

**NWB Board Meeting
Hampton Inn, Grand Island NE
August 22, 2013**

Board Members Present

Chris Cullan, Hemingford
Rick Larson, Potter
Larry Flohr, Chappell
Dan Hughes, Venango
Von Johnson, Cambridge
Delferd Schlake, Blue Springs
Brent Robertson, Elsie

Guests

Dayton Christensen, NWGA

Staff

Royce Schaneman
Caroline Brauer

Ex-Officio

Bobbie Kriz-Wickham, NDA

Meeting called to order at 8:09 am. Roll call taken and crop reports provided.

Group reviewed the agenda. **Dan moved to approve the agenda; Rick seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Group reviewed minutes from the previous meeting. **Chris moved to approve the minutes; Brent seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Group reviewed finances and discussed the impact low production could have on the year's budget. **Rick moved to approve the financials; Larry seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Group reviewed excise tax compliance reports.

Dan presented the USW report. He discussed attendance and items discussed at the USW World Staff Conference. Royce also presented about his experiences at the USW meeting and concerns over discussion regarding USW/WMC relations.

Chris provided an update on the Wheat Marketing Center, the upcoming meeting and the installation of the biscuit line. Group discussed the upcoming WMC and USW meetings in Portland.

Brent provided a WFC update. Judi Adams met with the Mayo Clinic doctor who supported gluten-free diets, and felt the meeting went well and may yield good results.

Delferd briefly spoke about PGI, but the group hasn't met since the last NWB meeting. Mark Hodges with PGI will attend the second weekend of the NE State Fair.

Dayton provided NWGA update on trailer repairs, ConAgra's potential sponsorship, the partnership with Oklahoma wheat and the Oklahoma Department of Ag for the relief trip to Oklahoma City, the certified seed days and the Chase County Fair.

Bobbie provided a report on the Department of Ag and the upcoming magazine and addition of livestock friendly counties. The Department of Ag will visit Taiwan, following up on the corn/soybean/wheat export visit from several years ago.

Contractor reports could be made available via e-mail to the board members.

Dan visited about the NCTA 100 year event. The new dean was well-received. Enrollment was down, but they've hired full-time recruiters. Out-of-state tuition cost is believed to be hurting them. Von attended the welcome reception, and said people in attendance were positive toward the potential expansion.

Group reviewed the NWB policy manual updates. Questions were raised on whether or not an update was needed in the communication policies section about use of iPads for meetings. Mentioned policies also stated governor appoints 6 districts and those six elect the 7th. Questions were raised about needing to change that to all appointed. Decided to strike the final sentence regarding election and adjust to the 7th member being appointed. **Dan moved to approve the policy manual with corrections made; Chris seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Group reviewed the proposed strategic/marketing plan. **Chris moved to approve the strategic plan; Brent seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Jeff Noel provided an update on UNL. They're working on filling all the open/new faculty positions. Variety testing is mostly self-supporting (no state funding). The income vs. expense hasn't been favorable. Now everyone is paying testing fees to help support, and there was a slight increase in fee cost.

Group moved to election of officers. **Dan moved that the board maintain Von as chair and Rick as vice chair; Brent seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Chris moved to adjourn; Brent seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.