



Alfalfa Seed Commission Annual General Meeting
March 30, 2021
Via Zoom

Attendance 37 members and 17 non-members

Brian Slenders nominates Darren Nikkel as the meeting chair. Darren accepts and the meeting is called to order @ 10:55am.

Secretaries Report: Minutes from the 2020 AGM read by Dustin Wiens. Dustin moves that his minutes be adopted as read; Peter Giesbrecht 2nds; motion carried
No business arising from the minutes.

Presidents Report: Brian Slenders gives a Presidents Report noting that the Ag industry at ground level on the whole saw very minimal interruptions with COVID. However, at the Commission it was very much felt on the research level and the inner workings of the board and the outreach. 2020 was a good growing season with high yields.

Brian moves his report be adopted as read; Ben Dyck 2nds; motion carried

Research Managers Report: (included) Brad Alexander gives his Research Report for the year past and the upcoming outlook. 2020 was a disappointing year with the COVID closures and restrictions and most of the researchers being unable to travel. Brad had to complete most of the field work and some projects had to be dropped altogether. 2021 looks to be on track with 12 projects on the table, a few of them combined with the same researcher and fields used. Brad is still looking to add fields and if anyone is interested in being a part of a trial to let him know asap. The board has increased the payment for participating growers to \$1500/field and \$250 for sweeping and sample collection.

Bill Dickinson moves to adopt Brad's report as read; Peter Giesbrecht 2nds; motion carried.

Financial Report: (included) Carrie Gronemeyer of Bevan and Partners presented the financial statements from the 2020 audit. Carrie reports that the revenues and expenses were both down this year; expenses were about ½, both due in large to COVID; less travel, less meetings, less rent; less research, etc. Levy income being down is attributed to less seed grown and lower prices.

Net assets were \$1,328,224.00. Expenses were \$298,869.00
Copies will be provided on the website behind the member's wall.

Ben Dyck moves to adopt the 2020 Financial Report, Bill Dickinson 2nds; motion carried.

Budget Proposal: (included) Ben Dyck presents the proposed budget for 2021 noting that it was challenging to come up with concrete conclusions due to the disruptions and inconsistencies with COVID19 in 2020. He also notes where research is concerned there is still no certainty with the RDAR program just settling into their first year and the loss of local researchers with the distribution pushed off to post secondary focus. While there are less contracted across this year there is promise in the projection of the market report. It is felt that things will start to be moving into an upswing after this year and bees are starting to become a demand again. Projected revenue is \$222,562.00; projected expenses \$379,700.00; leaving net income at -\$157,138.00

Ben Dyck moves to adopt his budget as presented, Peter Giesbrecht 2nds; motion carried.

Appointment of auditor: Ben Dyck moves to appoint Bevan and Partners to be the auditors for 2021, Art Folkerts 2nds; motion carried.

Board Nominations and Elections: Jodi notes that 2 chairs are up for vacancy with Ben Dyck and Bill Dickinson's terms ending, however there is potential for 4 seats to be filled.

Ben Dyck nominates Luke Retzlaff for a board position; Brian Slenders gives the second nomination for Luke Retzlaff.

Greg Klassen nominates Darren Nikkel for board position; Darren respectfully declines.

Bill Dickinson nominates Ron Huvenaars for a board position; Brian Slenders gives the second nomination for Ron Huvenaars.

Fred Preston moves that nominations close; Ben Dyck 2nds; motion carried. Both seats are acclaimed.

New Business: Ben Dyck speaks to the financial position of the Commission and notes that the reserves are high as they had been built up to manage the downturn in the commodity over the past 4 years. With things maintaining a steady state the board has discussed ways to draw down the reserves.

Ben Dyck moves to reduce the levy fees from 1.25% to 1%. Greg Klassen 2nds; motion carried.

Jodi comments that the levy reduction will not take effect until the 2021 crop, because we are in mid year of payments being deducted from 2020 crops. Any questions please contact her on that.

Darren thanks Ben and Bill for their time served on the board.

Meeting adjourned by Ben Dyck @ 12:05pm; 2nd by Art Folkerts.