contributes nearly \$1.25 billion annually to the state's economy
- Over 3,000 Michigan jobs are tied to potato production and processing
- More than 48,000 acres in over 40 Michigan counties are dedicated to growing potatoes
- Michigan's annual potato harvest totals approximately 1.7 billion pounds
- One out of every four bags of potato chips sold in the United States is filled with Michigan potatoes

# **Potato Growers of Michigan (PGMI): 2020-2021 Top Priorities**

## **Water & PFAS**

Water quality and availability are essential to potato production and nearly all Michigan growers depend on irrigation for the success of their crops. Michigan has sufficient water for potato growers to be successful while still leaving safe and abundant water in the state's ecosystem.

- ***Ensure water related policies don't have a negative consequence on agricultural irrigation.***
- ***Ensure that water not become a commodity and remain free of taxes or fees.***
- ***Continue investing in Michigan's science-based water withdrawal assessment tool to improve its accuracy and encourage regional models, while ensuring riparian rights remain intact.***

## **Labor Costs**

Labor costs account for 35% of variable costs for fresh vegetables like potatoes. Lack of a skilled, affordable, work force will make it difficult for some farms to continue operating, coming after a year of natural disasters, trade disruptions, low commodity prices and declining farm income.

- ***Michigan potato growers must have access to skilled employees through a fair and easily navigable guest worker program to augment domestic worker levels.***

## **Public Perception**

Less than 2 percent of the U.S. population is directly involved in farming, resulting in a population with little idea of how their food is produced. It is imperative that opportunities are created for people to have access to education about modern agriculture.

- ***Placing resources in key areas such as school education, educator, retailer, and consumer education sectors are critical to fulfill the continuing need to provide resources to help educate about modern agricultural practices.***

## **Safeguarding**

Essential to safeguarding marketable Michigan potato crops and the delivery of high-quality potatoes to consumers and processors, growers must have access to all legal tools to control a host of pests that can destroy a crop. These tools range from tillage practices to EPA registered chemicals and biological controls to naturally keep pests away.

- ***Michigan potato growers must have access to key natural resources, nutrients for plant growth, and plant protectants (chemical and biological) to safeguard crops from devastating insect, bacterial and viral pests.***