

Minutes
Minnesota Sunflower Council
Tuesday, January 7, 2020 11:00 am
Holiday Inn, Fargo, ND
Club II

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

Others Present: Tina Mittelsteadt, John Sandbakken, Clark Coleman and Jody Kerzman

The meeting was called to order by John Swanson at 11:15 am.

The minutes of the September 10 and October 17, 2019 were reviewed – **a motion to approve the minutes was made by Kevin Capistran and seconded by Tom Dowdle. Motion passed.**

Tina Mittelsteadt provided the financial report for December 2019. The Council collected \$5,449.89 in check-off funds and \$10.30 in interest. We paid \$227.05 in expenses. The MSC has a cash fund balance of \$48,978.68 as of December 31, 2019.

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

Prairie Grains

Kevin reported the morning session of the Prairie Grains Conference had good attendance. The afternoon session was light. The presenters had good information to provide to the producers that were there. Presenters were ADM, Cargill, SunOpta, Scoular, D & D Commodities, CHS and Red River Commodities.

John reported the afternoon session had some good questions after the presentations. Only suggestion John would have is to provide an outline to the presenters. Prairie Grains has asked MN Sunflower Council to continue their support for the conference. Consensus with the committee is to continue with the breakout sessions.

Candidates Update:

Tom Dowdle and Steven Schmidt have both agreed to run for re-elections. Candidate forms and bios have been submitted to the MN Department of Ag along with the grower lists for Region 1 and Region 2. Terms for both Tom and Steven expire June 30, 2020. The election process should be completed in April.

AGREET Update

John Swanson reported that there will be a pathologist hired and will be working at the U of MN in St. Paul. John was asked to be on the hiring committee for the position. Posting of the position will be towards the end of January. John Swanson has reviewed the job description for the position and made recommendations for changes. The committee accepted most of his requested changes.

Crop Reports

Tom Dowdle reported the sunflower crop was good in his area. They did have some Phomopsis issues at harvest time. Yields were about 2,500 lbs./ac. Oils were at 46.5 and 46.7. Seed sale for 2020 are up in his area.

Kevin Capistran said they had a good year with sunflowers. Yields averaged about 2,500 lbs./ac. He reported they had their sunflowers were in early and had an earlier maturing planting seed. Dark roast was minimal with the early harvest.

Greg Hilgeman reported his sunflowers are still unharvested.

John Swanson stated in August it was really dry and then the rains started, and the crop ended up being good.

Advisory Committee Appointment

John Swanson reported we need to appoint a person to the Advisory Committee for Dr. Marisol Berti's research project. Kevin Capistran volunteered to be on the committee.

Other Business:

None

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 7th 7:30 AM via conference call.

Motion to adjourn by Tom Dowdle and seconded by Greg Hilgeman. Motion Carries.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

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Chairman John Swanson
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Secretary Steven Schmidt
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