



News Release

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NWB Elects New Leadership

Lincoln, NE— The Nebraska Wheat Board (NWB) held their first quarter meeting on August 24, 2021 in North Platte, NE. The meeting included the swearing in of Kent Lorens and Jared Sayer as representatives of District 4 and District 5, respectively.

Mark Knobel of Fairbury, NE was elected as the Chair of the NWB for 2021-2022. Mark was re-appointed to the board in 2019 by Governor Ricketts and represents District 6. He raises wheat, soybeans and corn in southeastern Nebraska and is a certified seed dealer. Mark has hosted numerous trade teams to his farm and is always engaging in wheat board meetings and activities. He has also served on other boards including Nebraska Crop Improvement Association, Nebraska Farm Bureau and the Nebraska FFA Association.

Kent Lorens of Stratton, NE was elected as the Vice-Chair of the NWB for 2021-2022. Kent represents District 4 and has served on the Board for five years. Lorens and his family have been farming around Stratton since 1986. They primarily raise wheat on their farm while also maintaining a cow/calf herd. Kent is an active leader on the NWB, currently sitting on the Food Aid Committee. He has also travelled internationally to promote Nebraska wheat on the world market. Along with serving on the NWB, he also sits on the local school board, the Hitchcock County Farm Bureau and holds leadership roles in his church.



“Mark and Kent are both exceptional leaders, bringing their expertise and unique perspectives to board discussions and current events,” said Royce Schaneman, Executive Director of the Nebraska Wheat Board. “I look forward to working with them throughout their terms and seeing what they accomplish.”

Mark and Kent will serve in their positions through June of 2022. They are responsible for representing Nebraska on the U.S. Wheat Associates Board of Directors by voting on important matters to the industry. “With 50% of our product exported from Nebraska, these gentlemen serve in a capacity to help market and promote wheat across the globe,” stated Schaneman. “It is easier to connect with customers now more than ever. I believe Mark and Kent will do a great job at advancing Nebraska wheat.”

The Nebraska Wheat Board administers the check-off of 0.4% of net value of wheat marketed in Nebraska at the point of first sale. The board invests the funds in programs of international and domestic market development and improvement, policy development, research, promotion, and education.

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