



**Oregon Wheat Commission Meeting
November 14, 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 Coeur D' Alene Resort in Coeur D' Alene, ID with video/phone conference availability. Commissioners in attendance for all or part of the meeting included Dana Tuckness – Chairman, Tyler Hansell – Vice Chairman, Jerry Marguth, Darren Padget, 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 2:01 p.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, Margaret Krause, Christina Hagerty, Collin Crocker, Wade Bingaman, Tom Chastain, Dave Losh, Jacob Powell, Kathy Tuckness, Daisy Woods, Ryan Krabill, Clint Carlson, Jason Flowers, Ben Maney and Karsten Schumaker.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

No additions were made to the agenda.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes from the September 18, 2023 Joint Meeting with OWGL and Regular Commission meeting were provided for review.

Commissioner Hansell moved to approve the September 18, 2023, Joint Meeting Minutes and regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Padget seconded the motion. Commissioners Brewer and Middleton were absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

September 2023 Financial Report

Associate Administrator Simpson presented the September 2023 Financial Statements for consideration.

Commissioner Hansell moved to accept the September 2023 Financial Statements as presented. Commissioner Padget seconded the motion. Commissioners Brewer and Middleton were absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

CEO Report

CEO Hoey reported that the Commission hosted the last trade teams of the season including Nippon, Southeast Asia and COFCO(China). There are several U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) activities upcoming including:

- 2024 UES for North and South/Southeast Asia March 12-20, 2024 – Only one State Commissioner or Administrator can participate in each UES. Clark Hamilton will be participating on behalf of the USW Officer team. It makes sense to have someone from the PNW in attendance. Cost will be the responsibility of the designated Administrator's state.
- USW Board Team to Sub-Saharan Africa. We have one USW funded slot. We can opt to defer if we want to wait for a better fit. The Commission anticipates deferring our position until next year, as a result.
- USW World Staff Conference – We have two USW funded slots for this activity currently Commissioner Hansell and CEO Hoey are planning to attend.
- December Food Aid Travel – CEO Hoey will be participating as the Chair of the Joint Food Aid Working Group.

Recent Commission Activities include:

- USW Crop Quality Seminar
 - i) South Asia – CEO Hoey just returned from participation in these seminars.
 - ii) North Asia – Commissioner Brewer is currently participating in these seminars.
 - iii) USW will also be conducting seminars in South and Central America and Africa.
- USW Inland Elevator Managers Mission to SE Asia – Jason Middleton is currently participating in this mission.
- Latin American Millers Association Annual Meeting – Commissioner Tuckness represented the Commission at this meeting in Argentina and participated in a visit to Bioceres in Argentina.
- U.S. Wheat Associates Board Meeting – Commissioner Tuckness and Hansell attended. Two discussion items were the updating of the USW Strategic Plan and the consideration of updates to the Principles of Commercialization.

The Regional Ag Promotion Program (RAPP) was officially announced. It funds trade promotion and additional food assistance resources. The funding designates \$1 billion for Global Food Aid and \$1.3 billion for Trade Promotion Programs.

On the research front, the Commission's solicitation for Research pre-proposals is circulating. The Cereal Grains Plant Pathology position search has begun, and the search committee has been formed, with industry involvement and a rigorous timeline in place. There will be an item in the silent auction with funds going directly to Dr. Chris Mundt's program. The 2024 Grower workshop is scheduled for February 27-28, 2024.

The Governor has appointed Lisa Charpillouz Hanson as Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Senate will consider her confirmation in February. The Commission has several Commission appointments expiring in June: Commissioner Prybylowski is eligible for reappointment and Commissioner Padgett and Commissioner Middleton have completed all terms.

CEO Hoey provided an Oregon Wheat Growers League update. She highlighted the hire of Lucy Kenagy as the Administrative Assistant and Membership Coordinator. The OWGL continues to monitor the Farm Bill progress, drafted a letter in response to the EPA's proposed herbicide strategy and met with representatives from ODA and USDA to allow continued access to crop protection tools. They completed the Oregon Wheat Stewards: Sustainability Video Series. OWGL staff is working on the development of an abbreviated legislative tour, similar to the Growers Workshop. She reviewed the program for Wheat Day at the Capitol and the reception the night before will again be held February 13-14, 2024. The Oregon day of the Tri-State Grain Convention convention will be Wednesday with the Board meeting hosting speakers from Oregonians for Food and Shelter, Farm Service Agency, Risk Management and the National Resource Conservation Service. The Annual meeting will feature Representative Ken Helm and Nicole Mann of Dalton Advocacy for a Legislative update, and Keira Franz from the National Association of Wheat Growers for a Farm Bill Update.

The Oregon Wheat Foundation announced the recruitment of applications for this year's scholarship solicitation. Each scholarship has been increased this year to \$2,000.

Wheat Breeding Program - Dr. Margaret Krause

Dr. Margaret Krause, the new OSU Wheat Breeder, started on November 1st. She jumped directly into planting then participated in the Washington Crop Improvement Association Annual Meeting before coming to the Tri-State Grain Growers Convention. Next week she will be back in Corvallis planting, if the weather holds.

Dr. Krause's main goal for the program is to meet growers' needs. She had good conversations with growers during her interview process and wants that to continue. Some of the key issues she has gathered so far are the need to accelerate the release of new varieties and access to CoAXium traits. There are some new technologies that can be incorporated into the program that would allow for quicker releases, but she will need minimum thresholds for disease and quality. She is excited to have a team with a great deal of experience and a region with other breeders interested in working collaboratively. She stated that she is currently part of the Wheat Coordinated Agriculture Project and looks forward to the collaborations that have and will continue to be developed through that research.

Discussion: The Commission asked Dr. Krause how she plans to address the 9-month appointment. She is hoping to apply for competitive grants that investigate subjects that can benefit the program. The next steps for the OSU Barley program were raised. Dr. Hayes is planning to work half-time through June and then a full-time post doc will take over the program under Dr. Krause's supervision. It was suggested that a one-year trial be considered as there is a possibility that some synergy can be found and/or funds to hire a replacement may be available in the future.

Research Considerations

Dr. Christina Hagerty outlined a project developed from a concept discussed at the previous meeting, "Utilizing fungicides in the absence of foliar disease for potential plant health". The benefits of fungicide use in the absence of foliar disease are well documented in corn and soybeans. There is always concern of increasing resistance when spraying without the presence

of disease, but stripe rust is a low-risk disease.

Commissioner Hansell moved to approve \$5,000 in support for the “Utilizing fungicides in the absence of foliar disease for potential plant health project” in the 2023-2023 research year. Commissioner Marguth seconded the motion. Commissioners Brewer and Middleton were absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Hagerty requested the ability to reallocate budgeted funds for her current project, Seed Care Evaluation, to support a graduate student for work with the Resilient Dryland Farming Activities.

Discussion: Dr. Hagerty’s request totals \$17,600 over two years to support the graduate student. The Commission can only commit funds in the current fiscal year. Dr. Hagerty noted that restriction and is requesting the allocation just for the funds needed in this year, currently.

Commissioner Padgett moved to approve the modification of Christina Hagerty’s Seed Care Evaluation project to allow for the funding of a graduate student using current FY funds. Commissioner Hansell seconded the motion. Commissioners Brewer and Middleton were absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

CEO Hoey reviewed the status of state funding allocated for the OSU statewide programs for the biennium. Oregon agricultural groups were pleased to see the investment of increased dollars to the University, but disappointed that while the College of Ag Sciences continued with the commitment to devote a portion of the funds to ag economist positions (60%), the dollars through Extension (40%) were not allocated as anticipated. CEO Hoey proposed ongoing discussion with the Deans and a letter to Provost Feser indicating the importance of the ag economist positions and the challenges presented with the process this cycle in how funding decisions were made once resources were allocated by the state.

Commissioner Hansell moved to approve a letter be written to Provost Feser expressing our concerns. Commissioner Marguth seconded the motion. Commissioners Brewer and Middleton were absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Priorities for the Upcoming Funding Cycle

CEO Hoey asked Commissioners if they had any specific priorities when it comes to the research projects for the upcoming year. Commissioners expressed a desire to maintain current funding priorities.

PNW Wheat Quality Council Sponsorship

CEO Hoey outlined the request from the PNW Wheat Quality Council to sponsor some of the Audio-Visual expenses for the upcoming council meeting in the amount of \$100.

Commissioner Prybylowski moved to approve sponsorship in the amount of \$100 to the PNW Wheat Quality Council for Audio-Visual expenses. Commissioner Hansell seconded the motion. Commissioners Brewer and Middleton were absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Travel

CEO Hoey requested approval of travel to the State Executives meeting in Arizona in January.

Commissioner Hansell moved to approve travel for CEO Hoey to attend the State Executives meeting in Arizona in January. Commissioner Prybylowski seconded the motion. Commissioners Brewer, Middleton and Marguth were absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

CEO Hoey requested authorization to attend the USW Unified Export Strategy (the strategic document USW develops annually to guide their international operations and seek federal funding) planning meetings in March of 2024. This travel would be at the Commission's expense.

Commissioner Marguth moved to approve travel for the CEO to the USW UES Planning meeting in March of 2024. Commissioner Padgett seconded the motion. Commissioners Brewer and Middleton were absent. With all remaining Commissioners present, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Reports; Other Business

Commissioner Tuckness reported on his recent travel to Argentina for the ALIM meeting (Annual meeting of the Latin American Industrial Millers). He reported that millers in Latin America really like soft white wheat, but the logistics are challenging. One of the interesting events of the meeting is the annual auction of the first lot of wheat harvested in Argentina for the year with the proceeds being donated to charity.

Commissioner Tuckness also had the opportunity to travel to Bioceres in Rosario, Argentina with the officer team from USW to hear updates and see the new GMO wheat trials in the field. Market acceptance is a continued concern. Currently the trait is only in spring wheat and not permitted to be grown in the United States.

Commissioners Tuckness and Hansell reported on the USW Fall Meeting in Cincinnati, OH. The meetings were productive, with updates made to the Long-Range Strategic Plan. There was also a good discussion in the Joint International Trade Committee meeting highlighting the success of USW involvement and the face-to-face interactions with customers. The report demonstrated specific increases in sales after and during the USW conducted meetings and seminars. It was reported that USW has very impressive staff that do a great job.

CEO Hoey reported that the SE Asia Crop Quality Seminars went very well, and they were very valuable interactions. Growers provided crop updates generally reporting that late summer moisture was helpful. Most winter wheat is seeded up and looks good.

Dr. Zemetra reported that the variety 2180377 has a proposed name of "Gayle" for Gayle Gingrich and they have foundation seed available this year through the Foundation Seed Experiment in the Willamette Valley. Also, 2190025 CL+ foundation seed will be available next year. It performed well in the Morrow County trial compared to Appleby, UI Magic and VI Voodoo. Commissioner Hansell thanked Dr. Zemetra for his many years of services and the improvements he has provided to the industry.

Adjourn

Chair Tuckness adjourned the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for February, with a virtual connection available.

Approved

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dana Tuckness", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Dana Tuckness, Chair

Prepared and submitted by OWC Associate Administrator, Tana Simpson