



WASHINGTON TURFGRASS
SEED COMMISSION

MINUTES
WA TURFGRASS SEED COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, September 10, 2026
Paradise Bar and Grill. Moses Lake, WA

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Administrator Shane Johnson at 11:08 a.m. Those in attendance were Commissioners Derek Green, Jory Iverson, Michael Rainis, and Paul Marienau; WSDA Representative Paula Lundt; Administrator Shane Johnson; and Grower Travis Meacham.

Review Board Roster: The group reviewed the current commissioners' terms. It was noted that Jared Stevens and Paul Marienau will complete their current terms on January 31, 2027. Shane will contact each of them to determine whether they are interested in serving an additional term.

Review & Approval of Minutes of February 5, 2026, June 4, 2026, and July 6, 2026, Commission Meetings: Paul Marienau moved, and Derek Green seconded, to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2026, June 4, 2026, and July 6, 2026 Commission meetings as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Review & Approval of Financial Statements: Shane Johnson presented the profit and loss statement for the period of June 1, 2026, through August 31, 2026. Total income was \$28,021.14, with expenses of \$46,028.54, resulting in a net loss of \$18,007.40. The balance sheet as of August 31, 2026, showed total assets of \$105,562.75. Shane then reviewed the checks issued from June 1, 2026, through September 8, 2026. Derek Green moved, and Paul Marienau seconded, to approve the financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Commission Audit Report: Shane presented the results of the recent State Accountability Audit. He noted that the audit included one exit recommendation and one finding.

The recommendation related to the Commission not assessing a penalty on a late assessment payment. The Commissioners discussed amending the Commission's WAC to change the language regarding late-payment penalties from "shall" to "may," and subsequently developing a late-payment policy for the Commission to follow. It was noted that the RCW allows the use of "may" regarding the assessment of late-payment penalties. Michael Rainis moved, and Paul Marienau seconded, to approve pursuing an amendment to the Commission's WAC changing the requirement from "shall" assess a late-payment penalty to "may" assess a late-payment penalty. The motion passed unanimously.

The audit finding related to the Commission making payments for research projects before receiving the required progress or final reports. Going forward, staff will ensure that all required reports are received before payments are issued for research projects.

Research: The 2027 WTSC Research Request for Proposals (RFP) was discussed. The group reviewed the proposed 2027 research priorities. Shane will make the revisions discussed by the Commissioners and distribute the RFP to potential researchers and post it on Washington's Electronic Business Solution (WEBS). Michael Rainis moved, and Jory Iverson seconded the motion to approve the 2027-2028 Research RFP with the suggested changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

- **Marketing/Promotion & Education/Outreach:** Kara Rowe (not in attendance) with KR Creative Strategies provided a written update on activities conducted over the past several months.
- **Grass Seed Research Farm:** Travis Meacham provided an update on the WSU Grass Seed Research Farm. The Research Farm Committee has not held an official meeting, and the Commission discussed concerns regarding the current focus and activities of the farm. Shane will contact Michael Neff to request an update on current activities and ask that quarterly updates be provided to the Commission going forward.
- **WTSA:** Travis Meacham provided an update on the Washington Turfgrass Seed Association.
- **WSDA Seed Lab:** Paula Lundt provided an update on activities at the Washington State Seed Lab.

2027 Meeting Schedule: The group discussed the proposed 2027 meeting schedule. The schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, February 4 – 11:00 a.m. – Research Proposal Review & Budget Meeting – Spokane, WA
- Thursday, June 3 – 9:00 a.m. – Fusion Seed – Rockford, WA
- Thursday, September 9 – 11:00 a.m. – Moses Lake, WA
- Thursday, December 9 – 11:00 a.m. – Kennewick, WA

Michael Rainis moved, and Jory Iverson seconded, to approve the WTSC 2027 meeting schedule as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 10, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at the KR Creative Strategies office, 104 E. Lake St., Medical Lake, WA 99022.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Attested to by:

_____/____/____
Shane Johnson, Administrator