



MINUTES
VIRGINIA SMALL GRAINS BOARD MEETING
Richmond, Virginia July 18, 2024

I. **Attendance**

Board Members Present

Ellen M. Davis, **Chair**
Floyd S. Childress, **Vice Chair**
Michael Downing
David K. Hula
James H. Hundley, III
George David Black
Lynn P. Gayle
Raymond G. Keating
James N. Oliver
Jay Jennings
Laura Maxey-Nay, Program Director

Board Members Absent

Candice Wilson

Guests

Ms. Lee Hubbard, Virginia Grain Producers Association, Richmond, VA
Mr. Taylor Hubbard, Virginia Grain Producer Association, Richmond, VA
Dr. Nicholas Santantonio, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Dr. Joseph Oakes, Virginia Tech, Warsaw, VA
Dr. Doug Higgins, Virginia Tech, Painter, VA
Ms. Lynn Black, Agriculture in the Classroom, Richmond, VA
Dr. Olga Walsh, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Dr. Jitender Rathore, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Dr. Huijie Gan, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Ms. Nicole McMaster, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA
Dr. Xiaofeng Wang, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

- II. **Call to Order** – Ellen Davis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked the group for their service to the Virginia Small Grains Industry and for taking time out of their busy schedule to attend the meeting. She welcomed Crystal Salmons to the Board and asked each person in attendance to introduce themselves and provide an update on the crop conditions in their area. Madam Chair also introduced the new Board Program Manager, Laura Maxey-Nay.
- III. **Reading and Approval of Minutes** – Jay Jennings moved and Jay Jennings Floyd Childress seconded a motion for the Board to dispense with the reading of the July 18, 2023 meeting minutes and to approve them as distributed. Motion passed.
- IV. **Financial Report** – Laura Maxey-Nay provided the financial statement that reflected revenues and expenditures from July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. The Financial Report showed that there were total expenditures of \$241,462.35 from a total budget of \$662,000.57 and \$5,369.25 in unspent funds for FY 2023-2024 projects which left \$420,538.22 available for allocation for FY 2023-24 projects. Jimmy Oliver moved and Jay Hundley seconded a motion for the Board to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion passed.
- V. **Project Proposals** – The following project proposals for the period July 1, 2024– June 30, 2025 were each reviewed and considered by the Board.
1. Dr. Nicholas Santantonio, Breeding, mapping, and genome-enabled selection for scab resistance in barley and wheat, **\$30,000.00 requested.**
 2. Mr. Robbie Longest, On-Farm Small Grain Test Plots in Eastern Virginia 2024-2025, **\$4,000.00 requested.**
 3. Ms. Lynn Black, Agriculture in the Classroom Interactive Virginia Agriculture Map Support, **\$3,000 requested.**
 4. Dr. Jitender Rathore and Dr. Olga Walsh, Reducing Wheat Yield Loss Using Multi- Angle Remote Sensing, **\$50,000 requested.**
 5. Dr. Olga Walsh, Enhancing the Value of Virginia’s Small Grains Industry through Education, **\$32,417.28 requested.**
 6. Dr. Olga Walsh, Small Grains Variety Testing and Market Development, **\$29,312.00 requested.**
 7. Dr. Megan Seibel, Small Grains Industry Education to Enhance VALOR Program Curriculum, **\$3,000.00 requested.**
 8. Dr. Joseph Oakes, Small Grain Research Program Support, **\$10,000 requested.**
 9. Dr. Joseph Oakes, Impact of Planting Date & Weather Patterns on Wheat Development, Freeze Susceptibility, and Yield, **\$7,702 requested.**

10. Ms. Leigh Hubbard, Virginia Grain Producers Associations and Virginia Small Grain Board Partnership for Growth and Innovation, **\$33,500 requested.**
11. Dr. Huijie Gan, Modernizing phosphorus fertilizer recommendation to support profitable winter wheat production in Virginia, **\$20,000 requested.**
12. Dr. Doug Higgins, Evaluation of fungicide application timing windows for Prosaro Pro, Sphaerex and Miravis Era for Fusarium head blight management, **\$15,000.00 requested.**
13. Dr. David Schmale, FY2025 Mycotoxin Testing Services for Virginia Wheat and Barley, **\$32,093 requested.**
14. Dr. Xiaofeng Wang, Development of a virus-induced transformation-free genome editing system in wheat for molecular breeding and gene function exploration, **\$20,000.00 requested.**
15. Dr. Nicholas Santantonio, Improvement and Development of Barley for Use in Feed, Malt, and Food, **\$10,000.00 requested.**
16. Dr. Nicholas Santantonio, Development of Specialty Wheat Varieties with High Value End-Use Properties, **\$26,000.00 requested.**
17. Dr. Nicholas Santantonio, Soft Red Winter Wheat Cultivar Development, **\$60,000.00 requested.**

VI. **Virginia Small Grains Board Funding FY 2024-25** – The following actions were taken on the project proposals that were received by the Board. Jay Jennings moved and Lynn Gayle 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.

Title	Funded
Breeding, mapping, and genome-enabled selection for scab resistance in barley and wheat	\$30,000.00
On-Farm Small Grain Test Plots in Eastern Virginia 2024-2025	\$2,500.00
Agriculture in the Classroom Interactive Virginia Agriculture Map Support	\$0.00
Reducing Wheat Yield Loss Using Multi-Angle Remote Sensing	\$0.00
Enhancing the Value of Virginia's Small Grains Industry through Education	\$0.00
Small Grains Variety Testing and Market Development	\$29,312.00
Small Grains Industry Education to Enhance VALOR Program Curriculum	\$0.00

Small Grain Research Program Support	\$10,000.00
Impact of Planting Date & Weather Patterns on Wheat Development, Freeze Susceptibility, and Yield	\$5,000.00
Modernizing phosphorus fertilizer recommendation to support profitable winter wheat production in Virginia	\$15,000.00
Evaluation of fungicide application timing windows for Prosaro Pro, Sphaerex and Miravis Era for Fusarium head blight management	\$15,000.00
FY2025 Mycotoxin Testing Services for Virginia Wheat and Barley	\$30,000.00
Development of a virus-induced transformation-free genome editing system in wheat for molecular breeding and gene function exploration	\$0.00
Improvement and Development of Barley for Use in Feed, Malt, and Food	\$10,000.00
Development of Specialty Wheat Varieties with High Value End-Use Properties	\$13,000.00
Soft Red Winter Wheat Cultivar Development	\$60,000.00
Total	\$219,812.00

VII. **Virginia Grain Producers Association-** Jay Jennings moved and Lynn Gayle seconded a motion for the Board to fund the Virginia Grain Producers Association, Inc. project entitled " Virginia Grain Producers Associations and Virginia Small Grain Board Partnership for Growth and Innovation" in the total amount of \$20,000.00 with \$2,000.00 of that allocated amount specified for the Virginia Small Grains Board meetings. Jay Hundley abstained from voting on the motion, as he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Grain Producers Association. Motion passed.

VIII. **Officers FY 2024-25**

Chair & Vice Chair

The floor was opened for nominations for Chair & Vice Chair. David Hula moved and Jay Hundley seconded a motion for Ellen Davis to serve as the Virginia Small Grains Board's Chair and for Floyd Childress to serve as the Virginia Small Grains Board Vice Chair during FY 2023-24. Ellen Davis abstained from voting on the motion. Motion passed.

IX. **Conflict of Interest-** Justin Bell from the Attorney General's Office trained all Board Members on their Conflict-of-Interest responsibilities. All present completed the training which is required of all Board Members every two years.

- X. **Annual Report** – The FY 2023–24 Virginia Small Grains Board Annual Report was presented and distributed to the Board. Laura Maxey-Nay indicated that the report will be submitted to the Commissioner of Agriculture’s office and posted on the VDACS website. Jay Hundley moved, and Jay Jennings seconded a motion for the Board to accept the report once updated figures are provided from the National Agricultural Statistic Service in September. Motion passed.
- XI. **Virginia Small Grains Board Handbook**— Laura Maxey-Nay provided an updated ‘Virginia Small Grains Board Handbook’. Jimmy Oliver moved and Jay Jennings seconded a motion for the Board to accept the Handbook as with discussed edits. Motion passed.
- XII. **Next Funding Meeting** -- The Board will hold its next funding meeting to hear FY 2025-26 project proposals on Thursday, July 17, 2025.
- XIII. **Public Comment** – The Chair opened the floor up for public comment. There are none.
- XIV. **Adjournment** – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Maxey-Nay, Secretary

These minutes have been approved as written.

Ellen M. Davis, Chair