

**Nebraska Wheat Board
August Board Meeting
November 20, 2020
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM CST
Fairfield Inn & Suites - Crete, NE
MINUTES**

Board Members In Attendance	Kent Lorens, District 4 Bob Delsing, Chair, District 1 Mark Knobel, Vice Chair, District 6 Tyson Narjes, District 2 Rick Dunbar, District 7
Others Present	Royce Schaneman, NWB Executive Director Sarah Morton, Ag. Promotion Coordinator Jeff Noel, Husker Genetics Patty Richards, NDA Katelin Gardner, NDA Martha Mamo, UNL Stephanie Bryant-Erdmann, USW Stan Garbacz, UNL Boone McAfee, NCB Josh Deltheson, AG Dr. Stephen Baenziger, UNL Jennifer Howsden, NWB Ambassador Emma Goosic, NWB Ambassador

Proceedings

- Bob called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM CST. Roll call was taken and are crop reports were give. Guests were introduced and welcomed.
- Review of agenda. An executive session was set for 12:15 PM CST. **Tyson moved to approve the revise agenda; Kent seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**
- Review of minutes. **Kent moved to approve the minutes; Tyson seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Check-off Compliance Reports

- Katelin Gardner, NDA's new auditor, completed audits in September and October. Hansen-Mueller was not collecting check-off for HRW wheat, they were fined \$1,200 to cover those costs.

Financial Reports

- Royce reviewed the monthly financial statements up through October. **Mark moved to approve the financial reports; Rick seconded. Roll call vote: Tyson, y; Rick, y, Mark, y; Kent, y; Bob, y. 5 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**
- Patty updated the board on LB381 passed by the legislature last summer that changes expense reimbursements to go from actual expenses only to a per diem. The per diem rate was set at

70% of the General Services Administration (GSA). The per diem will only apply to meals while traveling. Mileage, airfare and lodging will all be reimbursed by actual expenses.

UNL Interviews

- Martha Mamo is the head of the search committee for UNL's new small grains breeder. The committee narrowed the search down to 4 candidates to be interviewed, though one dropped out. The search committee asks that the NWB review all the candidates interviews and provide feedback. The committee would like to make the offer and sign it before the end of the calendar year 2020.

Nebraska Wheat Growers Association Report

- The NWGA has sent out membership renewals for the 2021 year. The Annual Meeting will be held at the West Central Research and Extension Center in North Platte on December 15, 2020. The National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) just held their Fall Conference via Zoom and are looking to planning a combined Winter Conference and Commodity Classic meeting for March. Commodity Classic has been cancelled and will be hosted virtually. Sarah has been working with the Ag Leaders Group to determine action items for the 2021 legislative session.

Stephanie Bryant-Erdmann gave an update on U.S. Wheat Associates Mexico City Office.

Boone McAfee gave a presentation on carbon credits.

Jennifer Howsden & Emma Goosic introduced themselves to the Board and gave an overview of the Ambassador program and their own projects.

Executive Session

- Bob formally announced the Board would move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation at 12:11 PM CST. **Kent moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation; Rick seconded. Roll call vote – Rick, y; Tyson, y; Mark, y; Kent, y; Bob, y. 5 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**
- **Tyson moved to reconvene open session; Kent seconded. Roll call vote – Mark, y; Kent, y; Tyson, y; Rick, y; Bob, y. 5 yes – 0 no, motion carried.** Open session reconvened at 1:23 PM CST.

Right of First Refusal on NE15420

- The Board discussed pros and cons to exercising the Right of First Refusal on NE15420. **Rick moved to exercise the NWB's Right of First Refusal on variety NE15420 allowing the wheat board to administer this variety through a marketing group and support the small grain value chain; Kent seconded. Roll call vote – Mark, y; Tyson, y; Rick, y; Kent, y; Bob, y. 5 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**

Domestic & International Marketing

- U.S. Wheat Associates. Bob, Kent & Royce gave an update on the USW Fall Conference held in Sioux Falls, SD. As of now, there is not going to be a Winter Conference held in DC in 2021. Tyson gave an updated on Nebraska white wheat stats for 2021 harvest and 2021 planting.
- Wheat Marketing Center. Rick attended the Board meeting virtually on October 22, 2020. They are gaining more interest in office space rental and may not sell their building. The Nebraska Wheat Marketing Center tour generally held every January is being cancelled for 2021.
- Wheat Foods Council. No news to report.

- Plains Grains Inc. They are currently planning on having an in person meeting in Denver, CO on December 8, 2020.
- Wheat Quality Council. The February meeting will be held virtually.
- Healthy Soils Taskforce. A summary of the pros and cons of the report was sent out to the full Board.

NWB Issues

- Conference room. The Corn Board will split cost with the Wheat Board and share the space. There is also the option to sell the whole room. The seed sorter in the conference room is functional. Royce is to see if UNL has any use for it.
- Pam's Replacement. Offered the position to two individuals who were unable to accept the offer. Royce is looking into an SOS employee for a minimum of three months.
- Kent will sit on a call that goes over the Variety Testing Program.
- Trade team videos. Videos are still coming in. Sarah will upload them all to share with the Board and use them as promotional materials.
- Statute. The Board could open it up for any of the following reasons:
 - Retain reimbursement of actual expenses instead of the per diem
 - Redrawing district lines
 - Increase the check-off rate
 - Create the Small Grains Commission to include barley, triticale and proso millet with wheat.
- **Tyson moved to allow Royce the ability to sign Right of First Refusal agreements for the Nebraska Wheat Board; Kent seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**
- UNL/NWB Committee Report. The committee has explored all aspects of the small grains breeding program and are beginning to form a structure to present to UNL for consideration. **Mark moved to ratify the consulting of Mike and Marci Miller with Washington Genetics for \$2,500; Rick seconded. Roll call vote – Kent, y; Rick, y; Tyson, y; Mark, y; Bob, y. 5 yes – 0 no, motion carried.**
- Rebranding. With the lack of travel this year, the NWB can redirect funding to create a new logo, improve the website, identify certain fonts and colors, and develop mail-outs and hand-out materials in order to promote Nebraska wheat. Sarah will get bids from companies before pursuing rebranding.

UNL Report

- Seed sales were down again this year. Triticale is starting to add up to a lot more than people initially realized. UNL will be shut down for two months over Thanksgiving through most of January. The wheat breeder interviews went well.

Calendar & Travel

- The AFAN Annual Meeting will now be hosted virtually. Royce will attend the NWGA meeting on December 15, 2020. **Mark moved to approve the calendar; Tyson seconded. Voice vote, motion carried.**

Kent moved to adjourn the meeting; Mark seconded. Voice vote, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:27 PM CST.