

**Minutes
Minnesota Sunflower Council
Tuesday, March 26, 2024 8:00 am
Zoom Meeting**

Members Present: John Swanson, Tom Dowdle, Greg Hilgeman and Tom Smude. Members Absent: Kevin Capistran

Others Present: Tina Mittelsteadt

The meeting was called to order by John Swanson at 8:00 am.

The minutes of the January 9, 2024, were reviewed – **a motion to approve the minutes was made Tom Dowdle and seconded by Tom Smude. Motion passed.**

Tina Mittelsteadt provided the financial report for February 2024. The Council collected \$3,188.23 in check-off funds and \$5.73 in interest. We paid \$28,000.00 in expenses for the NSA 2024 contract. The MSC has a cash fund balance of \$30,496.22 as of February 29, 2024.

Tom Dowdle made a motion to approve the financial report and it was seconded by Tom Smude. Motion passed.

DC Update:

Tom Dowdle provided the council with an update on the NSA's DC Trip. They spent 2 ½ days visiting various Senators and Representatives. Tom was able to visit with Smith and Fishback from MN about Farm Bill priorities and policies along with the breeding initiative. H2A program was talked about, crop insurance, and other areas of importance were discussed.

NSA Research Grant Update:

Tina Mittelsteadt reported the NSA funded eleven of the twelve research projects they received in the amount of \$554,109. The NSA Confection Committee and SD Oilseed Council contributed funding towards two projects.

Crop Reports:

Tom Dowdle reported sunflowers will be down about a third.

John Swanson reported he feels acres will be down.

Greg Hilgeman stated canola will take the sunflower acres along with soybeans. There will still be some sunflower acres planted in his area. There are still a lot of sunflowers in the bins.

Other Business:

None

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 7th 8:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Motion to adjourn by Tom Dowdle and seconded by Tom Smude. Motion Carries.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Chairman: DocuSigned by:
John Swanson
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Secretary: DocuSigned by:
Tom Dowdle
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