

South Dakota Soybean Research & Promotion Council Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 10th, 2025 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

ACE Board Room – 5000 S. Broadband Lane, Suite 224

Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Present: David Struck, Chairman; David Iverson, Vice Chairman; John Horter, Secretary; Derrick Scott, Treasurer; Dawn Scheier, Bruce Haines, Chad Schooley, April Bowar and Mike McCranie

Staff Present: Jerry Schmitz, Executive Director; Becky Cypher, Executive Assistant; Mariah Kessler, Communications Director; Maggie Vander Laan, Communications Assistant; Danielle Dykstra, Administrative Assistant; Johnna Ringkob, Market Development & Research Director; and Valerie Willson, Program Director

Guests Present: Mark Berg, Contractor; Tanner Hento, SDSA

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Struck led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order – David Struck

Chairman Struck called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Approval of Agenda – David Struck

Motion:

Derrick Scott moved to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Bruce Haines.

Motion passed unanimously.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures – David Struck

Dawn Scheier noted a potential conflict with Houdek; John Horter noted a potential conflict with Cross Plains Industries; April Bowar noted a potential conflict with VAADC; and Derrick Scott noted a potential conflict with High Plains Processing.

Secretary's Report – John Horter, Secretary

Approve the minutes from the January 24, 2025 Board Meeting

Motion:

Dawn Scheier moved to approve the meeting minutes from the January 24, 2025 board meeting.

Seconded by Bruce Haines.

Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Derrick Scott

Review Financials

Treasurer Derrick Scott displayed the financials prepared by Scott Ritzman as of February 28, 2025 for the board to review.

CTIC Sponsorship

Motion:

Derrick Scott moved to sponsor the CTIC tour in the amount of \$7,500.

Seconded by Chad Schooley.

Motion passed unanimously.

Council Election Judges

Motion:

Mike McCranie moved to approve Erik Gerlach, Anthony Bly, and Jeff Griffin as the three election judges for the upcoming Council board elections, should they be needed.

Seconded by April Bowar.

Motion passed unanimously.

Clean Fuels Alliance America – Tom Verry

Tom Verry introduced himself and USB Director Tim Ostrem joined by telephone. Tom gave an update of the biodiesel industry, and shared updates on Clean Fuels. He thanked the board for their past support and leadership.

U.S. Meat Export Federation – John Hinners

John Hinners introduced himself and shared the mission of USMEF. He gave an update on USMEF and noted their spring conference is May 21 – 25 in Ft. Worth, TX this year. He also gave a heads up that the Heartland Team will be in South Korea September 7 – 13 this year.

WISHH Representative – Dawn Scheier

Dawn stated our WISHH representative term is almost up. She asked if any board member wants to be the new representative – it is a three-year term. Dawn gave a brief overview of WISHH. She will send the notice announcing the deadline for nominations to Becky and Jerry.

Executive Director Report – Jerry Schmitz

Spring Survey Results

Jerry shared the results from the board production survey that was sent out to both boards.

FY26 Funding Requests – Research Investment Channel

FY26 Funding Requests – Biofuels Investment Channel

FY26 Funding Requests – International Marketing Investment Channel

FY26 Funding Requests – Domestic Marketing Investment Channel

Nexyst Presentation – Dennis Pap, Founder

FY26 Funding Requests – Public Information | Education Investment Channel

FY26 Funding Requests – Operations Investment Channel

Other Items

Jerry mentioned the USGLC Heartland Summit taking place on April 22 in Mitchell. He announced SD Trade has hired a new executive director to replace Luke Lindberg. Jesse Fonkert will be the new CEO as of April 21, 2025. Jerry announced two new pieces of legislation that affect the Council meetings – SB74 and HB1059.

Public Input

Chairman Struck asked for public input at 4:15 p.m. None received.

Motion:

David Iverson moved to give final approval for the following FY26 projects and amounts immediately: SDSU Research - \$375,108; Pioneer BioTech - \$52,660; Yield Contest - \$127,500; SD Soybean Network Radio and Print Copy - \$24,700; SDSA Golf - \$2,500; SD State Athletics - \$41,000; USD Athletics - \$20,000; and Lawrence & Schiller (Early Education Efforts) - \$40,000.

Seconded by April Bowar.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion:

Mike McCranie moved to transfer \$10,000 from the FY25 Domestic Committee – Ag Development line item to the Domestic Committee – Firefighting SoyFoam line item for the South Dakota Fire School taking place in June 2025.

Seconded by Chad Schooley.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion:

Derrick Scott moved to enter into executive session at 4:17 p.m. pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Seconded by John Horter.

Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

Motion:

John Horter moved to exit executive session at 4:45 p.m.

Seconded by Chad Schooley

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion:

Mike McCranie moved to adjourn the board meeting at 4:47 p.m.

Seconded by Derrick Scott.

Motion passed unanimously.



John Horter, Secretary
SD Soybean Research & Promotion Council



Date Approved