

Minutes
Hard Red Spring Wheat Quality Council Meeting
February 18, 2021
Virtual

Chairman Dr. Andrew Green called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Adopt Agenda

Erica Olson moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Scott Baker seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Green mentioned that the minutes from the last meeting had been distributed via email.

Minutes

Charlie Vogel moved to approve the minutes.

Wayne Moore seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Dave Green briefly covered the budget for HRS. He mentioned that the total budget is \$18,000. Roughly half is used for the grow outs and the other half goes to the USDA lab in Fargo for milling, developing the books, etc.

New officers

The below slate of officers for the hard spring technical board was presented to be approved.

Chair: Kathleen Trivette – General Mills

Vice Chair: Erica Olson – ND Wheat Commission

Secretary: Josh Weaver – Bay State Milling

Member: Joyana Baumann - NDSU

Member: Charlie Vogel – Minnesota Wheat

Brian Walker moved to approve the slate of officers.

Reid Christopherson seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Review of 2020 Line Evaluations, Joyana Baumann, NDSU Foundation Seedstocks

Eight lines were submitted for the trials. Two from 21st Century Genetics, one from Montana State, two from NDSU, one from Syngenta, and two from University of Minnesota. Two checks were grown – LCS Rebel (western check) and Linkert (eastern check). Grow outs were done in six locations and breeders selected which locations to have their varieties grown at. Joyana covered grow out conditions for 2020. She reported good moisture at planting, with some delays in eastern locations due to excess moisture. Growing season saw fairly good conditions,

but western locations did see drought stress. Minimal disease pressure but did see some issues in eastern locations. Harvest conditions were mostly dry and much improved compared to 2019.

Review of Sample Collection, Milling, Data Summary, Dr. Linda Dykes, USDA-ARS

The samples were received to the lab by September 15 this year. Some samples had to be dried as they came in a bit wet. Flour was shipped to cooperators by November 19 and the lab received the baking evaluations by January 22, 2021. There were no delays this year, no equipment malfunctions and everything went smooth.

Review of 2020 Growing Season for HRS Region

Neal Fisher- ND Wheat Commission

Charlie Vogel- MN Wheat

Cassidy Marn- MT Wheat and Barley

Reid Christopherson- SD Wheat

Each spring wheat state gave an update on their growing and harvest conditions for the 2020 crop year. The general consensus was that growing conditions were much better than 2019 with only a few isolated issues related to overly wet conditions, disease pressure and dry conditions.

Comments from Millers on 2020 Crop

Representatives from various milling companies commented on the 2020 spring wheat crop. It was noted that there was more protein distribution in the 14.0 to 14.5% range, versus more in the 14.5 to 15.0% range last year. There were very few quality related issues in this year's crop, also ending stock levels are quite high, so there is plenty of wheat to choose from to mitigate any issues. One miller noted that farinograph stabilities were similar to last year with most in the 10-12 minute range and some as high as 15 minutes. Another milling representative noted that they were seeing lower stabilities than last year, but the baking quality was very similar. So even with lower stability times, the baking quality was not affected. It was noted that it was a fairly seamless transition from old crop to new.

International Customer Perspective

Jim Peterson gave an overview of international customer perspective on the 2020 spring wheat crop. Jim mentioned that the larger supply levels of spring wheat were beneficial to overseas buyers to help mitigate any quality issues, of which there were few. For the most part, customers were fairly satisfied with the 2020 spring wheat crop. It was mentioned that ergot is a growing concern, especially with China having a very low limit on ergot of 0.01%. Some customers in Japan still express concern over lower farinograph stability times.

Open Discussion

Perspective of ND Farmer Looking at 2021

Phil Volk, NDWC Executive Board Member

Phil discussed the current conditions in his area of North Dakota, challenges for producers and acreage thoughts for 2021. He expressed concerns about dry conditions and low snow cover. The current conditions point to dry conditions at planting, but one spring rain can easily change that. Wheat is an important crop and should be a part of crop rotations, however, other commodities are extremely competitive right now. Some other options for producers right now are barley contracts for dog food which have no quality specs and flax, dry peas, and soybeans are all very competitive price wise.

COVID-19 Quarantines and Flour Demand for Home Baking

Kathleen Trivette, General Mills gave an overview of home baking during COVID and the increase in demand for flour for home use. It is expected that some of this demand will continue into 2021 as consumers will continue to cook and bake at home.

Preview of Afternoon Session on Line Review from 2020

Brian Walker, Miller Milling gave a brief explanation on the afternoon meeting that reviews the 2020 spring wheat lines.

Foss North America presentation

Adjourn

Erica Olson moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded by Mory Rugg.

Motion passed unanimously, and meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.