

SOUTH DAKOTA WHEAT COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday; September 10, 2026; 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 Koeppe, Jon Kleinjan, Levi Neuharth
Others: Joe Cassady (SDSU), Justin Gilpin (Kansas Wheat), Sheri Glazier (Wheat Foods Council),
Kyle Gustafson (SDCIA), Sam Kieffer (NAWG), Brian Liedl (US Wheat), Karen Sanguinet (SDSU),
Jennifer Scharpe (SDWGA), Aimee Soller (Home Baking Assc.), Mark Sandager, (SDSU
Foundation), Michael Schelling (Dakota CPA), Cheyenne Tant (DANR)

Call to order:

Chairman Jorgensen called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and announced the presence of a quorum. Introductions were conducted around the table

Approval of Agenda:

Johnson moved to approve the agenda as presented and Cronin seconded the motion.
Motion passed.

Approval of the Minutes:

Cronin moved and Johnson seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the June 3, 2026 meeting. Motion passed.

Public Comment:

No comments.

Production Forecast:

The current USDA numbers were discussed; HRW: 480K harvested acres at 47 bu/acre; HRS: 550K acres harvested at 44 bu/acre. Total production for SD should be ~47 million bu. Some discussion followed on planted acreage for 2026-27.

Financial Reports:

Schelling presented the FY27 financial statements through 8/31/2026. There was no discussion. Schelling also stated that the audit was nearly complete with no issues found. Quickbooks access was also discussed. **Johnson moved and Koeppe seconded a motion to downgrade the Quickbooks subscription from Plus to Simple and replace Terry Hand with Jon Kleinjan as a read-only user. Motion passed.**

Organization Reports:

1. **NAWG/South Dakota Wheat Growers Association**

Kieffer presented the new strategic plan for NAWG.

Scharpe reported on the following activities:

- Newsletter and podcast
- Session
- Social media activities

2. US Wheat Associates

Brian Liedl presented slides showing the projected returns on the SDWC dues to US Wheat Associates.

3. Wheat Foods Council

Glazier shared her new vision for Wheat Foods Council. Board meeting to be held 9/21-9/22 in Oklahoma City.

4. Home Baking Association

Soller commented on the Home Baking Association. No need for a full-time executive. Board meeting to be held 9/18/26 in Pittsburgh, PA.

5. EatWheat

Gilpin shared comments on EatWheat.org. Hoping to join with Wheat Foods Council.

6. South Dakota Dept. of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Tant reported on the following:

- Ag Stakeholder's meeting
- Preparation for upcoming session
- Commissioner terms

7. South Dakota State University

Sanguinet commented on the following:

- Failed search for forages specialist
- Nematology position
- New Dean of Extension

8. SD Crop Improvement Association

Gustafson reported on the following:

- Inspection acreage numbers – HRW down 20%, HRS flat
- SD-Sundog sales/royalty change to \$1.00

Staff Reports

Kleinjan reported on the following activities with discussion taking place:

- Commissioner terms expiring – Cronin (4), Johnson (1), Koeppe (3), October 30, 2026. Kleinjan will submit a request for reappointment for Johnson and Koeppe, Cronin will need a replacement.
- Operations – Office move, refund policy change
- SDARL board meetings
- SDSU/USDA field days
- The Sour Bakery
- Draper Winter Wheat meeting
- State Fair/Ag Stakeholder's meeting

Johnson moved and Neuharth seconded a motion to allow refund application forms to be valid for more than one year. Motion passed.

Market Development:

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

- US Wheat Associates Summer meeting; June 23-25, Fargo, ND – Cronin, Kleinjan, Koeppe, and Johnson attended
- Peruvian trade team, June 28-30, statewide – Cronin, Kleinjan
- Latin American Buyer's Conference, Santa Fe, NM - Kleinjan
- China round table trade discussion, Mitchell, SD - Kleinjan

Administrative Matters:

Upcoming out-of-state travel was reviewed with discussion taking place:

Out-of State-Event	Date(s)	Location	Attending	Approved
Home Baking Assc. board meeting	18 Sep 26	Pittsburgh, PA	Kleinjan?	x
Wheat Foods Council board meeting	21 Sep 26 - 22 Sep 26	Oklahoma City, OK	Kleinjan?	x
Wheat Execs meeting	1 Oct 26	Denver, CO	Kleinjan	x
US Wheat fall board meeting	3 Nov 26 - 5 Nov 26	Albuquerque, NM	Kleinjan, ???	6/3/26
NCC fall meeting	19 Nov 26	Fargo, ND	Kleinjan, ???	x
USWBSI National FHB Forum	7 Dec 26 - 9 Dec 26	Louisville, KY	Jorgensen, Kleinjan	6/3/26
Prairie Grains conference	9 Dec 26 - 10 Dec 26	Grand Forks, ND	??	x
US Wheat winter board meeting	7 Feb 27 - 10 Feb 27	Washington, DC	Kleinjan, ???	x

Cronin moved and Johnson seconded a motion to approve the out-of-state travel as presented (previously non-approved travel marked with an 'x'). Motion passed.

Funding requests:

The following funding requests were discussed:

- Mark Sandager from the SDSU Foundation presented a preliminary proposal to fund endowments for the wheat breeders at SDSU. No action taken.
- Dr. Ravi Mural asked for \$15,000 to assist in the purchase of a drone. The instrument can be used to help the spring wheat breeder with aerial phenotyping. No action taken.
- Other organizations (tentatively approved in June)
 - Wheat Foods Council – **Cronin moves, Koeppe seconds \$26,862 for FY27 support. Motion passed.**
 - Home Baking Association – **Koeppe moves, Neuharth seconds \$2,600 for FY27 support. Motion passed.**

- EatWheat – **Neuharth moves, Johnson seconds \$10,000 for FY27 support. Motion passed.**

Commission Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2026 to be held virtually.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was required.

Adjournment

Cronin moved to adjourn at 12:34 pm, seconded by Johnson. Meeting adjourned.

Leon Koeppe, Secretary

Date

Jonathan Kleinjan, Executive Director

Date