

SOUTH DAKOTA WHEAT COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, March 19, 2025 - 9:00 AM
Executive Conference Room – SDSU Research Park
2301 Research Park Way Brookings, SD 57006

Minutes

Present:

SDWC: Tregg Cronin, Jamie Johnson, Bryan Jorgensen, Leon Koepp, Jon Kleinjan, Levi Neuharth
SDSU: Joseph Cassady, Karl Glover, Sunish Sehgal, Melissa Vande Weerd (others attended briefly for presentations/introductions)

Others: Caren Assman – SDWGA (virtual), Michael Schelling – Dakota CPA (virtual), David Smith – SDFU (virtual), Cheyenne Tant – SDDANR (virtual)

Call to order:

Chairman Jorgensen called the meeting to order at 9:01 am and announced the presence of a quorum.

Approval of Agenda:

Koepp moved to approve the agenda and Cronin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes:

Johnson made and Koepp seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2024 meeting. Motion passed.

Public Comment:

No comments.

Organization Reports:

1. South Dakota Wheat Growers Association

Assman reported on the following activities:

- Media Exposure – Prairie Grains/Wheat Advantage
- Representation – DC Hill visits, HB 1165, SB 191, SB 216, Chandler Goule leaving NAWG
- Educational – Rotate into profits, Ag Horizons
- Assman Retirement pending upon locating a replacement

2. South Dakota Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Tant discussed the following:

- Legislation involving CAFOs, poultry labeling, bird permits
- HB 1165, SB 74A, SB 1059B

3. South Dakota State University

Cassady commented on the following:

- New hires
- Federal policies

- Enrollment increases

Financial Reports:

Schelling presented the financial statements through 02/28/2025. Some discussion followed. **Cronin moved to accept the financial reports and Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

South Dakota State University Reports:

FY25 SDWC grant recipients were allowed ten minutes apiece to give a progress report. Presenters included Drs. Gazala Ameen, Karl Glover, Maitiniyazi Maimaitijiang, Sunish Sehgal, Madalyn Shires, and Adam Varenhorst. Following the progress reports, new SDSU researchers (hired since March 2024) were allowed a few minutes to introduce themselves. New researchers were Drs. Genjun Chen, David Karki, Ravi Mural, and Jagdeep Sidu.

Staff Reports:

Kleinjan reported on the following activities with discussion taking place:

- Operations review
- Ag Horizons – Pierre, SD, 12/3/24 – 12/4/24
- Prairie Grains – Grand Forks, ND, 12/11/24 – 12/12/24
- PNW tour – Portland, OR 1/8/25, – 1/11/25
- SDARL board meeting – Rapid City, SD, 1/31/25
- Syngenta Leadership at its Best – Washington, DC, 2/3/25 – 2/7/25
- NCI Wheat Education update – Fargo, ND 2/19/25
- Mitchell Tech scholarship luncheon – Mitchell, SD, 2/28/25
- Brookings Community Leader Round Table – Brookings, SD 3/12/25

Market Development:

Kleinjan reported on the following market development activities with discussion taking place:

- USWBI Forum – Austin, TX, 12/8/24 - 12/10/24, Kleinjan, Jorgensen
- US Wheat/NAWG winter meeting – Washington, DC, 1/13/25 – 1/16/25, Kleinjan, Cronin
- Wheat Foods Council winter meeting – Yuma, AZ, 2/10/25 – 2/14/25, Kleinjan, Johnson
- Wheat Quality Council -Olathe, KS, 2/18/25 – 2/20/25, no attendees
- SE Asia Board Trade Team – Manila, Singapore, Bangkok, 3/2/25 – 3/11/25, Kleinjan

Lunch (30 minute break)**Production Forecast:**

Current HRW conditions were reported as poor in many parts of the state due to excessively dry conditions.. After discussion, the commission forecasted HRW harvested acres at 632,000 acres (80% of planted) with a projected yield of 40 bu/acre. Commissioners expressed hope that HRS plantings would be steady in 2025. The commission hopes for 675,000 acres of HRS to be harvested at yield of 42 bu/acre.

South Dakota State University Research FY26 Research Proposals

Extensive discussion took place on the FY26 SDSU Research Proposals. **Cronin made and Johnson seconded a motion to approve funding to SDSU for \$652,275 as outlined in the following table. Motion passed.**

PI	Project	Amount
Ameen	Enhancing Resilience of Wheat Against Diseases	\$ 50,000
Chen	Glutopeak Method-Driven SD Wheat Quality	\$ 25,000
Glover	SW Breeding for Disease Resistance	\$ 35,000
Glover	SW Breeding & Cultivator Devel.	\$ 190,000
Glover	Spring and Winter Wheat Variety Trials	\$ 40,000
Maimaitijiang	Develop Early Forecasting System w/ Imaging and AI	\$ 30,281
Sehgal	WW Breeding and Variety Development	\$ 175,000
Sehgal	Accelerated Breeding for Enhanced Resilience in WW	\$ 45,922
Shires	Wheat Disease Diagnostics and Nurseries	\$ 25,000
Sidhu	Root Traits for Improving Drought Stress	\$ 36,072
Total		\$ 652,275

SDWC FY26 Budget

Commissioners reviewed the initial draft FY26 SDWC Budget with the help of Schelling. Final review and approval will occur during the June 2025 SDWC meeting.

Administrative Matters:

The following matters were presented with discussion taking place:

- A. Sponsorship request for Phytopathological Society meeting (denied)
- B. Annual report (report will be generated as a PDF but minimal copies printed)
- C. Refund policy review (options for ‘modernizing’ to be presented at the June meeting)
- D. Communications review (McCracken will be asked to present at the June meeting)
- E. Upcoming out-of-state travel was reviewed:

Out-of State-Event	Date(s)	Location	Attending	Approved
NCI/NCC meeting	24 Mar 25	Fargo, ND	Kleinjan	6/20/24
HRS winter nursery support	TBA	Yuma, AZ	Kleinjan	9/5/24
WQC HRW tour	12 May 25 – 15 May 25	Kansas	?	x
N/SE Asia Marketing Conference	21 May 25 – 28 May 25	Vietnam	?	x
Wheat Foods Council meeting	17 Jun 25 - 19 Jun 25	Minneapolis, MN	Kleinjan, Johnson?	x
USDA crop report lockup	30 Jun 25	Washington, DC	Kleinjan	x
US Wheat summer meeting	15 Jul 25 - 17 Jul 25	Boise, ID	Kleinjan, Cronin?	x

Cronin made and Koeppel seconded a motion to approve the out-of-state travel as presented (previously non-approved travel marked with an ‘x’). Motion passed.

Commission Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for June 30, 2025, in Brookings, SD.

Executive Session

Jorgensen called for Executive Session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2. Cronin made and Johnson seconded a motion to move to Executive Session. Executive Session entered at 2:54 pm.

Return to Open Session

Chairman Jorgensen ended Executive Session at 3:08 pm. Koepp made a motion to record that legal and contractual issues were discussed in Executive Session and that no action was taken. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Kleinjan asked if it was necessary to have a motion for the yearly support for the SD Soil Health Coalition since it was not listed as a separate line item in the budget. Discussion followed. **Cronin made a motion to support the SDSHC in the amount of \$5,000 for FY25 and Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

Adjournment

Johnson moved to adjourn at 3:10 pm, seconded by Cronin. Meeting adjourned.

Leon Koepp, Secretary Date

Jonathan Kleinjan, Executive Director Date