

**NWB Board Meeting  
Hampton Inn, Sidney, NE  
May 30, 2018**

**Board Members Present**

Bob Delsing, Hemingford  
Rick Larson, Potter  
Larry Flohr, Chappell  
Kent Lorens, Stratton  
Von Johnson, Cambridge, Absent  
Brent Robertson, Elsie  
Mark Knobel, Fairbury (via Videoconference)

**Ex-Officio**

Jeff Noel, UNL  
Chris Barber, NDA (via videoconference)

**Staff**

Royce Schaneman  
Caroline Brauer

**Guests**

Mark Spurgin, NWGA  
Chabella Guzman, KNEB  
Michael Ferguson, KNEB

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am MDT. The Open Meetings Act was made available and roll call was taken.

Board reviewed the agenda. **Larry moved to adopt agenda as presented; Kent seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

**Kent moved to accept minutes as presented; Bob seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Board reviewed the financial statements. **Rick moved to transfer \$1,000 from unobligated to data processing and \$1,500 from unobligated to Wheat Issues Monitoring. Roll Call vote: Bob, yes; Rick, yes; Larry, yes; Kent, yes; Mark, yes; Brent, yes. 6 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**

**Bob moved to approve the financial report; Rick seconded. Roll call vote. Rick, yes; Larry, yes; Kent, yes; Mark, yes; Brent, yes; Bob, yes. 6 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**

Brent provided a report on a roundtable meeting with Senator Deb Fischer and Senator Pat Roberts and an update on a meeting event between Bayer CropScience and US Wheat Associates.

Royce provided a report on the Plains Grains Inc. meeting in Manhattan, Kansas. Conversations at the meeting focused on the cost of sample collection by each state. PGI will be redoing strategic plan again.

Royce also reported on a meeting with Hesco. The company would like to examine opportunities to contract with producers for soft red and soft white wheat production in Nebraska.

Kent provided a report on the Wheat Quality Council Hard Red Winter wheat tour. Wheat for the most part was average or less than average, and then no wheat in some southern counties in Nebraska. Wheat improved as headed west, but didn't see anything really above average.

Bob and Rick reported on their roundtable conversation with USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue. Rick inquired about rail rates during the meeting. The secretary also commented and experienced first-hand the challenges of broadband and cellular service.

Mark Spurgin provided an NWGA report including Farm Bill activities, NWGA representation on National Association of Wheat Growers committees, the upcoming calendar of events for NWGA and other meetings and events NWGA has participated in. Jeff Noel provided a report for UNL research programs including the seed increase and test plot fields, as well as the hybrid research program.

Contractor reports and NWB correspondence was provided for review by the board.

Royce provided an update on his visit to the research fields and seed increases at Yuma, Arizona. He discussed his conversation with the railroads and the BNSF meeting in Dallas on rail rates and issues. He also discussed the conversation regarding Wheat Tech and the funds that would not be worth pursuing as legal costs and fees would exceed what could potentially be received in payout.

Board discussed a first-reading of recently received funding proposals.

**Bob moved to waive the first reading of the newly received proposals and pass them on to a second reading to be considered with other second-reading proposals during the current board meeting; Kent seconded. Roll call vote: Larry, yes; Kent, yes; Mark, yes; Brent, yes; Bob, yes; Rick, yes. 6 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**

Board conducted a second-reading of funding proposals and discussed the budget for FY 18-19.

Kent moved to enter executive session for staff salary and review; Bob seconded. Voice vote, motion carried. Board entered executive session at 3:49 pm.

Mark moved to exit executive session; Kent seconded. Voice vote, motion carried. Board exited executive session at 4:51 pm.

Mark Knobel left the meeting to participate in a UNL field day obligation.

**Rick moved to give a 1.5% cost of living pay increase effective July 1, 2018 for Caroline Brauer and Pam Wurdeman, and a 2.5% pay increase for Royce Schaneman effective July 1, 2018; Larry seconded. Roll call vote: Kent, yes; Brent, yes; Bob, yes; Rick, yes; Larry, yes. 5 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**

**Larry moved to approve the FY 18-19 budget as developed; Rick seconded. Roll call vote: Brent, yes; Bob, yes; Rick, yes; Larry, yes; Kent, yes. 5 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**

The board reviewed and discussed the biennium budget. **Bob moved to approve the biennium budget; Kent seconded. Roll call vote: Bob, yes; Rick, yes; Larry, yes; Kent, yes; Brent, yes. 5 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**

Board reviewed the calendar and travel events. Board tentatively discussed August 16 as the next NWB meeting. The following days were added to the calendar: Certified Seed Days August 12-15; Chase County Fair August 15-19; Governor's Trade Council on July 11; Governor's Economic Development Summit on July 12 in Lincoln; University Haskell Agricultural Laboratory Crop and Climate Field Day on August 14. **Kent moved to approve calendar; Larry seconded. Roll call vote: Rick, yes; Larry, yes; Kent, yes; Brent, yes; Bob, yes. 5 yes-0 no, motion carried.**

**Kent moved to adjourn; Bob seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 pm.