Minutes of the meeting held March 30-31, 2021
Embassy Suites
Lincoln, Nebraska

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
David Merrell
Debbie Borg
David Bruntz, Chairman
Andy Groskopf
Jay Reiners
Ted Schrock
John Greer
Adam Grabenstein
Brandon Hunnicutt

EX-OFFICIO PRESENT
Andy Jobman, NeCGA
Hector Santiago, UNL-IANR
Steve Wellman, Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture

STAFF PRESENT:
Kelly Brunkhorst
Jeff Wilkerson
Boone McAfee
Kurtis Harms
Nikki Bentzinger

VISTORS:
Jason Lewis, NeCGA
Brian Koehler, NeCGA
Russ Kaven , NeCGA
Michael Dibbern, NeCGA
Morgan Wrich, NeCGA
Patty Richard, Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture
Roger Berry, Nebraska Ethanol Board
Amy Harsch, NEWBA
Dave Buchholz, David & Assoc.
Sean Carr, UNL
Galen Erickson, UNL
Mark Wilkins, UNL
Mahmound Shakouri, UNK
Joe Luck, UNL-IANR
Stan Garbacz, UNL
Dan Halstrom, USMEF
Ryan LeGrand, USGC
Steve Martin, AFAN
Kevin Ross, NCGA
Terry Hejny, UNL-LEAD
Tiffany Heng-Moss, UNL
James Blake, LPS

CALL TO ORDER:
The NCB meeting was called to order at 11:30 am by David Bruntz, chairman. Bruntz announced that the notice of the meeting was given and published in compliance with the Open Meetings Law and that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law, a copy of which was available for public inspection and review during the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- A motion was made to approve the March 30-31, 2021 meeting agenda.

A voice vote was taken; unanimous aye by members present; motion carried.

SECOND-TIME FUNDING

- A motion was made to approve the Nebraska 4-H Foundation/Raising Nebraska; How Many Bushels Do you Weigh in the amount of $37,500 with funding to be taken out of General Unobligated.

  A roll call vote was taken:
  Aye: Merrell, Reiners, Borg, Bruntz, Groskopf, Hunnicutt, Schrock, Grabenstein, Greer
  Nay: None
  Abstain: None
  Not Present: None
  By a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.

SUSPEND RULES

- A motion was made to suspend the rules to consider Nebraska 4-H/Raising Nebraska first-time funding.

  A voice vote was taken; unanimous aye by members present; motion carried.

FIRST-TIME FUNDING

- A motion was made to approve the Nebraska 4-H/Raising Nebraska; Nebraska By the Numbers in the amount of $25,000 with the funding to be taken out of General Unobligated.

  A roll call vote was taken:
  Aye: Greer, Borg, Schrock, Merrell, Bruntz, Reiners, Hunnicutt, Grabenstein
  Nay: None
  Abstain: Groskopf
  Not Present: None
  By a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.

- A motion was made to approve the Nebraska 4-H/Raising Nebraska; Ag Economics Experience in the amount of $15,000 with the funding to be taken out of General Unobligated.

  A roll call vote was taken:
  Aye: Reiners, Merrell, Borg, Schrock, Hunnicutt, Greer, Grabenstein, Bruntz
  Nay: None
  Abstain: Groskopf

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Not Present: None
By a vote of 8 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.

INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS

- A motion was made to request funding back from the Nebraska Energy Office in the amount of $70,000. The funds were given to them in 2016 for upgrades to the East Garage fuel pumps and due to the cost, there wasn't a timeline for upgrades.

A roll call vote was taken:
Aye: Grabenstein, Bruntz, Reiners, Greer, Groskopf, Hunnicutt, Borg, Schrock
Nay: Merrell
Abstain: None
Not Present: None
By a vote of 8 ayes and 1 nay; motion carried.

ADOPT RELOCATION RESOLUTION

- A motion was made to adopt the following relocation resolution.

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Corn Board (NCB) works to promote the value of corn by creating opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Corn Growers Association (NeCGA) works to create and increase opportunities through advocacy, education, partnerships, and leadership development; and

WHEREAS, NCB accomplishes their mission through market development, promotion, research, and education; and

WHEREAS, NeCGA accomplishes their mission through market development, promotion, education, and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, NCB and NeCGA have the shared vision of Enhancing Demand. Adding Value. Ensuring Sustainability; and

WHEREAS, NCB and NeCGA work collectively on the behalf of and representing corn farmers of Nebraska.

WHEREAS, NCB and NeCGA employ a joint executive director and separate staff that work collaboratively.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the NCB board of directors agree to the following points of NCB re-locating offices

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1. The re-location includes the NeCGA in co-locating with NCB; and
2. The joint office maintains their independence and identity; and
3. NCB agrees to reserve space for NeCGA until time appropriate for their co-location with NCB.

A voice vote was taken; unanimous aye by members present; motion carried.

MINUTES

► A motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2021 meeting as presented.

A voice vote was taken; unanimous aye by members present; motion carried.

FISCAL REPORT

► A motion was made to approve the January and February 2021 fiscal reports as presented.

A voice vote was taken; unanimous aye by members present; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

► The Executive Committee made a motion to transfer $10,000 from General Unobligated to Misc. Operating Expenses within Promotion/Education for a District 7 awareness campaign.

A roll call vote was taken:
Aye: Grabenstein, Borg, Groskopf, Schrock, Merrell, Bruntz, Reiners, Hunnicutt, Greer
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Not Present: None
By a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays; motion carried.

CALENDAR/TRAVEL

► A motion was made to approve the travel noted so far on the calendar for the months of April, May, June, July, August and September 2021.

MONTH	DATES	YEAR	PURPOSE	LOCATION	APPROVED
April	15-16	2021	PRX Seminar	Virtual	Brunkhorst
April	19	2021	Intern Orientation	Lincoln, NE	Harms

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April	27-29	2021	All State Staff Meeting	St. Louis, MO	Harms, Wilkerson, McAfee, Brunkhorst, Bentzinger
April	27	2021	Centura High School FFA Meeting	Cairo, NE	Merrell
May	5-8	2021	Growth Energy Summitt	Phoenix, AZ	Wilkerson
May	24-27	2021	State Execs Meeting	Kentucky	Brunkhorst
May	25-28	2021	USMEF Meeting Executive Committee Meetings	Denver, CO	Bruntz
May	26-27	2021	USMEF Meeting	Virtual	Borg, Groskopf, Grabenstein, Schrock, Reiners, Hunnicutt, Greer, Merrell
June	2-3	2021	Nebraska Corn Board Meeting	Columbus, NE	Borg, Merrell, Groskopf, Schrock, Hunnicutt, Reiners, Bruntz, Greer, Grabenstein, Brunkhorst, Harms, McAfee, Wilkerson, Bentzinger
May	8	2021	CUTC	Virtual	McAfee
May	14-18	2021	NCGA Board Meeting	TBD	Hunnicutt
May	23-24	2021	Field to Market	Raleigh, NC	Hunnicutt, McAfee
July	11-16	2021	NCGA A-Team/Corn Congress	WDC	Brunkhorst, Wilkerson, McAfee, Harms, Merrell, Bruntz, Borg, Hunnicutt, Reiners, Greer, Schrock, Goskopf, Grabenstein

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July	26-28	2021	USGC Meeting	TBD	Merrell, Bruntz, Borg, Hunnicutt, Reiners, Schrock, Greer, Grabenstein, Groskopf
August	2-5	2021	Leadership at it's Best	St. Louis, MO	Borg
August	16-18	2021	Green Transportation Summitt	Tacoma, WA	Wilkerson
August	19-20	2021	Nebraska Corn Board Meeting	York, NE	Borg, Bruntz, Greer, Groskopf, Grabenstein, Merrell, Hunnicutt, Schrock, Reiners, Brunkhorst, Wilkerson, McAfee, Harms, Bentzinger
August	20	2021	Corn Grower Open	York, NE	Borg, Bruntz, Greer, Groskopf, Grabenstein, Merrell, Hunnicutt, Schrock, Reiners, Brunkhorst, Wilkerson, McAfee, Harms, Bentzinger
August 27 to	Sept 6	2021	Nebraska State Fair	Grand Island, NE	Borg, Bruntz, Greer, Groskopf, Grabenstein, Merrell, Hunnicutt, Schrock, Reiners, Brunkhorst, Wilkerson, McAfee, Harms, Bentzinger

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September	14-16	2021	Husker Harvest Days	Grand Island, NE	Borg, Bruntz, Greer, Groskopf, Grabenstein, Merrell, Hunnicutt, Schrock, Reiners, Brunkhorst, Wilkerson, McAfee, Harms, Bentzinger
September	16-17	2021	NCGA Board Meeting	St. Louis, MO	Hunnicutt
September	29-30	2021	RFA Annual Meeting	Des Moines, IA	Wilkerson

A voice vote was taken; unanimous aye by members present; motion carried.

RECESS

The Board was in recess until 8:00 am, March 31, 2021

RECONVENE

The Board meeting reconvened at 8:00 am, March 31, 2021

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- A motion was made from the Communications Committee to approve $24,000 to go to the UNL/LPS FEWS2 Program. The funding would come from the Communications Committee Unobligated.

  A roll call vote was taken:
  Aye: Grabenstein, Merrell, Bruntz, Reiners, Greer, Groskopf, Hunnicutt, Borg, Schrock
  Nay: None
  Abstain: None
  Not Present: None
  By a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.

- The Communications Committee reported to the full Board the approval of $5,000 to advertise/partner with the Nebraska Passport Program through the Department of Tourism. It would focus on ethanol as people travel throughout the state. The funding would come from the Communications Committee Unobligated.

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MARKET DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A motion was made from the Market Development Committee to approve $50,000 in grant funding from Ethanol Infrastructure Investment line item in the Market Development Committee budget to Frenchman Valley Farms Cooperative for its retail location in Sidney, NE. The location will offer E15, E30 and E85.

  A roll call vote was taken:
  Aye: Greer, Borg, Groskopf, Schrock, Merrell, Bruntz, Reiners, Hunnicutt, Grabenstein
  Nay: None
  Abstain: None
  Not Present: None
  By a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays, motion carried.

- A motion was made from the Market Development Committee to approve $40,000 in grand funding from Ethanol Infrastructure Investment line item in the Market Development Committee budget to Agoura Oil, Inc. for its location in Agoura Hills, California to install E85 infrastructure, offer E85 for five years and provide quarterly volume reports to NCB.

  A roll call vote was taken:
  Aye: Grabenstein, Groskopf, Schrock, Bruntz, Reiners, Hunnicutt, Greer
  Nay: Merrell
  Abstain: None
  Not Present: Borg
  By a vote of 7 ayes and 1 nay, motion carried.

- A motion was made from the Market Development Committee to approve $30,000 in grant funding from Ethanol Infrastructure Investment line item in the Market Development budget to Profuel, Inc. for its location in Chatsworth, California to install E85 infrastructure, offer E85 for five years and provide quarterly volume reports to NCB.

  A roll call vote was taken:
  Aye: Reiners, Groskopf, Schrock, Hunnicutt, Greer, Grabenstein, Bruntz
  Nay: Merrell
  Abstain: None
  Not Present: Borg
  By a vote of 7 ayes and 1 nay, motion carried.

- The Market Development Committee reported to the full Board the approval to move $10,000 from Unobligated Market Development line item to In-State Pump Promotions line item ahead of Renewable Fuels Month.

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- The Market Development Committee reported to the full Board the approval of $5,000 to sponsor the Big Blue Mile Shootout. The funding would come from the Market Development Committee Unobligated.

- The Market Development Committee reported to the full Board the approval of $10,000 from Ethanol Infrastructure Investment for E15 grant funding to T-Bone Truckstop #3 in Columbus, NE.

- The Market Development Committee reported to the full Board the approval of $10,000 from Ethanol Infrastructure Investment for E15 grand funding to Ralston Automotive in Ralston, NE.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

- The Research Committee reported to the full Board the approval of $5,300 to sponsor UNL 4R Nutrient Stewardship Field Day in July 2021. The field day would focus on nitrogen management in corn utilizing the 4R nutrient stewardship concept – right fertilizer source, right rate, right time, and right place – to achieve cropping system goals such as increased production, profitability, and environmental protection. The funding would come from the Research Committee Unobligated.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Bruntz provided the opportunity for public discussion.

ADJOURN

Since there was no further business before the Board, the chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:50 pm.

SUBMITTED BY,

Jason Reiners, Secretary/Treasurer

Nikki Bentzinger, Business Manager

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