

**Minutes  
Minnesota Sunflower Council  
Tuesday, September 11, 2018 9:00 am  
Expressway Suites, Fargo, ND  
Board Meeting Room**

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

Others Present: Tina Mittelsteadt

The meeting was called to order by John Swanson at 8:59 am.

The minutes of the June 19, 2018 were reviewed – **a motion to approve the minutes was made by Jerry Hasnedl and seconded by Tom Dowdle. Motion passed.**

Tina Mittelsteadt provided the financial report for August 2018. The Council collected \$1,924.30 in check-off funds and \$3.17 in interest. We paid \$1,115.00 in expenses. The MSC has a cash fund balance of \$37,311.63 as of August 31, 2018. Haga Kommer, Ltd. is almost finished with the 2017-18 audit.

**Steven Schmidt made a motion to approve the financial report and it was seconded by Kevin Capistran. Motion passed.**

#### **Crop Update**

Jerry stated there are no sunflowers in his area this year. Other crops are all looking good.

Kevin reported his sunflowers are looking good. There is phomopsis in his field, but it showed up late enough that it won't cause any damage. Sunflowers are steady in his area.

John stated Phomopsis is showing up in his fields. John said rains were very little this summer, late rains should help his flowers. Other crops are looking good.

Steve reported the corn crop will have record yields. Soybeans are showing white mold symptoms.

Tom stated Phomopsis is their major issue in sunflower. It is much more problematic than Sclerotinia.

#### **AGREET Update:**

John Swanson informed the Council there was an AGREET meeting last week. The Department of Ag and the University stated that a special meeting is needed, and John said they will be having a meeting late in October or early November to discuss hiring someone to work on Sclerotinia. John asked the group to provide him some known economic loss details.

#### **China Report**

John Swanson reported the amount of money China is spending on gaining people to work on sunflowers is huge. He was their keynote speaker on their sunflower program. He sent his presentation

in advance and was given approval that it was acceptable to present. John stated they need to stop stealing US germplasm. Speakers that presented after John also backed his presentation.

Discussion is now happening to determine what the costs of purchasing the germplasm will be. Talk is currently being discussed to set the payment at four times the current rate for royalties.

**Election of Officers:**

**Tom Dowdle moved to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of officers and seconded by Jerry Hasnedl. Motion Carries.**

**Website:**

Tina asked the board if there were any updates that need to be done for the website. Tina will send an email to Wendy asking for the new student's name and ask for items to be uploaded.

**University of MN – Plant Science Symposium Sponsorship**

Tina presented the sponsorship request to the committee for sponsoring the Minnesota Plant Science Symposium. The council stated they will not sponsor the event since there are no research dollars being spent on sunflower. Tina will send a response back to John Hill Price.

**Prairie Grains Sponsorship**

Tom Dowdle reported that D & D has committed to a \$500 sponsorship and he is working on Pioneer. John Swanson stated that he visited with SunOpta and Tim Petry thought they would come through with \$500. Kevin visited with Scoular and he said they will come through with something.

**Other Business:**

Kevin stated that the research committee will be having a conference call to discuss 2019 priorities and asked if there are any ideas for him to bring up on the call. John Swanson will also be on the call. Kevin stated Phomopsis, Glyphosate application rate increase and planting accuracy (how much do skips and doubles cost the producer).

Tina asked if there are any suggestions for a grower to replace Jerry on the Council. His term is done in June 2019 and he stated he will be getting off the Council.

Next Meeting: January 8<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm dinner meeting at the Holiday Inn.

**Motion to adjourn by Kevin Capistran and seconded by Tom Dowdle. Motion Carries.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

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Chairman John Swanson  
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Secretary Steven Schmidt  
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