



Minutes of the NREC Research Committee  
November 27, 2018  
Office of Brandt Consolidated, Inc.  
2935 Koke Mill Road, Springfield IL 62711

Committee Members Present: Ed Corrigan (Committee Chair), Matt Duncan, Robert Mullen, Jenny Mennenga, Dale Hadden, Dean Campbell, Jeff Kirwan, Curt Zehr, Chuck Cawley, Cindy Skrudud, Trevor Sample, Don Guinnip, Paul Jeschke

Present on Phone: Matt Duncan

Also present: Dr. Robert Hoeft (NREC Research Advisor), Julie Armstrong (NREC Executive Director), Dr. Shani Golovay (NREC Research Manager), Lauren Lurkins (Illinois Farm Bureau Government Affairs), Travis Deppe (Illinois Corn Growers Staff), and Michael Ganschow (incoming Research Committee member)

Chairman Corrigan called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

Chairman Corrigan asked the attendees to introduce themselves.

Chairman Corrigan asked Julie Armstrong to review the Conflict of Interest Policy

Dean Campbell discussed that he may have a conflict of interest with one project.  
Dale Hadden moved and Curt Zehr seconded that Dean be allowed to vote on all proposals.  
Motion carried.

Chairman Corrigan reviewed the meeting purpose and intended outcomes and encouraged members to remain focused on the goal of funding projects that are critical to meeting the needs of Illinois agriculture.

Chairman Corrigan asked Julie Armstrong review the minutes from the previous Committee meeting. Meetings were approved.

Chuck Cawley provided a report on anticipated income from Fall fertilizer and discussion was held around the potential for shorter than typical fall income. Julie Armstrong reviewed historical funding and income levels.

Chairman Corrigan called upon Dr. Hoeft and Dr. Golovay to review renewal projects.

While no significant concerns were noted for any of the renewal projects, discussion was held about each of the projects. Specific discussion was held around the following projects that impacted future decisions:

- Constructed wetlands and needing a good number for the cost of removal/pound of N. Dr. Hoeft expressed his concern over the use of an electric pump as part of the Princeton, IL project design.
- The N-Rate trial was discussed and whether or not it should continue at the rate which it has previously been. The map of locations was reviewed and the consensus was that the concentration of trials in the Lake Springfield area had met the needs of the project and that those sites should be scaled back.
- The gypsum project received further discussion and Dr. Hoeft encouraged the group to maintain tight control over the project protocols and focus on the relationship of gypsum to phosphorus

Curt Zehr moved and Dean Campbell seconded a motion to move the outreach portion of the Wetlands Initiative project out of research and to education. The motion passed.

Cindy Skrukrud moved and Jenny Mennenga seconded a motion to leave the water quality portion of the Wetlands Initiative project in Research for a total amount of \$70,000. Motion passed.

Jeff Kirwan moved and Dale Hadden seconded a motion to reduce the number of N-rate trials in the IFCA project and limit the budget to \$300,000. Motion passed.

Jenny Mennenga moved and Curt Zehr seconded a motion to renew Dr. Guan's Cover Crop project. Motion passed.

Curt Zehr moved and Robert Mullen seconded a motion to renew Dr. Williard's gypsum project. Motion passed.

Dean Campbell moved and Dale Hadden seconded a motion to approve all other renewal projects as presented. Motion passed.

The committee broke for lunch at 12:15 p.m.

Chairman Corrigan reconvenes the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

The six subcommittees reviewed their assigned projects and discussed the merits of each project.

At the end of this discussion, projects were ranked by the members of the committee and by using the approved voting procedures. The results of this ranking are attached.

Dale Hadden moved and Dean Campbell seconded that the committee approve all projects that were ranked 3.154 or higher for a total funding amount of \$4,182,122.00. This motion was approved.

Discussion was held on the subcommittee format and while there was agreement that the focus on smaller number of projects was valuable, there are certain biases that can play into the process. Further discussion will need to be held.

Dale Hadden moved and Dean Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 p.m.