



November 17, 2015

MINUTES of the Regular meeting, held at Wyoming Department of Agriculture, 2219 Carey Avenue, Cheyenne, Albin, Wyoming

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Casey Madsen at 10:12 am. Present were Madsen, Theron Anderson, John Watson, Tim Anderson, and Executive Director Keith Kennedy. Lois VanMark attended via telephone. Also present were Ted Craig, *ex-officio*, Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA), and Pam Bell with WDA

The Chairman declared a quorum present, and approved the published agenda, without objection. Tim Anderson moved, with Theron Anderson's second, to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2015 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Kennedy then presented the financial report, which included June - October 2015. Watson moved, with Theron Anderson's second, to approve the financial report. Motion carried. Kennedy mentioned that he had discussed the Wheat Marketing Center (WMC) with their new executive, Janice Cooper, and that WMC will be invoicing the Commission for the \$1,000 commitment made for FY2016 toward a stone mill. Watson moved, with Theron Anderson's second, to approve payment of the \$1,000 invoice from WMC for FY2016, toward a stone mill, when received. Motion carried.

Tim Anderson then asked to discuss the recent trip to U.S. Wheat Associates fall board meeting, as he purchased airfare, and was unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances. After discussion, Van Mark moved, with Watson's second to establish policy that those traveling out-of-state on Commission business be reimbursed for non-refundable travel expense incurred when unable to complete travel as planned, after review and approval of such receipts by the Commission. Further discussion ensued regarding advisability of purchasing trip insurance or refundable tickets. There was general agreement that if this policy is enacted, there is little gained by purchasing trip insurance, due to the limited coverage, and that given the cost difference between refundable tickets and the low cost option, the Commission would prefer to minimize overall cost. Motion carried. Watson then moved, with Theron Anderson's second, that the Commission approve payment of \$325.20 to Tim Anderson for his airline ticket for the fall U.S. Wheat Associates (USWA) meeting, as the Commission has reviewed his receipt for said travel and that said payment be taken from the out-of-state travel account for commission members. Motion carried. Tim Anderson moved, with Watson's second, to authorize an amount not to exceed \$2,500 each for two members and the executive director to attend the winter USWA meeting in Washington, DC in early February. Discussion ensued regarding those to attend; there was consensus that if a new member was appointed by the Governor to replace Tim Anderson in a timely manner, it would make sense for that individual to attend the USWA Board training, which occurs on the day before the USWA meetings begin. Motion carried.

Madsen then reported on the committee meetings he attended at the fall USWA meeting, including the possibility of using a successful grant application for Kansas supporting hard white wheat. He also discussed the wheat quality committee meeting. Craig mentioned that this would be a fit with the modular mill we had discussed when talking with Colorado about a portable mill; he presented the literature on this equipment

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following the lunch recess. Madsen then recessed the meeting at 11:55 am for lunch, and called the meeting back to order at 1:00 pm.

Kennedy then discussed the committees he attended, including the Communications Working Group, which encouraged Commissions to use the economic study that was presented during the full board meeting; the primary point of this is that for every \$1 spent by Commissions on export market development through USWA, there is a \$45 dollar increase in net revenue to producers. Joint biotech, and others, spend considerable time with APHIS BRS administrator, who discussed the move to permitting wheat event trials, rather than the notification system now used, and the anticipated changes in the part 340 regulations regarding BRS evaluation of biotech plants. Joint trade did discuss TPP; the full text became available the morning of that meeting, so full analysis had not been completed, but thus far, the agreement appears generally favorable to wheat. In the agriculture sector, the likely biggest winner is beef. The timeline for Congressional approval is not clear yet; approval could be as late as 2018. Kennedy also attended part of the Plains Grains, Inc. (PGI) meeting, where the inclusion of additional full paying members and associate members was discussed. Kennedy was directed to send a letter to PGI, encouraging them to allow us to join as an associate member, and thus sit in on board meetings without vote, as the full membership is too costly for Wyoming at \$20,000 one-time, given our level of wheat production.

Kennedy also discussed the staffing at SAREC, with the retirement of Jerry Nachtman and Bob Baumgartner's recently leaving the employ of UWAES. Kennedy was directed to send a letter to Dr. Brett Hess and Dr. Frank Galey, and to the UW administration and Governor if needed, stating that it is vital to fill these positions for continuing research.

After discussion, Madsen announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting would take place in Pine Bluffs, January 12, 2016 following the annual Wyoming Wheat Growers Association meeting, with the regularly scheduled conference calls, which would take place on an as-needed basis, occurring December 14, 2015 and January 11, 2016, prior to the regular in-person meeting.

Hearing no further business, Madsen declared the meeting adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.



Signed, Casey Madsen, Chairman