

Minutes
Minnesota Sunflower Council
Tuesday, January 9, 2018 6:30 pm
Delta Hotel, Fargo, ND
Signature Room

Members Present: John Swanson, Kevin Capistran, Tom Dowdle and Jerry Hasnedl. Members Absent: Steven Schmidt.

Others Present: Tina Mittelsteadt and John Sandbakken

The meeting was called to order by John Swanson at 6:45 pm.

The minutes of September 12, 2017 were reviewed – **a motion to approve the minutes was made by Tom Dowdle and seconded by Jerry Hasnedl. Motion passed.**

Tina Mittelsteadt provided the financial report for December 2017. The Council collected \$3,347.76 in check-off funds and \$2.13 in interest. We had no expenses paid out in December. The MSC has a cash fund balance of \$48,360.96 as of December 31, 2017.

Jerry Hasnedl made a motion to approve the financial report and it was seconded by Kevin Capistran. Motion passed.

Candidates for Council Members

Both John Swanson and Kevin Capistran have agreed to run for re-election in their districts. Their term expires on June 30, 2018.

Crop Reports

Kevin Capistran reported he has a CHS sunflower plot on his land this year. Phomopsis was an issue in his area. Younger growers were happy with their sunflower crops this past year and will continue to plant them.

John Swanson stated Phomopsis was an issue in his area as well. He is working with Febina Mathew to try and figure out what is causing the Phomopsis.

Jerry Hasnedl reported there were very few sunflowers grown in his area this past year.

Tom Dowdle state he sells a lot of sunflowers for Pioneer and yields were good, averaging between 2,600 – 2,800 pounds. He stated they had Phomopsis was present in his area too. He will be increasing his sunflower acres on his farm this year. Tom stated Pioneer has a Phomopsis tolerant hybrid that they will be running a test plot in 2018.

Other Business

Kevin stated he was at the Prairie Grains Conference and he is wondering if it might be in the Council's best interest to sponsor a breakout session. Next meeting will be December 2018 in Grand Forks, ND.

Motion to explore participation as a sponsor at the 2018 Prairie Grains Conference by Kevin Capistran and seconded by Tom Dowdle. Motion Carries.

John Swanson updated the council on the bee and CR7 research and how it would work to treat Sclerotinia. John Swanson thought there could be some yield advantage and benefit to the bees too. Tom stated he would be interested in trying it. John will let Tom know if the project moves forward.

Next meeting Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 7:30 am.

Motion to adjourn by Kevin Capistran and seconded by Jerry Hasnedl. Motion Carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

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Chairman John Swanson
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Secretary Steven Schmidt
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