

Minutes of SD Oilseeds Council
SDSU Regional Extension Center
412 West Missouri Ave. Pierre, South Dakota
January 20, 2026

11:30 AM Call to order - Quorum Declared by President Todd

Chuck Todd	Present	Lance Hourigan	Present
Kei Oberlander	Present	Ryan Olson	Present
Shannon DuPoy	Present		

Tom Young, Executive Director Austin Young, Admin Assistant

Visitors: None

- A. **Approval of the Agenda Amended** motion Hourigan /Oberlander passed
- B. **Re-appointment** – Executive Director Young announced that DANR Secretary Hunter had formally reappointed Hourigan, Olson, and DuPoy to four-year terms.
- C. **Approval of Amended Minutes - February 18, 2025** President Todd asked for comments on the amended minutes. **DuPoy moved to approve; Olson seconded. Motion passed.**
- D. **11:45 Public Testimony** - time for public comment. None was given.
- E. **Conflict of interest announcements by Vice Pres. Oberlander**

President Todd gave control of the meeting to Vice President Oberlander.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures were present by Council Members Ryan Olson and Charles Todd. Mr. Olson and Mr. Todd each recused themselves from all discussion, deliberation, and action related to these disclosures.

The remaining Council member reviewed the disclosures and made following

Motion:

The Oilseeds Council has received written conflict-of-interest disclosure letters from members Ryan Olson and Charles Todd. Mr. Olson and Mr. Todd each recused themselves from all discussion, deliberation, and action related to these disclosures. Their disclosures reported entering into, or being asked to enter into, a private rental agreement with a grant recipient for the purpose of conducting research funded by the Council. The Council’s funding motion to approve the grant was approved on January 14, 2025, and an agreement signed on March 3, 2025 with Pioneer Biotech. The rental arrangements allowing Pioneer BioTech to conducted their research on the members’ property arose after that approval and therefore did not influence the Council’s action in giving the grant. The members stated they did not receive a payment for the use of their land. Both members disclosed the potential conflicts at the first Council meeting available.

The Council reviewed the disclosures and as the arrangements do not violate any other provision of law and the members have fully complied with disclosure and recusal requirements. With this motion, the Council approves the actions of Ryan Olson and Charles Todd. Motion by Hourigan / 2nd Olson. Passed with Hourigan, Olson, Oberlander as Yea / Nay 0 / Olson, Todd recused or abstained.

The disclosure letters submitted by Mr. Olson and Mr. Todd are attached to these minutes as Addendum A and Addendum B, respectively.

F. Review of Open Meeting Law

Executive Director Young presented the annual review of the South Dakota Open Meeting Laws brochure, summarizing key requirements and updates as mandated by SB 74

G. Checkoff Procedures

Executive Director Young reviewed the procedures for refunding checkoff dollars and answered member questions regarding timelines and documentation.

Action Items reviewed and approved:

1) Financials Review and amendments to Budget

- a) Review Financials Young presented FY26 financials as of December 31, 2025, and reviewed FY25 performance, noting FY25 ended approximately \$42,000 above projections due to higher income from interest and sunflower sales.

- b) Review and amend FY26 Budget

Reviewed of the FY26 actual vs. budget

Motion: Amending the FY 2026 budget to Transfer \$30,000 from reserves to Joint Research fund with the National Sunflower Association. Motion by Hourigan, second by Olson. Motion passed.

- c) **National Sunflower Association membership contract approval** for October 1, 2025 thru Sept. 30, 2026

- i) **Motion: Approval of the FY27 Contract with the National Sunflower Association at a minimum of \$200,000 or 60% of net sunflower FY26 income. By Oberlander / DePoy passed.**

- ii) **Motion: SDOC ix appointing Olson and DuPoy to represent the Council on the NSA Board for a 3-year term. Motion by Hourigan, Second by Oberlander Passed**

Todd currently sits on the board and the 4th of 4 seats is vacant.

- d) **Approval of NSA Joint Research**

- i) Review of Seed Weevil vs. Pyrethroid insecticides, Adam Varenhorst, SDSU & Others

- ii) **Motion: Council shall enter in to grants of research with the National Sunflower Association as determined by SD Oilseed Council members on the NSA Board of directors. Funding of up to \$30,000 will be available in FY25 for these grants paid through the NSA. Motion by Hourigan / Olson passed**

- e) **Approval of Fees for NSA Conference**

- i) NSA Summer Conference is 06/23/2026 Ends: 06/25/2026 at The Lodge in Deadwood, SD

- ii) Approval of expenses to attend Conference

Motion: The Council will reimburse Council members and the Executive Director's expenses to attend the 2026 NSA Summer Conference. Expenses include: per diem, milage, meals, room and registration. by Hourigan / DuPoy passed

2) National Sunflower Association, NSA, Report

Todd, Olson, Hourigan, and DuPoy reported on the NSA activities. Research grant requests are being reviewed. Market Development is moving away from Spain and hoping to do more in Korea. NSA by laws may need to be amended concerning membership dues and seats on the board.

3) Review of FY25 Grants for Research Projects – 2pm

Young facilitated discussion of ongoing and completed research projects:

- Bishnu Karki – Sunflower waste for production of: Mushrooms, improved animal feed and a clear film “plastic replacement” which can show change in food preservation.
- Christofer Graham- used funds from summer '24 paid in FY25 to plant sunflowers in fields in spring of 2025 to which will be planted to other crops in the spring of '26 funding FY27
- Ali Nafchi – an inexpensive Laser Scarecrow. Having quality problems in motors.
- Thandi Nieya – Fertilizer placement on Sunflowers final paper presented. Increase in yields were shown in rates of 75 Lbs. of N applied broadcast or banded.
- Pioneer Biotech

Developing an insecticide using biotechnology for the control of Sunflower Seed Weevil.

First tests are showing reduced insect damage. Will be needing more evaluations to present to EPA. Approval is needed for large test applications.

4) Service Contracts

- i) Groundworks - Ag in the Classroom - reviewed with no action for funding.
- ii) PUC update of FY26 audit of grain buyers and agreement to extended audits

5) Election of Officers

Motion to elect by Hourigan / Oberlander Passed

Chuck Todd, President - Kie Oberlander, Vice President - Lance Hourigan, Sec.\ Treasurer

6) Executive Director Position

Executive Director Young announced he will not be seeking to renew his Management Contract at the end of the fiscal year.

Motion: Executive Director Young will advertise to fill the position of Executive Director. The position will be offered as a part time position as an independent contract agreement. Pay will be based on experience. Upon the closing of advertisement, the Director review the applications with the Council and set up interviews as need. The Council would like to fill the position before June 1, 2026 as the current contract will end June 30, 2026. By Hourigan / Oberlander Passed

7) Next Meeting Date in February Topics include Research Review and FY27 Budget

NOTICE- Members of the SD Oilseeds Council will be attending the NSA Spring Meeting February 9-14 in Fargo, ND.

8) Adjourn

1-20-2026

Ryan Olson, Member
South Dakota Oilseeds Council
18611 303rd Ave
Onida, SD 57564

To the South Dakota Oilseeds Council:

I am submitting this written disclosure pursuant to SDCL 323 regarding a potential conflict of interest.

Pioneer BioTech is a recipient of a research grant awarded by the South Dakota Oilseeds Council on March 3, 2025. Pioneer BioTech asked to enter into a private contract with them to rent a area for the purpose of conducting the funded research. This arrangement would result in me receiving compensation in the form of rental payments. I did not take a payment of rental payment from Pioneer BioTech. However, because this contract involves a party who receives funding through a decision of the Council, it constitutes an interest in a contract as defined under SDCL 3232.1.

I am therefore formally disclosing this potential conflict and requesting that the Council review and determine whether the arrangement may be authorized under SDCL 3233.1.

I will recuse myself from all discussions, deliberations, or votes related to this grant, the contractor, or any matter that could affect this agreement.

Please include this disclosure in the Council's official minutes and forward the required documentation to the Auditor General and Attorney General as required by statute.

Respectfully,



Ryan Olson

Member

South Dakota Oilseeds Council

1-20-2026

Charles Todd
Member, South Dakota Oilseeds Council
18104 302nd Ave
Onida, SD 57564
toddbranch@venturecomm.net

To the South Dakota Oilseeds Council:

I am submitting this written disclosure pursuant to SDCL 3-23 regarding a potential conflict of interest.

Pioneer BioTech is a recipient of a research grant awarded by the South Dakota Oilseeds Council on March 3, 2025. At a later date, Pioneer BioTech asked to enter into a private contract with them to rent a portion of my field for the purpose of conducting the funded research. This arrangement would result in me receiving compensation in the form of rental payments. I did not take a payment of rental payment from Pioneer BioTech. However, because this contract involves a party who receives funding through a decision of the Council, it constitutes an interest in a contract as defined under SDCL 3-23-2.1.

I am therefore formally disclosing this potential conflict and requesting that the Council review and determine whether the arrangement may be authorized under SDCL 3-23-3.1.

I will recuse myself from all discussions, deliberations, or votes related to this grant, the contractor, or any matter that could affect this agreement.

Please include this disclosure in the Council's official minutes and forward the required documentation to the Auditor General and Attorney General as required by statute.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles Todd', written over a horizontal line.

Charles Todd
Member, South Dakota Oilseeds Council