

**Nebraska Wheat Board February Meeting
UNL-West Central Research & Extension Center, North Platte, NE
Tuesday, February 20, 2024
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM**

Board Members Present

Kent Lorens; Chairman; District 4

Tyson Narjes – Vice Chair; District 2

Bob Delsing – District 1

Mary Eisenzimmer – District 3

Jared Sayer – District 5

Mark Knobel – District 6

Mark Spurgin – At Large

Staff Present

Royce Schaneman; Executive Director

Jadyn Heckenlively; Marketing Specialist

Others Present

Sherry Vinton; NDA

Hector Santiago; UNL

Jerry Radke; NWGA

Jeff Noel; NU Horizon

Marsha Boswell; Kansas Wheat

Brenda Aufdenkamp; UNL

Proceedings

Chairman Kent Lorens called the meeting to order at 8:43 AM CST.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken, crop reports were given, and guests were introduced and welcomed.

Review of Agenda

Knobel moved to approve the agenda as presented, Delsing seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Narjes moved to approve the minutes as presented, Sayer seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.

Financial Reports

Expenditure dates showed wrong dates.

Delsing moved to move \$400 from unobligated to Department of Ag, Eisenzimmer seconded. Roll call vote:

Narjes – yes, Lorens – yes, Delsing – yes, Sayer – yes, Eisenzimmer – yes, Spurgin – yes, Knobel – yes.

Motion carried.

Delsing moved to accept the financial reports as amended, Knobel seconded.

Delsing – yes, Sayer – no, Eisenzimmer – yes, Spurgin – no, Knobel – yes, Narjes – yes, Lorens – yes.

Delsing withdrew his motion.

Delsing moved to accept the financial report as amended both the expenditure dates and moving of funds from unobligated to Department of Ag. Knobel seconded.

Delsing – yes, Sayer – yes, Eisenzimmer – yes, Spurgin – yes, Knobel – yes, Narjes – yes, Lorens – yes.

Motion carried.

Excise Tax Compliance Reports

There were no reports to be presented to the board.

Domestic & International Marketing

- US Wheat Associates – Board members and staff recently attended the USW winter meeting held in Washington, D.C. Bob Delsing reported on Long Range Planning Committee discussion at the winter meeting. Mark Knobel reported on topics discussed during hill visits and the valuable discussions that were had with congressional delegation. Mark Spurgin attended the board orientation and noted it was a very informative session to attend.
- Food Aid – Kent Lorens reported that the Food Aid committee did not have a meeting at the winter meeting. He updated the board on recent discussion in previous meetings.
- Wheat Marketing Center – Mary Eisenzimmer reported to the board on recent communication with WMC and upcoming meetings. The yearly workshop held at WMC had some participants drop out last minute, however, individuals who attended appreciated the trip it was successful.
- Wheat Foods Council – Kent Lorens reported that he recently attended the WFC annual meeting held in San Antonio, TX.
- Plains Grains, Inc. – Royce Schaneman reported that PGI recently held an in person meeting in Denver, CO. They voted on the executive board and discussed recent business. They are working to improve computer programs to make calculations and results the most efficient and accurate as possible.

Narjes moved to accept Larry Flohr as our representative for PGI and cover any related expenses for FY 24-25 Spurgin seconded.

Delsing – yes, Sayer – yes, Eisenzimmer – yes, Spurgin – yes, Knobel – yes, Narjes – yes, Lorens – yes. **Motion carried.**

- Wheat Quality Council – Royce Schaneman reported he is planning to attend the WQC annual meeting later this week in Olathe, KS.
- Home Baking Association – Kent Lorens reported that HBA has a new executive director, and she is doing well so far.

- Coalition for Grain Fiber – Tyson Narjes reported that there are not many new items but will have an upcoming quarterly meeting in mid-March.
- USW UES Meeting – Royce Schaneman reported to the board on his trips to South America & Latin America regions.

NDA

Director Sherry Vinton reported to the board recent events happening within the Department of Agriculture. She reported that there is an upcoming bill to rid of some Nebraska boards and commissions that are not meeting regularly enough.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Hector Santiago reported to the board recent events happening with UNL. He reported they are having some budget issues that had been neglected. He reported that there is an effort for UNL to become involved again in the AAU to continue to recruit high quality students and faculty. Week of June 9th – 13th tentative wheat tour dates. He discussed the decline of certified seed being produced over the past several years. There are efforts to increase that percentage. He is currently understaffed and told the board if they have any recommendations to fill vacant positions to send them his way.

Nebraska Extension

Brenda Aufdenkamp presented to the board on her work within food, nutrition, and health extension outreach. She is based out of North Platte, NE and covers the counties of Lincoln, Keith, and McPherson. She works within youth programs including schools and 4H and adult programs focusing on food preservation, and food safety. For additional information on their work, food preparation, recipes, etc., she recommends visiting food.unl.edu.

Kansas Wheat

Marsha Boswell from Kansas Wheat attended the meeting to add additional information to the Eat Wheat proposal.

Nebraska Wheat Growers Association

NWGA President, Jerry Radke updated the board on their thoughts of the possible board restructure and having NWB representatives on the board. Schaneman informed the board that NAWG made a resolution that they will no longer have business meetings held at Commodity Classic. Jadyen Heckenlively informed the board that there is progress on the magazine and will begin selling ads once a cost breakdown for the magazine is finalized.

NWB Office Report

Royce Schaneman updated the board that a new staff person was hired, Samantha Oborny. She will start shortly after graduation in May. Schaneman also reminded the board that Accountability & Disclosure C-1 forms will be due soon. Schaneman offered the option of providing a travel agent for board members to utilize if desired to handle expenses more efficient and travel scheduling.

First Reading Funding Proposals

Knobel moved to advance all to next reading except the 10/11 Television proposal, Narjes second. Voice vote, motion carried.

NU Horizon Genetics

Executive Director of NHG, Jeff Noel, gave an update to the board. Noel informed them of a recent mailing to certified seed producers to gain memberships to NHG. He informed them of license agreements in progress relating to wheat, triticale, barley and potentially oats.

Calendar & Travel Approval

Tentative next meeting date: June 4th in Fairbury, NE

Delsing moved to approve the calendar, Sayer seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.

Adjournment

Sayer moved to adjourn at 4:39 PM CST, Delsing seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.