

Minutes
Minnesota Sunflower Council
Tuesday, June 8, 2021 - 7:30 am
VIA ZOOM

Members Present: John Swanson, Kevin Capistran, Tom Dowdle, Greg Hilgeman, and Steven Schmidt.
Members Absent: None

Others Present: Tina Mittelsteadt and John Sandbakken
Guest: None

The meeting was called to order by John Swanson at 7:30 am.

The minutes of the April 13, 2021 were reviewed.

Motion to accept the minutes from April 13, 2021 was made by Kevin Capistran and seconded by Tom Dowdle. Motion passed.

Tina Mittelsteadt provided the financial report for May 2021. The Council collected \$1,505.21 in check-off funds and \$3.29 in interest. Year to date we have collected \$36,983.01 in check-off and paid out one refund in the amount of \$43.38. Expenses paid in May were \$725 to MN Department of Ag (final fiscal payment), \$57.95 to Flash Printing for envelopes and \$50 to Advance.com for annual website maintenance. Year to date expenses paid are \$36,946.53. The MSC has a cash fund balance of \$42,824.60 as of May 31, 2021.

Motion by Kevin Capistran and seconded by Tom Dowdle to accept the financials as presented.

Crop/Acreage Reports:

Kevin reported it is dry. Sunflower have about 80 plus percent emergence and the other 20 percent is occasionally emerging. Fairly even fields and if it rains sunflowers will be alright.

John Swanson stated they have received about four-tenths of an inch of moisture since March. Sunflower are planted on sandy ground; and they are up and looking good. They were planted completely no-till and that looks like it is helping to hold some moisture.

Tom reported they have been lucky and have received moisture in his area. About two weeks ago the had two rain events and received about 2.6 inches plus an additional half inch about four days ago. They did have a little trouble getting seeds out of Chile on winter production. Sunflower went in a little late but are coming emerging and looking good. Sunflower acres are up in his area over last year. Wheat crop is looking good in his area.

Steven Schmidt stated the crops in his area are looking good. There are some dryness issues headland and lumpy areas. They had about ¾ to an inch of rain about 10 days after planting. Pre-plants are doing a lot since they have not had any moisture since. No sunflowers planted in his area this year.

Greg reported sunflowers look nice and they have had some rain. Soybean are looking good. Sunflower acres are about the same as last year. Wheat took a hit this year.

John Sandbakken reported the crop report for MN was at 90 percent last week and 91 percent this week. John is wondering if this means some sunflower acres were added. Some soybeans had to be replanted due to frost and seed is becoming more difficult to get seed. Sunflower could see an increase for this reason. Confection companies are struggling to get acres; but the oil acres are ok but would like to see more acres. John stated sunflower acres may be down slightly this year. It is extremely dry in ND and SD.

AGRETT Advisory Panel Appointment:

John Swanson reported that AGRETT panel appointments are up for all organizations and groups. John Swanson stated he would be willing to stay on for one more term.

Kevin Capistran nominated John Swanson to continue serve as MN Sunflower Council's rep and be reappointed to the AGRETT committee and seconded by Steven Schmidt. Motion Carries.

NSA 2021-22 Contract:

John Sandbakken stated he uses the March planting intentions report to calculate the annual contract amount based off a 5-year average yield. The amount for the 2021-22 proposed budget is \$25,000. This represents about 60 percent of what is collected. This contract would continue to include the administrative services, research and promotional programs provided by the National Sunflower Association.

Motion by Kevin Capistran to approve \$25,000 for the NSA contract amount for 2021-22 and seconded by Greg Hilgeman. Motion Carries.

FY 2021-22 Budget Presentation:

Tina Mittelsteadt presented the proposed budget for fiscal year 2021-22. Income is budgeted at \$41,850 and expenses are budgeted at \$35,475 for the fiscal year.

Motion by Kevin Capistran to approve the 2021-22 proposed budget as presented and seconded by Steven Schmidt. Motion Carries.

September 2021 Meeting Invitation List – Brent's Plot:

John Swanson suggests inviting the new Plant Pathologist (Megan) to this meeting and plot tour. John Swanson also recommended inviting some of the NSA board members to attend Brent's plot tour. Kevin also suggests inviting MN Senator's staffers to attend as monies are going to be requested in the Farm Bill for sunflower genetics. John Swanson suggested inviting the MN Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. Kevin stated industry members should be invited as well. Both John Sandbakken and Kevin suggested John Zietz. John Swanson suggested Tim Petry and or Robert Deraas.

Brent Hulke has set the day of Tuesday, September 14, 2021, aside for the MN Sunflower Council and plot tour.

Kevin asked John Sandbakken to prepare the invitation letter for the plot tour.

Council meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and plot tour at 10:00 a.m.

Other Business:

None

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 9:00 a.m. – Expressway Suites - Fargo

Motion to adjourn by Steven Schmidt and seconded by Greg Hilgeman. Motion Carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

DocuSigned by:
John Swanson
Chairman: _____
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DocuSigned by:
Steven Schmidt
Secretary: _____
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