

**Minutes**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association, Inc.**  
*Old Mill Restaurant, Westminster, Massachusetts*  
*February 20, 2009*

The meeting was called to order by President Tougas at 1:10 PM. Individuals present were Wes Autio, Bill Broderick, Frank Carlson, Jon Clements, Joanne Dinardo, Kip Graham, Ken Nicewicz, Jamie O'Brien, Mark Parlee, Tim Smith, Andre Tougas, and Mo Tougas. Tougas gave words of welcome.

***Secretary's Report***

Minutes of the November 5, 2008 directors' meeting were presented, moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

***Treasurer's Report***

The General Fund began the year with a balance of \$53,174.22. Receipts to date totaled \$29,124.70, and disbursements totaled \$13,373.80. The balance on February 20, 2009 was \$68,925.12. The Horticultural Research Fund began the year with a balance of \$286,774.17. A total of \$1.06 in receipts and \$4,400.00 in disbursements have occurred to date. The balance in the Horticultural Research Fund on February 19, 2009 was \$260,003.35. So far in 2009, the Horticultural Research Fund has lost 9.3% in value (including income and expenses). The overall investment loss was 7.8%. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

***Committee Reports***

UMass Fruit Advisory, Harvest Labor, and Marketing Committees and the Trustees of the Horticultural Research Fund gave brief reports. Kip Graham gave a brief update from USDA FSA.

***Old Business***

Autio presented a list of courtesy members for review. It included W. Autio, J. Clements, K. Carroll, W. Coli, D. Cooley, N. Garrabrants, S. Goodwin, K. Graham, D. Greene, J. Krupa, D. Peterson, S. Schloemann, J. Sincuk, S. Weis, and C. Willis. The list was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

***New Business***

Strategic planning efforts were discussed. A list prepared by Mary Greendale of potential grants was distributed. The next steps regarding these grants were discussed and the following motion was offered.

Motion: *The president shall appoint a research committee to discuss grant possibilities and assist Mary Greendale with the grant process. An initial allocation of up to \$2,000 will be provided to Mary Greendale. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.*

President Tougas appointed a committee including André Tougas, Mo Tougas, Ken Nicewicz, Jon Clements, and Wes Autio.

**2009 Budget**

Autio presented a budget for 2009 (see below). It was moved, seconded, and passed without change.

	Budget 2008	Actual 2008	Budget 2009
<b>Beginning balance</b>	\$20,478.12	\$20,478.12	\$18,067.86
<b>Receipts</b>			
Interest	\$450.00	\$322.31	\$300.00
Membership	\$4,000.00	\$3,443.24	\$12,000.00
Winter meetings	\$8,000.00	\$8,367.29	\$3,000.00
Summer Meeting	\$1,500.00	\$2,111.35	\$4,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$200.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Total	\$14,150.00	\$14,744.19	\$19,800.00
<b>Disbursements</b>			
Administration	\$2,700.00	\$3,632.96	\$3,600.00
Secretary/Treasurer salary	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
Winter meetings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Affiliation	\$500.00	\$1,460.00	\$500.00
U.S. Apple Association	\$5,935.00	\$5,935.00	\$6,118.00
Summer Meeting	\$1,500.00	\$1,823.60	\$2,500.00
Ag Day at the Statehouse	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Web page	\$350.00	\$425.00	\$450.00
Miscellaneous	\$500.00	\$928.49	\$500.00
Total	-\$14,435.00	-\$17,155.05	-\$18,618.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	\$20,193.12	\$18,067.26	\$19,249.86

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted by  
Wesley R. Autio, *Secretary*