South Dakota Corn Utilization Council (SDCUC)
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, February 21, 2024
SD Corn Office: 4712 Technopolis Dr., Sioux Falls, SD

M I N U T E S

I. Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

II. Call to Order
President Chad Blindauer called the meeting to order at 9:09 AM.

III. Roll Call
Members Present

Nicholas Fickbohm	Jay Esser
Doug Noem	Reno Brueggeman
Chris Nickeson	Chad Blindauer
Grant Rix	Jim Ketelhut

Members Absent
Justin Minnaert

Others Present

DaNita Murray	Amanda Bechen
Abbey Brunner	Patrick Mahoney
Margaret Pennock	Gerry Heuer

IV. Agenda Approval
A motion was made by Reno Brueggeman, seconded by Jim Ketelhut, and approved unanimously to approve the agenda.

V. Declaration of Election, District 7
It was moved by Jim Ketelhut, seconded by Jay Esser, and approved unanimously to declare/appoint Reno Brueggeman as the board member from District 7.

VI. US Grains Council
Ryan LeGrand, President and CEO, gave a presentation on the FY 2025 funding request.

ASK: Base: $219,243 (+4%)
Expanded Ethanol Program: $150,000
                         TOTAL: $369,243

VII. Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Jay Esser, seconded by Jim Ketelhut, and approved unanimously to accept the SDCUC Board Meeting Minutes from December 6, 2023, and December 21, 2023.

VIII. Approval of Financial Statements
Michael Schelling, CPA, Dakota CPA, presented the Balance Sheet comparing 2023 and 2022 for the period ending 12/31/23. Total assets increased from $8.5 million to just under $9.4 for the 12-month period. He also presented the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance for the 3 and 6 months ended 12/31/23 and 12/31/22. Excess revenue over expenses for the period ended 12/31/23 was $1,053,537. A motion was made by Jim Ketelhut, seconded by Nick Fickbohm, and approved unanimously to accept the financial reports.

IX. U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF)
Joe Schuele, VP Communications, and Dean Meyer, Past President presented a funding proposal for FY 2025.
    ASK: $155,000 (+7%)

X. E30/NEGA Update
Hunter Flodman, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, gave an update on Phase II of the E30 project, involving 400 State of Nebraska vehicles using E30.

XI. Flynn Wright Update
Mel Peterson reported on the results of the digital campaign, designed to reach young drivers in eastern South Dakota for the 2023 holiday season with an ethanol branding message.

XII. National Corn Growers Association (NCGA)
Dan Wesley, NCGA Board Member from Nebraska, gave a funding proposal for FY 2025.   ASK: Base Funding: $584,000 (+2%)
                    Action Team: $111,000
    Fuel Dispenser Infrastructure: $143,000
                    TOTAL: $838,000

XIII. Staff Updates
DaNita-Reported that she is working on a fertilizer plan with other states. Research proposal requests to be included in the FY 2025 continue to be reviewed are to be one page in length.
Margaret-Reported that only 2 people have called to cancel/not renew membership. Also discussed the Corn Yield Contest report.
Amanda-SD Corn annual report distributed in January with a savings of $19,000 from previous year. Annual Conference made a profit of $11,500, as compared to a loss of

$13,000 the prior year. Also reported on upcoming Washington Pavilion Ag Day and updating information for the Pipestone Discovery Barn.

Abbey-Gave a report on first-time refund requests.

Patrick-Discussed the Elevator Reports through 12/31/23 as reported by the State of South Dakota.

XIV. **Radicle Challenge Proposal – Iowa Corn**

Brian Jones, Chief Operating Officer, & Alex Buck, Director of Industrial Innovation, discussed the progress being made on new uses for corn, in cooperation with other states, including Kentucky, Illinois and South Dakota. After further discussion, a motion was made by Chad Blindauer, second by Nick Fickbohm, and approved unanimously to provide a grant of $108,648.41 towards the Consulting Agreement Contribution for Radicle, to be paid in FY 2024.

XV. **VAM**

Alex Buck, Director of Industrial Innovation, Iowa Corn, reported on the VAM project.
ASK: $25,000 - $50,000 per year
After further discussion, a motion was made by Chad Blindauer, seconded by Nick Fickbohm, and carried unanimously to provide $50,000 in FY 2024, with an additional $50,000 in funding recommended for years 2 & 3, with further review and final approval by the Board each year.

XVI. **Other Business**

SDSU Bioprocessing Facility-

A motion was made by Reno Brueggeman, seconded by Grant Rix, and carried unanimously to approve two annual payments ($285,714.29 each) or $571,428.58 representing years 5 & 6 for the SDSU Bioprocessing Facility commitment. The remaining balance of $285,714.29 is due in June 2028.

Grant Rix-

Chairman Ketelhut recognized and thanked Grant Rix for his years of service on the SDCUC board of directors, since this is his last meeting.

XVII. **Public Comment**

No public representatives present.

XVIII. **Executive Session**

No Executive Session needed.

XIX. **SD Corn Utilization Council (SDCUC) Officer Elections**
President

President Blindauer opened the floor for nominations for President of the Board. Reno Brueggeman nominated Jim Ketelhut, second by Grant Rix. Doug Noem made a motion for nominations to cease, and a unanimous ballot be cast for Jim Ketelhut. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice President

President Jim Ketelhut opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. Chad Blindauer nominated Jay Esser, seconded by Doug Noem. Reno Brueggeman made a motion for nominations to cease, and a unanimous ballot be cast for Jay Esser. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary/Treasurer

President Jim Ketelhut opened the floor for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer. Chad Blindauer nominated Justin Minnaert, seconded by Jay Esser. Grant Rix made a motion for nominations to cease, and a unanimous ballot be cast for Justin Minnaert. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 2:50 PM by Chad Blindauer, seconded by Jay Esser. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reno Brueggeman, Secretary/Treasurer

Gerry Heuer, Recording Secretary