

Nebraska Wheat Board Meeting
West Central Research Center – North Platte, NE
Tuesday, November 19, 2024
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Board Members Present

Kent Lorens; Chairman; District 4
Tyson Narjes; Vice Chairman; District 2
Doug Hashman; District 1
Mary Eisenzimmer; District 3
Jared Sayer; District 5
Monte Murkle; District 6
Mark Spurgin; At-Large

Staff Present

Royce Schaneman; Executive Director
Jadyn Heckenlively; Marketing Specialist
Samantha Oborny; Ag Promotions Coordinator

Others Present

Hector Santiago – UNL
Cody Creech – UNL

Proceedings

Chairman Kent Lorens called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM CST.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken and crop reports were given. Board members reported variable conditions with the wheat crop so far. The wheat is looking the best it has been in recent years so far in the southeastern region. The south-central region received timely rains which has allow the crop to bounce back and is reported to look good so far. Further west, the wheat is variable due to dry conditions which is inhibiting the wheat to establish.

Oath of Office

Monte Murkle recited the Oath of Office to be appointed as the District 6 Nebraska Wheat Board representative.

Review and Adoption of Agenda

Add a report from the Wheat Foods Council if representative joins on Zoom.

Spurgin moved to approve the agenda as amended, Narjes seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

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

Approval of Financial Reports

Spurgin moved to approve the financial reports as presented. Roll call vote:

Narjes – yes, Murkle – yes, Hashman – yes, Sayer – yes, Eisenzimmer – yes, Spurgin – yes, Lorens – yes. **Motion carried.**

Domestic & International Marketing

US Wheat Associates Fall Meeting

Kent Lorens reported talking points from the USW Fall Meeting held in Phoenix, AZ in mid-November. This included reports from committees such as Long-Range Planning, Budget, Breeding & Innovation, Joint Trade, and other issues. Mark Spurgin reported on other talking points and discussions at the meeting from committees and speakers.

Food Aid

Kent Lorens reported that there has not been much recent activity with the group. They are focusing on ensuring the American Farmers Feed the World Act will be included in the Farm Bill. They haven't had a meeting as they are having a fly-in in mid-December.

Wheat Marketing Center

Mary Eisenzimmer reported that they recently had their fall meeting which she was unable to attend. However, they have set tentative dates for their spring meeting in late March to early April. Board members are also actively recruiting for participants to attend the annual wheat export and marketing tour with WMC in Portland, OR in mid-January.

Wheat Foods Council

Kent Lorens reported recent activities Wheat Foods Council has been doing. Right now, the WFC is focusing on “myth busting” campaigns to debunk common rumors surrounding wheat and nutrition.

Plains Grains Inc.

Royce Schaneman reported that the PGI annual meeting will be in early December located in Denver, CO. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the sample collections from this year and the results from testing. Schaneman also reported that there is a new dashboard that has been launched to present test data from all classes of wheat as well as shuttle loading facilities and additional export resources. The board had the opportunity to voice interest in sitting on the PGI board of directors to replace Larry Flohr.

Narjes moved to retain Larry Flohr as the representative for one year and to cover all of Flohr's expenses for PGI business, Sayer seconded. Roll call vote:

Hashman – yes, Sayer – yes, Eisenzimmer – yes, Spurgin – yes, Murkle – yes, Narjes – yes, Lorens – yes. **Motion carried.**

Wheat Quality Council

Royce Schaneman reported that the WQC is working on setting their annual meeting date for mid-February.

Home Baking Association

Kent Lorens reported on recent workshops and events HBA has hosted recently. Lorens also mentioned in March, HBA will host a multiple-day tour for all FCS teachers.

Coalition for Grain Fiber

Tyson Narjes reported to the board a recap of the Coalition for Grain Fiber meeting held in Lincoln, NE in early November. There was discussion on the direction of the group and how it can be beneficial to the NWB while keeping caution in mind and evaluate progress of the group.

USW CQ Seminar Africa

Royce Schaneman updated the board on the crop quality seminar in Sub-Saharan Africa. He described each location of the seminar and the people they met with, along with topics discussed. Schaneman also displayed to the board the presentations he gave promoting Hard Red Winter wheat.

Ex-officio Reports

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Hector Santiago reported to the board on recent events within IANR and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He also updated the board on events relating to the NWB and research progress. Cody Creech provided a presentation to the board on a breeding program update as well as an update on research project funded by NWB.

Nebraska Department of Agriculture

No reports were given.

Nebraska Wheat Growers Association Report

Jadyn Heckenlively reported that the NWGA will be hosting their annual meeting Tuesday, December 10 in North Platte.

Nebraska Wheat Board Administrative/Office Report

Portland Export Seminar Recruitment

Schaneman updated the board on open spots for the seminar. He encouraged the board to recruit for the last few open spots to fill the tour.

NAWG Raffle Ticket/Supplemental Funding Request

Schaneman updated the board on the NAWG raffle and how many tickets have been sold in Nebraska as well as other states.

The board was presented with a supplemental funding request from NAWG. Discussion took place with further review of the funding request

Hashman moved to not fund any of the NAWG Supplemental Funding Requests, Narjes seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.

USW/NAWG Winter Meeting

Schaneman informed the board on the tentative schedule for the USW/NAWG Winter Meeting. It was announced that USW changed the agenda for the meeting schedule resulting in the Hill Visit day taking place Wednesday rather than Tuesday. The board had discussion about the Nebraska reception and if it is worth the expense and if they should continue the reception.

Hashman moved to move forward with the reception for the 2024 USW/NAWG Winter Meeting, Eisenzimmer seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.

Calendar & Travel Approval

Add:

January 1 New Years Day holiday, WMC Spring Meeting March 31 – April 1, Tentative next meeting: Tuesday, February 25th in Ogallala

Eisenzimmer moved to accept the Calendar & Travel Approval with additions, Spurgin seconded. Roll call vote: Sayer – yes, Eisenzimmer – yes, Spurgin – yes, Murkle – yes, Narjes – yes, Hashman – yes **Motion carried.**

Adjournment

Hashman moved to adjourn at 4:10 PM CST Spurgin seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.