

**FINAL VIRGINIA CORN BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

DoubleTree - Richmond Airport - Sandston, Virginia
February 7, 2023

I. Attendance

Board Members Present

William C. Crossman, Chairman
Wesley S. Marshall, Vice Chairman
L. Hayden Eicher
David W. Coleman
Wallick Harding
G. Henry Goodrich
E. Phillip Hickman, III
Charles D. McGhee
M. Heath Bray
Ray Keating
Phil Hickman, Program Director

Board Members Absent

Virginia P. Barnes

Guests

Dr. Joshua Mott, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Ms. Lesley Moseley, Virginia Grain Producers Association, Richmond, VA
Mr. Joe Guthrie, VDACS Commissioner, Richmond, VA
Dr. Michael R. Evans, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Mr. Wyatt Marshall, Weyers Cave, VA
Mr. Matt Frostic – National Corn Growers Association, St. Louis, MO
Dr. Kyle Bekelja – Virginia Tech, Suffolk, VA
Dr. Sean Malone – Virginia Tech, Suffolk, VA
Dr. Vijay Singh – Virginia Tech, Painter, VA
Mr. Trent Jones - Virginia Tech Extension Service, Lancaster, VA
Dr. Mark Reiter – Virginia Tech, Painter, VA
Mr. Joseph Haymaker, Virginia Tech, Painter, VA
Dr. Ozzie Abaye, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Mr. Carter Phillips, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Ms. Lynn Black, Ag in the Classroom Program, Richmond, VA
Ms. Jennifer Armstrong, Virginia FFA Foundation, Weyers Cave, VA
Ms. Jill Reiter, Virginia FFA Foundation, Weyers Cave, VA

Ms. Katie Powell, Virginia FFA Foundation, Weyers Cave, VA
Dr. David Langston, Virginia Tech, Suffolk, VA
Ms. Ellen Zimmerman, U.S. Grains Council, Washington, DC
Mr. Andrew Brandt, Maizall / U.S. Grains Council, Washington, DC
Mr. Glenn Dye, VALOR Program, Blacksburg, VA
Dr. Mark Williams, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Dr. Michael Flessner, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Dr. Yuan Zeng, Virginia Tech, Blackstone, VA
Dr. Azahar Ali, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Dr. Hunter Frame, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Dr. Abhilash Chandel, Virginia Tech, Sufflok, VA

- II. Call To Order** – Vice Chairman Marshall called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the annual funding meeting. He thanked the group for their service to the Virginia Corn Industry and for taking their time to attend the meeting.
- III. Reading and Approval of Minutes** – Chuck McGhee moved and Wallick Harding seconded a motion to dispense with the reading of the December 1, 2022 minutes and to accept them as presented. Motion passed.
- IV. Financial Report** – Phil Hickman presented the Financial Statement that reflected revenues and expenditures from July 1, 2022 – January 25, 2023. The Financial Report showed that on January 25 there was a total balance of \$1,130,316.16; the Board had expended \$435,792.69 with \$59,243.46 outstanding for FY 2022-23 projects; \$300,000 in reserve; and \$335,280.01 available for allocation to new projects. Hayden Eicher moved and Phil Hickman seconded a motion for the Board to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion passed.
- V. History of Corn Board Collections** – Phil Hickman presented the “History of Corn Board Collections” that indicated scenarios ranging from a 75% crop assessment to an 85% crop assessment. The report indicated that producers harvested an estimated 56,780,000 bushels of corn in 2022 and at a 80% crop assessment; the Board should collect approximately \$454,240.00 from the 2022 Virginia Corn Crop.
- VI. Project Reports and Proposals** – The Board reviewed the following project progress reports for the period July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 and heard project proposals for the period July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024.
1. Mr. Matt Frostic – National Corn Growers Association - report & project - \$46,000 requested
 2. Dr. Kyle Bekelja & Dr. Sean Malone – report & project - \$14,541 requested
 3. Dr. Vijay Singh – report & project - \$20,480 requested
 4. Mr. Trent Jones – report & project - \$10,000.00 requested
 5. Dr. Mark Reiter – project - \$26,467 requested
 6. Dr. Ozzie Abaye – report & project - \$7,000 requested
 7. Ms. Lynn Black for Ms. Tammy Maxey – Agriculture in The Classroom – report & project - \$12,500 requested
 8. Ms. Jennifer Armstrong - Virginia FFA Foundation – report & projects \$7,500 requested
 9. Dr. David Langston – report & project - \$18,059 requested

10. Ms. Ellen Zimmerman - U.S. Grains Council – report & project - \$99,262 requested
11. Mr. Andrew Brandt Maizall / U.S. Grains Council – project – 5,000 requested
12. Mr. Glenn Dye - VALOR Program – report & project - \$7,500 requested
13. Dr. Mark Williams – report & project - \$12,896 requested
14. Dr. Michael Flessner – report & project - \$22,000 requested
15. Dr. Yuan Zeng – project - \$33,962 requested
16. Dr. Azahar Ali – project - \$20,500 requested
17. Dr. William “Hunter” Frame – report & project - \$15,821 requested
18. Dr. Abhilash Chandel – project - \$18,331 requested
19. Dr. Joshua Mott – report & project - \$53,669 requested
20. Ms. Lesley Moseley – report & project - \$144,000 requested

VII. Virginia Corn Board Funding FY 2023-2024 – The Board took the following actions on the project proposals listed below. Chuck McGhee moved and Phil Hickman seconded a motion for the Board to approve funding for the following projects at the stated dollar amounts for a one-year period from July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. Motion passed.

FY 2023 – 2024 PROJECTS	FUNDED
1. National Corn Growers Association – Domestic Market Development – Mr. Matt Frostic	\$46,000.00
2. Neonicotinoid and Alternative Insecticides for Soil Insects – Dr. Sean Malone & Dr. Kyle Bekelja	14,541.00
3. Herbicide Resistance and Weed Management in Corn – Dr. Vijay Singh	0.00
4. On – Farm Evaluation of Corn Production Strategies – Mr. Trent Jones	10,000.00
5. Utilizing Cover Crops to Offset Fertilizer Inputs for Corn in VA – Dr. Mark Reiter	26,467.00
6. Crops Judging – Study Abroad – Australia and Study in the USA – Mississippi and Memphis (2023-2024) – Dr. Ozzie Abaye	7,000.00
7. Ag in the Classroom – Graphic Design of Curriculum Book, Publishing 500 Curriculum Books & Program Support for Creation & Distribution of Curriculum & the Facilitation of 10 Professional Developments – Ms. Lynn Black for Ms. Tammy Maxey	15,000.00
8. VA FFA Foundation – Agronomy Career Development Event, Crops Judging Event at State Fair of Virginia, Grain Production Entrepreneurship Proficiency Award, Grain Production Placement Proficiency Award & International Experience – Ms. Jennifer Armstrong	10,000.00
9. Mapping Nematode Damage in Corn for Precision Application of Nematicides – Dr. David B. Langston	0.00
10. U.S. Grains Council – Foreign Corn Market Development & Two Advisory Team Seats – Ms. Ellen Zimmerman	99,262.00
11. MAIZALL / U.S. Grains Council – Mr. Andrew Brandt	0.00
12. VALOR – Corn commodity Education to Enhance VALOR Program Curriculum – Mr. Glenn Dye for Dr. Megan Seibel	7,500.00
13. Describing a Bacterial Genome Library of Bacterial Endophytes that Have Increased the Growth & Yield of Virginia-Type Corn Cultivars – Dr. Mark Williams	0.00
14. Weed Management in Corn 2023 – Dr. Michael Flessner	22,000.00
15. Tar Spot on Corn: Management & Extension in Virginia – Dr. Yuan Zeng	33,962.00

16. 3D Printed Sensors for Continuous Soil Nitrate Measurement in Corn Fields w/ Poultry Litter as a Soil Amendment – Dr. Azahar Ali	0.00
17. Evaluation of Subsurface Drip Irrigation in Virginia Corn Production – Dr. Hunter Frame	15,821.00
18. Drones & Satellites to Predict Geospatial Corn Grain Moisture & Yield Potentials Towards Precision Harvesting – Dr. Abhilash Chandel	0.00
19. Corn Hybrid Evaluations, Management Research, and Overall Corn Extension Program – Dr. Joshua Mott & Dr. Michael Evans	53,669.00
Total	\$361,222.00

- VIII. Virginia Grain Producers Association Funding FY 2023-24** - Chuck McGhee moved and Ray Keating seconded a motion for the Board to approve the Virginia Grain Producers Association - Market Infrastructure, Media, Information Technology and Industry Promotion Program project for the period July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 in the total amount of \$146,000 Motion passed. Phil Hickman acknowledged that he is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Grain Producers Association; therefore, he has a personal interest in a transaction or vote by the Virginia Corn Board to provide funding to the Virginia Grain Producers Association and he acknowledged this and declared that he is able to vote fairly, objectively, and in the public interest of the Commonwealth of Virginia and on behalf of all of Virginia’s corn producers. Phil Hickman abstained from voting on funding for the Virginia Grain Producers Association.
- IX. U.S. Grains Council Alternate Representatives** – Hayden Eicher indicated that it would be a good idea for the Board to select alternate representatives to the U.S. Grains Council that would be ready to serve in the event that he and/or Sparky Crossman cannot attend U.S. Grains Council meetings. Hayden Eicher moved and Henry Goodrich seconded a motion for Chuck McGhee and Ginny Barnes to serve as alternate representatives to the U.S. Grains Council in the event that Hayden Eicher and/or Sparky Crossman are not able to serve and attend U.S. Grains Council meetings. Motion passed.
- X. Perdue & Virginia International Gateway Tour** – Hayden Eicher thanked Ray Keating and Phil Hickman for setting up the January 18th tour of the Perdue Agribusiness Export Facility in Chesapeake and the Virginia International Gateway Container Facility in Portsmouth.
- XI. Virginia Grain Producers Association** – Phil Hickman thanked Lesley Mosley for stepping up to the plate and maintaining the management of the Virginia Grains Producers Association when the Alliance Group decided to get out of the association management business. Phil indicated that with Lesley’s help the Virginia Grain Producers Association has been able to make a smooth transition away from the Alliance Group.
- XII. Next Meeting** – The Board will hold its next meeting on Tuesday December 5, 2023 at Wallace Manor in Providence Forge, Virginia.
- XIII. Next Funding Meeting** – The Board will hold its next funding Meeting on Thursday February 1, 2024 with the location to be determined later. The Board will continue to give Project Leaders up to 15 minutes to present their current project report and their next funding cycle project proposal.

XIV. Public Comment – Chairman Crossman asked for public comment. There was none.

XV. Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip T. Hickman, Secretary

These minutes have been approved as written.

William C. Crossman, Chairman