

South Dakota Corn Utilization Council  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 24, 2022

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- I. Call to Order** - SDCUC Vice President Chad Blindauer called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM on Thursday, February 24, 2022.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.
  - Roll Call – DaNita Murray called roll with the following members present:  
Jim Klebsch, Reno Brueggeman, Robert Walsh, Justin Minnaert, Chad Blindauer, Grant Rix (via telephone), Jim Ketelhut
  - **Absent:** Stuart Samson
  - **Others:** DaNita Murray, Doug Noem, Nicholas Fickbohm, Gerry Heuer, Brenda Kruse, Michael Schelling, CPA, Annie from Argus Leader
- II. Approve Agenda** - The proposed agenda was approved unanimously after a motion by Jim Klebsch and second by Reno Brueggeman.
- III. Approve Minutes** – Minutes of the November 23, 2021 and January 20, 2022 (Zoom) meeting were approved following a motion by Robert Walsh and second by Jim Ketelhut.
- IV. Approve Financials** – Michael Schelling, CPA, presented the financial statements (Balance Sheet & Statements of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances) for the period ending 12/31/21. A motion was made by Jim Ketelhut, seconded by Reno Brueggeman and carried to approve the financial statements.

**V. Educational Trailer Improvements Discussion & Approval** - Brenda Kruse gave a presentation on updating the existing 10 year old educational trailer. Board members had the opportunity to tour the existing educational trailer prior to the meeting. Currently, SD Corn does not own a vehicle to pull the trailer, so options are being explored to rent a vehicle. After further discussion, a motion was made by Reno Brueggeman, seconded by Robert Walsh and carried to use the existing trailer for the current summer season, but continue to investigate options/proposals for replacing both the existing trailer and interior educational components with new for 2023.

**VI. Certification of Election Results** – District 1 candidate, Nicholas Fickbaum, and District 2 candidate, Justin Minnaert, ran unopposed. A motion was made by Reno Brueggeman, seconded by Jim Klebsch and approved to certify the election of these two candidates. Chad Blindauer recognized and thanked Robert Walsch for his years of service to the Board, representing District 1. In District 3, there was an election between Travis Paulson and Doug Noem. An independent panel of 3 judges assembled yesterday at the SD Corn office to count ballots. The judges certified the voting eligibility of the ballots counted and the election results on a signed election form. It was reported that Doug Noem was declared the winner of the run-off election. After a motion by Jim Ketelhut, second by Justin Minnaert, Doug Noem was declared as elected and certified as the elected representative for District 3. Motion carried.

**VII. Board Appointments** – After a motion by Justin Minnaert, second by Reno Brueggeman, and carried, the following appointments were made:

- NCGA delegates & alternates – delegates: Grant Rix, Chad Blindauer; alternates: Reno Brueggeman, Justin Minnaert
- USMEF alternate – Jim Ketelhut
- AUSD alternate – no decision
- ACE delegate and alternate – no decision
- SD Nutrient Research & Education Council – Jim Ketelhut

(replacing Robert Walsh)

- VIII. NCGA FY 2023 funding proposal – Tom Haag, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Mike Lefever, Board Liaison, presented NCGA FY2023 funding proposal.**
- IX. USGC FY 2023 funding proposal – Kim Atkins, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and Ellen Zimmerman, Director, Industry Relations, presented USGC FY2023 funding proposal.**
- X. USMEF FY 2023 funding proposal – John Hinnners, Sr VP, Industry Relations, presented USMEF FY2023 funding proposal.**
- XI. SDSU FY 2023 funding proposal – Dr. John Killefer, Dean of the College of Agriculture & Biological Sciences and Mark Sandager, Development Director, presented various funding opportunities for FY2023.**
- XII. Forensic Examination – Brett Koenecke (via Zoom), Attorney for SDCUC, introduced Robert Rauenhorst (via Zoom), Certified Fraud Examiner, ELO CPA’s and Advisors, who had conducted an examination of the SDCUC finances, grants, and related expenses for FY19, FY20, and FY21. Mr. Rauenhorst reviewed his report outlined his findings. It was also noted that the State Auditor General would publically post the report.**
- XIII. Wrap-Up Discussion/Unfinished Business – Reno Brueggeman brought up the status of the SDCUC donation to the beef barn/DEX building at the SD State Fairgrounds. After further discussion, it was moved by Reno Brueggeman, seconded by Jim Ketelhut and approved unanimously to contribute \$100,000 to such project. Jim Ketelhut notes Dakota Lakes research farm and the possibility of a future funding proposal.**
- XIV. Public Comment – Vice President Blindauer asked for comments from members of the public. No comments.**

**XV. Officer Elections, terms begin March 1, 2022 –**

- **President** – Jim Ketelhut made a motion to nominate Grant Rix for President, seconded by Chad Blindauer and carried unanimously.
- **Vice President** – Vice President Blindauer turned the gavel over to Jim Ketelhut. A motion was made by Reno Brueggeman, seconded by Jim Klebsch and approved unanimously to nominate Chad Blindauer for Vice President. Jim Ketelhut returned gavel to Vice President Blindauer.
- **Secretary/Treasurer** – A motion was made by Justin Minnaert, seconded by Reno Brueggeman and carried unanimously to nominate Jim Ketelhut for Secretary/Treasurer.

**XVI. Adjournment** – A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Klebsch, seconded by Justin Minnaert. The meeting was adjourned by the chair.