



**Oregon Wheat Commission Meeting
September 18, 2023 Minutes**

Call to Order:

Pursuant to notice made by press release to newspapers of general and local circulation throughout the state and e-mailed to persons on the mailing list of the Commission a regular meeting of the Oregon Wheat Commission (OWC) was held at the Pendleton Convention Center in Pendleton, OR with video/phone conference availability. Commissioners in attendance for all or part of the meeting included Dana Tuckness – Chairman, Tyler Hansell – Vice Chairman, David Brewer – Secretary/Treasurer, Darren Padget, Jason Middleton, David Prybylowski and Rob Rye. Staff members present were Amanda Hoey, CEO; Tana Simpson, Associate Administrator; and Corey Shrader, Project and Office Coordinator. Chairman Tuckness called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Introduction of Visitors

In addition to the above-listed Commissioners and staff, the following guests were in attendance for all or part of the meeting: Ryan Graebner, Bob Zemetra, Grayson Namdar, Jim Doherty, Jake Lindsey, Eric Morris, Collin Crocker, Wade Bingaman, Erin Heideman, Bryan Bachelder, Thad Eakins, Deacon Heideman, Mike Shrock, Thomas Bernards, Jason Flowers and Ben Maney.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

Commissioner Padget requested an addition to the agenda to discuss the fungicide project under new business.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes from the May 15, 2023 Budget hearing and Commission meeting were provided.

Commissioner Padget moved to accept the May 15, 2023 Budget hearing and Commission meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion. Commissioner Marguth was absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Appointments

Staff proposed that Commission committee appointments carry forward previous appointments with one change, recommending the replacement of Lindsey Miller on the Cereal Variety Advisory Committee with her replacement at MCP Seed Division, Jeff Kopp.

Commissioner Middleton moved to accept the 2023-2024 committee appointments as presented. Commissioner Prybylowski seconded the motion. Commissioner Marguth was absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

2024 Meeting Schedule

Corey Shrader outlined the proposed 2024 meeting schedule as presented in the packet. No revisions to the draft schedule were requested by the Commission.

February 2023 Financial Report

Associate Administrator Simpson presented the 2022-2023 Year-end and July 2023 Financial Statements for consideration.

Commissioner Middleton moved to accept the 2022-2023 Year-end Financial statements and reports as presented. Commissioner Prybylowski seconded the motion. Commissioner Marguth was absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Brewer moved to accept the Financial Statements through July 31, 2023. Commissioner Middleton seconded the motion. Commissioner Marguth was absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Banking Relationship

CEO Hoey stated that the Commission staff has faced challenges leading up to and now during the Bank of the West transition to BMO, specifically regarding access to systems. Commission staff evaluated alternative banking partners based on factors that included their inclusion in the state system, branch locations, services, and fees. U.S. Bank and Umpqua met the requirements. She recommended migrating banking services to US Bank based on meeting the requirements, a simplified fee schedule and as they have not gone through a recent merger.

Commissioner Hansell moved to approve the transition of OWC banking services to U.S. Bank. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion. Commissioner Marguth was absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Assessments

CEO Hoey reported some progress on our non-paying wheat handler. The Commission received a payment for the amount of wheat they report to have handled through 2022. The Commission will continue to pursue the attorney and other fees. The defendant sought to argue that Einkorn, an ancient wheat, was not subject to assessment but OWC staff has responded that all wheat is subject to assessment and clearly noted in the rules.

CEO Hoey and Project/Office Coordinator Schrader the Commission on the feedlot outreach. The Commission sent letters to all the feedlots that have been identified reminding them of their obligations for remitting assessment. Several have sent payments and we continue to monitor these processors to ensure all wheat handlers are reporting as required.

Discussion: The Commission asked how the feedlots were identified. CEO Hoey noted that much of that relied on the Commission and producer information. Commissioner Prybylowski asked if the non-reporter should be reported to Department of Revenue. CEO Hoey noted she would follow-up to determine if appropriate and needed.

2023 Activities and Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Brewer reported on his trip to the North Asian Marketing Conference (NAMC) in

Indonesia. He stated that it was good to see many of the visitors they have had to the farms over the summer. CEO Hoey presented the soft white wheat class report. CEO Hoey also attended the NAMC and reported that the Taiwan, South Korea and Japan U.S. Wheat Associate country directors did a great job of getting the flour milling CEOs to the conference, which led to valuable conversations.

Commissioner Tuckness reported on his trip to the Latin American Buyers Conference in Mexico stating that it was a good conference although the soft white wheat discussions were limited. CEO Hoey presented information on the upcoming temporary planned river closure for maintenance and strategies for buyers during the closure. The topics of interest included global market influences, sustainability and clean label practices and continuity of the river system operations.

Commissioner Padget reported on the U.S. Wheat Associates Summer meeting, noting ongoing discussions for collaborations with partners. He has also heard some promising reports on a potential to use CCC funding to create a one-time fund source to support MAP/FMD and international food aid. Farm Bill base resources are still essential for long term program effectiveness.

Travel Requests

CEO Hoey requested travel approval for the USW Fall Meeting, ALIM Conference, IGP Institute and USW Winter Meeting. She also updated the Commission that Commissioner Middleton will be participating in the Inland Elevator Managers Mission and Commissioner Brewer will be attending the North Asian Crop Quality Tour, both funded by U.S. Wheat Associates.

Commissioner Padget moved to approve travel for two Commissioners and one staff member to the U.S. Wheat Associates Fall Meeting in Cincinnati, OH. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion. Commissioner Marguth was absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Brewer moved to approve travel for one Commissioner to the ALIM Conference in Argentina. Commissioner Padget seconded the motion. Commissioner Marguth was absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Padget moved to approve travel for one Commissioner to the IGP Institute in Manhattan, KS. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion. Commissioner Marguth was absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Padget moved to approve travel for two Commissioners and one staff member to the U.S. Wheat Associates Winter Meeting in Washington, DC. Commissioner Brewer seconded the motion. Commissioner Marguth was absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Commissioner Padget presented a research concept he has been discussing with Christina Hagerty. The study would examine the economic value of crop protection fungicide applications

in the absence of a stripe rust infection. Commissioner Padget tested it on some of his fields this last year and it performed well and feels it could be beneficial for other growers. The proposal is expected to cost about \$5,000 and Dr. Hagerty plans to present a pre-proposal.

Eric Morris, the new ODA Commodity Commission Oversight Manager, introduced himself. He was most recently at the Commission for the Blind and spent some time with the City of Woodburn and Fred Meyer. He offered an update from ODA, noting that Bill Ryan was named as the interim Acting Director of ODA.

Ryan Graebner reported that he has released most of the data they have collected over the summer. They are still hopeful that they can make arrangements to conduct a spring trial in Klamath Falls. He is also hoping after planting that he will get some time to look into the development of the app.

Bob Zemetra reported that Margaret Krause, the new OSU Wheat Breeder, will be starting November 1st. He has been working with staff to keep things on track. He has also proposed two lines for release: OR218377 which is a Septoria resistant wheat that he thinks would be good in the Willamette Valley, and Clearfield 0025CL+, an early awnless variety that is comparable to Rosalyn and Shine. Ryan Graebner noted that he thinks both these lines will be very competitive and have performed well in the trials.

Discussion: Ryan was asked if they are seeing protein issues when comparing one variety to another. He stated that most of the differences they see between varieties are yield related and their trial data is available. He stated that changes in protein levels are more related to environmental factors.

Grayson Namdar reported on behalf of the Pendleton Pathology program, noting that they are in Phase two of the RDFA and focusing on cover crops (winter barley, winter peas, canola and a mix) and wheat combinations.

Adjourn

Chairman Tuckness adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for November 28, 2023 at the Coeur D'Alene Resort in Coeur D'Alene, ID, with a virtual connection available.

Approved



Dana Tuckness, Chair

Prepared and submitted by OWC Associate Administrator, Tana Simpson