



**Minutes of the
12th General Meeting
of the**

**European Industrial Hemp Association e.V. (EIHA)
Hürth / Germany**

on 5 December 2012, 3 pm to 6 pm
AVK, Am Hauptbahnhof 10, 60329 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Managing director of EIHA Michael Carus (hereinafter “Chairman of the Meeting”) took over the chairing of the meeting and opened it by 3 pm. He welcomed the participants and noted that the General Meeting convened and a quorum is statutory.

Then, the Chairman announced the meeting the following agenda:

- Top 1: Basic facts on EIHA & the European Hemp Industry**
- Top 2: Looking back on activities in 2012**
- Top 3: Financial report of the EIHA & exclusion of non paying members**
- Top 4: Enlargement of the board of the EIHA**
- Top 5: Outlook, guidelines and focus of EIHA activities in 2013**

Opposition to this agenda was not raised.

Then, the following agenda items were completed:

Top 1: Basic facts on EIHA & the European Hemp Industry
John Hobson (Hemp Technology) opened the meeting by thanking the french participants and elaborates on the work done by Olivier Joreau (CAVAC) and Sylvestre Bertucelli (InterChanvre) by their efforts of connecting the France Hemp Industry in the EIHA. InterChanvre is now regular member from January 2013 onwards. EIHA also welcomed very much the new regular member from Italy: Assocanapa srl.

The Chairman presented an overview of EIHA and the European map of hemp production. In 2012, EIHA includes 9 regular members and 72 associate members from 29 countries (2012). 63 members are coming from 22 European countries, 18 members are coming from other countries.

Furthermore, the Chairman highlighted the cooperation with InterChanvre (France), Hemp Industries Association (USA), Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance (Canada), International Hemp Building Association (Ireland).

The Chairman presented some additional information about members and the development of the number of members. The number of members of EIHA has decreased from 82 in 2011 to 81 in December 2012.

Total hemp cultivation area in the EU approximately reached 8,000 ha in 2011, 10,000 ha in 2010 and 15,000 ha in 2009.

The Chairman made some explanations about the trends of hemp and flax cultivation and price development. There is a trend to switch from flax to hemp in the European automotive industry.

Top 2: Looking back on activities in 2012

The chairman presented the status report on hemp and other natural fibres, as well as the studies, the new Int. Business Directory for Innovative Bio-Based Plastics and Composites (iBIB2012/13), position paper and reports as well as price index for technical hemp and flax fibre. The Chairman presented the outcomes of the big Hemp survey.

Mister Laizans asked for a figure without the pulp part. Francois Desanlis asked for a comparison with the North America hemp seeds production and use.

The most important activity was the lobbying in Brussels for keeping the processing aid or finding other support options. The Chairman and John Hobson reported on strategies and meetings in Brussels with different DGs.

John Hobson thanked the Chairman for the work for EIHA he has done over the past years.

Sylvestre Bertucelli gave a presentation on the situation around the CAP after 2013 and the lobbying activities conducted by InterChanvre. The Chairman suggest to integrate the strategy on “Zero Chemical Argument” on CAP>2013 in the proposition paper.

The OEM meeting – which was scheduled for December 5th 2012 has been cancelled due to a limited amount of participants. Exact reasons for this are not known, OEM are claiming that this is an issue for the First Tier supplier.

Top 3: Financial report of the EIHA & exclusion of non paying members

The Chairman made an overview of the financial situation. The total expected budget increased a bit because the association increased the fees and due to new regular members (see financial report and presentation).

Exclusion of non-paying members: The Chairman communicated the problem to receive the payment of the membership fees in time. He shared the names of the persons/companies who did not pay the EIHA membership fees for two years. The following members should be expelled from the association, according to unanimous decision: Patrick Vielle, J. Pfeiffer, Drew Gourdie, Chidi Chidi Umeh.

The following non paying members will be contacted:

- Andre Noel: Sylvestre Bertucelli will contact him
- Yunnan Industrial Hemp Inc: Michael Carus will contact them
- Jürgen Quandt: Michael Carus will contact him
- Kavanagh; John: Michael Carus will contact him

Top 4: Enlargement of the board of the EIHA

First of all the identification of the voting rights of the participants is done:

Regular members concern crops until 800 ha. The fee is 1,500 € and allows 10 votes.

From 800 – 1,600 ha, the fee is 1,650 € and allows 11 votes. Associate members have 1 vote each.

2 members have 11 votes:

- John Hobson – Hemp Technology ltd, UK
- Helene Primout – Agrofibre, France

4 members have 10 votes:

- Margherita Baravalle & Felice Giraudo – Assocanapa, Italy
- Mark Reinders – Hempflax, The Netherlands
- Bernd Frank – Planete Chanvre, France
- Olivier Joreau – Cavac, France

4 members have 1 vote:

- François Desanlis – CDE, France
- Talis Laizans – Latvian Industrial Hemp Association, Latvia
- Michael Carus – nova-Institut GmbH, Germany
- Sylvestre Bertucelli - InterChanvre, France

It is proposed to extend the board of directors with Mark Reinders from HempFlax and Sylvestre Bertucelli from InterChanvre. It is important that by the person of Sylvestre Bertucelli and Olivier Joreau the France hemp industry is well represented in the board of directors.

Total number of votes: 66

The Chairman asked whether the Board of Directors should be enlarged. There were 56 votes for an enlargement of the Board of Directors – and 11 abstentions. The current Board of Directors consists of three members - the president John Hobson, 1st deputy Bernd Frank and 2nd deputy Olivier Joreau and new members of the the Board of Directors are Mark Reinders (Hempflax, The Netherlands) and Sylvestre Bertucelli (InterChanvre, France).

Both - Mark Reinders (Hempflax, The Netherlands) and Sylvestre Bertucelli (InterChanvre, France) - have confirmed their election.

Top 5: Outlook, guidelines and focus of EIHA activities in 2013

- Update of the leaflet of EIHA is necessary now due to new members are participating.
- Talis Laizans will investigate the possibility of printing business cards for the board of director on hemp paper.

- Talis Laizans suggested to contact the Latvian Dakar race car manufacturer to use hemp fiber for his electro energy powered Dakar racing car.
- The participants of the meeting agreed on participating in the new IBIB with an advertisement.
- Olivier Joreau (CAVAC) suggested to participate in more conferences like JEC conferences. Discussed is that a few key conferences/exhibitions should be attended. The board members will look for opportunities and important events to attend or be invited as a speaker/presenter.
- The Chairman is trying to get financing out of the budget of Multihemp project. The Chairman and John Hobson will write a letter and contact Dr. Stefano Amaducci (Project leader of the EU FP7 project Multihemp) about this.
- The Chairman will make a quotation for an updated list of key persons in the OEM and First Tier business which are using/may use natural fibers.
- The Chairman presented the proposal for an update of the EIHA website to the WordPress system. The meeting agreed on taking this proposal in the activity list.
- Francois Desanlis suggested a conference with presentations and speed dating afterwards.
- Francois Desanlis proposes to have the EIHA conference in 2014 in Metz in France. This place is relatively central in the growing region of Hemp and good accessible for all partners. The participants of meeting are concerned about changing the venue of the established conference in Wesseling; the experience of nova is that changing the venue gives a loss of participants. Mark Reinders suggested to Francois Desanlis to have a field day in France in the fields where different harvesting technologies may be demonstrated. Both proposals will be developed and be voted on in the next General Meeting in May 2013.