

MICHIGAN WHEAT COMMITTEE
MSU Agronomy Farm
4450 Beaumont Road, Lansing, MI 48910
MEETING MINUTES
March 9, 2026

Present-Voting Board Members

Dwight Bartle, Michigan Wheat Committee-district 5
Tony Bohac, Michigan Wheat Committee-district 6 (via zoom til noon)
Jim Doyle, Michigan Wheat Committee-district 9-Miller Representative (via zoom)
Jason Dunning, Michigan Wheat Committee-district 1
Brad Kamprath, Michigan Wheat Committee-district 3
Jeff Krohn, Michigan Wheat Committee-district 7
Lyn Uphaus, Michigan Wheat Committee-district 4 (via zoom)
Carl Wagner III, Michigan Wheat Committee-district 2 (via zoom)

Absent

Dave Milligan, ex-officio
Brent Wagner, Michigan Wheat Committee-district 8

Present-Non Voting Michigan Wheat Program Affiliates

Eric Olson, Michigan State University Wheat Breeder (arrived at 1:30 p.m.)
Dennis Pennington, Michigan State University Wheat Specialist
Jody Pollok-Newsom, Michigan Wheat Committee staff
Jeff Haarer, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development

Guests

Brent DeSeagher, State FFA Officer (11:45 a.m.-1:20 p.m.)
Lizzie Hartman, State FFA Officer (11:45 a.m.-1:20 p.m.)
Alex Schnabelrauch, Michigan FFA Foundation (11:45 a.m.-1:20 p.m.)

Determination of Quorum and Call to Order

Jeff Krohn, Chairman, called the March 9, 2026, meeting of the Michigan Wheat Program (MWP) board to order at 9:11 a.m. Secretary Lyn Uphaus noted for the record that a quorum of the Michigan Wheat Committee members were present.

Approval of Agenda

Jeff Krohn reviewed the agenda as posted.

MOTION #1: Brad Kamprath moved to approve the meeting agenda for March 9, 2026, as written. Supported by Jason Dunning. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of January 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

The January 14, 2026, meeting minutes were sent out prior to the meeting.

MOTION #2: Lyn Uphaus moved to approve the minutes as written from the January 14, 2026, meeting as presented. Supported by Jim Doyle. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Reports

The crop looks good and there was a recent price rally.

Financial Report

Jody Pollok-Newsom presented the financials for January and shared a cd investment sheet.

Assessment Rate Set for 2026

Jody Pollok-Newsom reported that according to the program, the assessment rate has to be set by the board prior to March 31.

MOTION #3: Brad Kamprath moved to leave the check-off assessment rate for the Michigan Wheat Program at one half of one percent (.005) for the 2026 crop year. Jim Doyle supported. Motion passed unanimously.

Seed Wheat Assessment

Jody Pollok-Newsom reported that the seed wheat assessment has to be set before harvest and explained the formula developed.

MOTION #4: Dwight Bartle moved to keep the Michigan Wheat Program seed wheat assessment formula for setting the price as the average November through April wheat price based on the CBOT September closing price for the 2026 crop year. Jason Dunning supported. Motion passed unanimously.

Adopt 2026-27 Yield Enhancement Network Budget

Jody Pollok-Newsom presented the 2026-27 fiscal year Great Lakes Yield Enhancement Network proposed budget.

MOTION #5: Brad Kamprath moved to approve the Great Lakes Yield Enhancement Network budget for 2026-27, as presented. Lyn Uphaus supported. Motion passed unanimously.

Adopt 2026-27 Budget

Jody Pollok-Newsom presented the 2026-27 fiscal year proposed budget.

MOTION #6: Brad Kamprath moved to adopt the budget for 2026-27, as presented. Dwight Bartle supported. Motion passed unanimously.

Management Contract for 2026-27

The executive committee reported on their contract discussion.

MOTION #7: Lyn Uphaus moved to support the executive committee's recommendation and continue the management contract with a 3% cost of living

increase along with a \$5,000 bonus. The rest of the contract will remain unchanged. Tony Bohac supported. Motion passed unanimously.

Expense Vouchers

Jody Pollok-Newsom reminded the board that any expense vouchers need to be turned in by fiscal year end-May 31.

Research Publications

Discussion was held looking into other options for program awareness and information sharing. Jody Pollok-Newsom will do some more work and report back at a future meeting.

Public Comment

There were no comments received by the public.

A lunch break was taken at 11:50 a.m. and the board was joined by Michigan State FFA Officers and FFA Foundation staff. The meeting reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

MI FFA

Brent DeSeagher and Lizzie Hartman provided an overview of FFA. Alex Schnabelrauch asked for additional funding in the future for the Farm Business Management contest.

MOTION #8: Dwight Bartle moved to support the Michigan FFA Foundation request for adding sponsorship of the Farm Business Management Contest to the existing programs already funded which will increase the line item from \$5,000 to \$7,500. Jason Dunning supported. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Variety Release

Jody Pollok-Newsom and Jeff Krohn shared an update on the work with MSUT.

2026 Board Appointments

2026 board appointments are up this summer for Dwight Bartle, Jeff Krohn and Carl Wagner III.

Farm Produce Insurance Act Wheat Position

Jody Pollok-Newsom shared that the wheat position is up again this year for the next 3-year appointment on the Farm Produce Insurance Act Board. Jerry Heck has been serving in that position and is eligible for re-appointment.

MOTION #9: Dwight Bartle moved to nominate Jerry Heck to fill the wheat position on the Farm Produce Insurance Act Board. Jason Dunning supported. Motion passed unanimously

2026 Great Lakes Crop Summit

Tony Bohac and Dennis Pennington shared their thoughts on the event.

2026 Annual Meeting Wrap Up

Jody Pollok-Newsom shared the tallied evaluation form.

NEW BUSINESS

Sponsorship Requests

There were no requests.

2026 Summer Field Day

Jody Pollok-Newsom and Dennis Pennington provided a draft agenda for the Summer Field day.

2027 Annual Meeting

Jody Pollok-Newsom shared information to date for 2027.

National Association of Wheat Growers Representation

Jeff Krohn and Lyn Uphaus will continue representing MWP on the NAWG board and request that Dave Milligan continue to serve as the alternate.

Research Discussion

Dennis Pennington compiled the information from the January meeting into a report for discussion by the board.

Reports

National Association of Wheat Growers

Jeff Krohn, Lyn Uphaus, and Dave Milligan have been representing us.

Michigan State University Wheat Specialist

Dennis Pennington shared an update.

Yield Enhancement Network Update

Jody Pollok-Newsom and Dennis Pennington updated the board on work to date. The program was launched in February with 185 total participants split between the US and Canada.

Michigan State University Wheat Breeder

Eric Olson shared a report.

Michigan Department of Ag & Rural Development

Jeff Haarer reported.

Event Participation

Michigan Crop Improvement Association Annual Meeting was attended by Jason Dunning who provided a report.

Commodity Classic

Dwight Bartle reported.

Set Next Meeting Objectives

There may be a late May zoom meeting for any financial budget adjustments or year end issues that arise.

Zoom Board Meeting, Thursday, June 4, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m

MWP Summer Field Day, Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at Saginaw Valley Research & Extension Center

Research Board Meeting, Tuesday & Wednesday, September 1 & 2, 2026 @ Okemos Conference Center

Board Meeting, Tuesday, December 15, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. Holiday luncheon following

MOTION #10: Dwight Bartle moved to adjourn. Jason Dunning supported. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.