



**August 30, 2022**

NREC Council Meeting

Held in person:

Illinois Soybean Association Office

AND via ZOOM

## **MINUTES**

Chairman Jeff Kirwan called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Council members present in-person include Jeff Kirwan, Don Guinnip, David Wessel, Scott Lager, Matt Duncan, Chris Matlock, Jake Vossenkemper, Chuck Cawley and Ronaldo Maghirang. Council members present online include Al Grosboll, Tim Laatsch, and Cindy Skrukud. Staff members Julie Hewitt and Shani Golovay were also present.

In addition, Lauren Lurkins (ILFB), KJ Johnson (IFCA), Jean Payne (IFCA, ret), Dan Schaefer (IFCA), Jennifer Jones (ISA), Laura Gentry (ICGA), Lisa Martin (CCA) joined the meeting in person. Drew Thomason and Bethany Jaeger from KEB joined the meeting via Zoom.

After introductions, Chairman Kirwan reviewed the agenda.

Secretary Chuck Cawley reviewed the minutes from the March 15, 2022 meeting and moved to accept the minutes as presented. Matt Duncan seconded that motion and the motion passed.

Bethany Jaeger and Drew Thomason with KEB provided an update on the NREC Strategic Plan. A copy of their presentation is attached to this document. Bethany provided the Council with an update on the progress to date and reviewed a draft of policies around the 20% statutory requirement, applied versus basic research and research on proprietary products.

Chuck Cawley provided an update from IDOA on past collections and reported that billing for Spring 2022 is currently underway and work has begun to collect outstanding invoices from Fall of 2021. Discussion was held around the timing for collection and at what point should old invoices be written off. At this point, we do not have a minimum payment amount or a process for writing off old invoices. The direction from the Council was to continue to pursue unpaid invoices.

Executive Director, Julie Hewitt, reviewed the current financial statements and provided an updated budget vs. actual report. She also reviewed the proposed 2022/23 budget. All of those items are attached to this document.

Research Manager Dr. Shani Golovay and Research Committee chair Matt Duncan reviewed the minutes from the July Research Committee meeting. Matt reviewed the current voting matrix and reviewed the process and voting procedures that are currently in place. Don Guinnip stressed the importance of the process and having the committee engaged in providing feedback through the voting process.

Based on this discussion, Matt Duncan moved to appoint a committee to review all aspects of the form and function of the NREC Research Committee. This committee shall look at committee makeup, appointment, terms, voting procedures, outside peer reviewers, RFP development and any other processes and procedures of the committee they deem necessary. This committee will present their findings at the December NREC Council meeting. Scott Lager seconded the motion.

David Wessel provided discussion about the role of the subcommittee and the importance of maintaining that structure.

The motion passed.

Scott Lager moved and David Wessel seconded to appoint Matt Duncan, Trevor Sample, Don Guinnip and Cindy Skrukruud to this subcommittee. The motion passed.

The Council adjourned for lunch at 12:11 pm

The Council reconvened at 12:51 pm

Dr. Golovay reviewed two of the projects that the committee had asked her to follow up on and get further direction.

Matt Duncan presented the following motion from the Research Committee: The Research Committee moves that the Council fund all projects rated 3.308 and above for their full requested funding with the following exceptions: Andrew Margenot's streambank proposal to be reduced by up to 25% and Shalamar Armstrong to choose between his original tile study or his newly proposed Balansa Clover project with his total ask not to exceed \$225,337.00.

Matt Duncan moved to amend the motion by updating the cost of Margenot's streambank proposal to \$286,332 or 85% of his original request and to update the scope and budget of Shalamar Armstrong's tile project to include the N15 portion of the balansa clover project for a cost of \$226, 228. The total approved funding approved is \$3,979,594. David Wessel seconded the amendment. The motion, as amended, was approved.

Don Guinnip moved to approve the 2022/23 operating budget as presented. Chris Matlock seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned by a motion from Matt Duncan and a second by David Wessel.