

Minutes
Minnesota Sunflower Council
7:30 AM - February 5, 2014
Conference Call

Members Present: John Swanson, Steven Schmidt , and Jerry Hasnedl

Members Absent: Kevin Capistran and Andrew Quam

Others Present: Lerrene Kroh and John Sandbakken, NSA

The minutes from the October 9, 2013 board meeting were reviewed.

Jerry Hasnedl moved and Steven Schmidt seconded that the minutes be approved as written. Motion passed.

Lerrene Kroh gave the financial report for December 2013 – a total of \$3,164.76 in check-off and interest was collected. Expenses for December were \$3,930.00 - \$3,840 to Mahlum Goodhart PC for the audit and \$90 to State Farm for fidelity insurance.. As of the end of December, we had a balance of \$29,531.57.

Schmidt moved and Hasnedl seconded that the financial report be approved. Motion passed.

Lerrene mentioned that the audit for the Minnesota Sunflower Council was now complete for the year ending June 2013 and copies were mailed to all board members. Lerrene mentioned that there were no findings and we had a clean audit.

Lerrene mentioned that board members up for election this spring are Steven Schmidt and Andrew Quam. Schmidt mentioned that he would serve another term.

John Swanson mentioned that the AURI has released the final report by Battelle Technology Partnership Practice. John asked the board to review the “Summary of the Agbioscience Strategy Report”. He said the study was positive for Bioscience. This is an honest and detailed assessment of the critical resources we already have in place in Minnesota – and how we can leverage them into agbioscience leadership both nationally and internationally, resulting in economic growth and new jobs in the state.

John Swanson also mentioned that AURI will be adding personnel at Crookston – we should be thinking about what projects we could ask them to work on to make sunflower more profitable.

The next agenda item was sunflower acres in Minnesota. People are talking about planting sunflowers this year. The consensus was that 2014 will be a good year for sunflower – expect acres to be anywhere from 65,000 to 85,000.

No other business.

The next suggested meeting date was set for a telephone conference call on April 9, 2014 – at 7:30 am.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 am.

Chairman: _____

Secretary: _____