

NSAC Board Meetings - Summary of Minutes

BOARD MEETING – NOVEMBER 19, 2008

Minor Use – The board of directors passed a motion that NSAC spend member time to contract and arrange a meeting with FMC to pursue the registration of Authority including travel expenses with the end goal that once deficiencies with submission are addressed, to pursue a meeting with the Pest Management Regulatory Agency in Ottawa. D.Graham was given the action to allocate up to 50% of her time to achieve the final goal of registration.

Reserve Fund – The board reviewed the current financial position of the Association and a motion was passed that based on the 2008 income statement to date, to transfer \$50,000 into a reserve status for 2008.

NSAC Research – The board reviewed the four proposals presented and discussed the areas to allocate research dollars. It was agreed to pursue full research proposals on three projects and include these tentative dollars in the budget.

Website – In review of our current website, it was proposed that NSAC re-design the website to expand the information as well as provide growers with a more user-friendly site. A motion was approved to investigate options for re-designing the Associations website with an upper limit of \$1500 to be allocated towards the development of the new website.

BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 3RD, 2009

2009 Budget – The NSAC Board reviewed the 2009 budget as presented and the motion was approved that the financial 2009 budget be accepted as presented with the adjustment to the 2008 reserve allocation of \$65,000.

Sunflower Research – The board reviewed the research priorities and discussed areas to fund that would provide real time data during the Sunflower crop production year to alert growers of any issues that arise. A motion was passed that D.Graham develop a protocol for such a position. The Manitoba Sunflower Surveillance Survey would investigate potential yield and quality production parameters and report all finding on the NSAC website.

MB Sunflower Insect Survey – J.Gavloski requested a one year extension to continue the Manitoba Sunflower Insect Survey to further investigate bud moth damage. The NSAC approved the extension for 2009.

BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 25TH, 2009

Manitoba Special Crops Symposium Review – D.Graham provided a recap of the symposium including attendance in general as well as for Sunflower topics. The board reviewed tradeshow and grower commentary and made suggestions for next years show. The NSAC board agreed to continue with the partnership for 2010. Location was discussed for the 2010 symposium and it was agreed that the downtown format provided opportunities for interaction with all groups. It was agreed that the symposium may need to consider a move due to high costs of holding the event downtown however, to maintain our dates for 2010 we will return to the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

Sunflower Research – A motion was approve to fund R.Gulden's research proposal titled "Developing yield loss relationships and economic thresholds for difficult to manage weeds in Sunflower in Manitoba". A

second motion was made and carried that NSAC engages in herbicide trials for 2009 and allocated a budget of \$25,000 towards the research.

MB Beekeeper's Association – A.Kubinec has been receiving a number of phone calls regarding the recent resolutions that were passed at the MB Beekeepers Annual General Meeting regarding the impact on foraging bees from the use of insecticides on sunflower crops. A letter was received from the group outlining their concerns and asking for support from the NSAC to address the issue. D.Graham to respond to the letter from the MB Beekeeper's Association to outline NSAC's next steps to elevate the concerns outlined in the letter and offer the opportunity to meet and further discuss areas to provide education.

MASC Meeting – D.Graham provided a review of the annual meeting held with Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation regarding the possibility of offering insurance to cover growers' losses from blackbird damage. The option of spot loss damage was presented as a possibility. NSAC requested that MASC develop a mock-up model to demonstrate the costs for such insurance for the Association to present to our membership.

MCVET Post-registration Trials – The board reviewed the locations selected for 2008 and agreed to move the Portage site to the Treherne area to reflect the number of Sunflower acres grown in the region.

Election of Officers – Blair Woods was acclaimed as President for a second year, Kelly Dobson as Vice-President and Luc Remillard as Secretary/Treasurer. The committees were structured based on knowledge of the Board of Directors and approved.