



WASHINGTON TURFGRASS
SEED COMMISSION

MINUTES
WA TURFGRASS SEED COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, September 4, 2025
Paradise Bar and Grill. Moses Lake, WA

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Jeff Tee at 11:08 am. Those in attendance were Board Members – Jeff Tee, Derek Green, Jory Iverson, Michael Rainis, WSDA Representative Paula Lundt; Administrator – Shane Johnson; Kara Rowe KR Creative Strategies. Handlers Dallin Iverson (Columbia River Seed) and Gracie Jensen (Fusion Seed)

Review Board Roster: The group reviewed the current commissioners' terms. It was noted that Jeff Tee and Jory Iverson will be completing their current term on January 31, 2026. Shane will reach out to Jeff and Jory regarding their term

Review & Approval of Minutes of June 12, 2025, Commission Meeting: Michael Rainis moved, and Jory Iverson seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2025, Commission meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Review & Approval of Financial Statements: Shane Johnson presented the profit and loss statement from the period of June 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025. Total income was \$38,606.39 with expenses of \$27,003.02 giving a net income of \$11,603.37. The balance sheet on August 31, 2025, shows total assets of \$189,568.31. Shane then reviewed the checks that had been written since June 1, 2025, through September 2, 2025. Derek Green moved, and Michael Rainis seconded the motion to approve the financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Research: The 2026 WTSC RFP was discussed. The group reviewed the 2026 research priorities. Shane will make the discussed adjustments and send them out to potential researchers and post on WEBS.

Specialty Crop Block Grant (SCBG): The group discussed potential SCBG ideas. After some discussion the group decided to have KR Creative work on two proposals to bolster the Maintenance Grant project and the Schools/Public facilities improvement grant that the Commission will be offering.

Crop Insurance: The group discussed the current USDA-RMA insurance program. The group asked Shane to write a letter to RMA asking that first year turfgrass seed crop be eligible to be insured.

Reports:

- **Marketing/Promotion & Education/Outreach:** Kara Rowe, with KR Creative Strategies, presented their plan for the coming year. The focus would be on a grant program for Schools/Public facilities for improvement to their natural grass playing surfaces, and a training program for maintenance professionals.
- **Grass Seed Research Farm:** Travis gave an update on the WSU Grass Seed Research Farm. They have not had an official meeting, and the Commission discussed some concerns about the focus of the farm.
- **WTSA:** Travis Meacham gave an update on the Washington Turfgrass Seed Association.
- **WSDA Seed Lab:** Paula Moore gave an update on the activities of the WA State Seed Lab.

Education/Outreach & Marketing/Promotion: The second year of the Education and Outreach contract expires on September 30, 2025, and the second year of the Market and Promotion contract between the Commission and KR Creative Strategies will expire on December 30, 2025. The original contract had two extensions. This will be the last extension of the current contract. The group also discussed extending the Education and Outreach contract for three months to expire on December 30, 2026, to be in line with Market and Promotion contract. Michael Rainis moved, and Derek Green seconded the motion to approve the one-year extensions for each contract, with the three-month extension for the Education and Outreach contract. The motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Meetings: The group discussed the 2026 Meeting Schedule. The meeting schedule is as follows:

- Thursday, February 5 – 11:00am, Research Proposal Review & Budget Meeting, Spokane, WA
- Thursday, June 4 – 9:00am, Location TBD.
- Thursday, September 10 – 11:00am, Moses Lake, WA
- Thursday, December 10 – 11:00am – Kennewick, WA

Derek Green moved, and Jory Iverson seconded the motion to approve the WTSC 2026 meeting schedule as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 11, 2025 – 11am. Shane will secure a location for this meeting. It was suggested that the Commission see if they could schedule a meeting with the new dean at WSU CAHNRS as part of the December 11, 2025, Commission meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:22 pm.

Attested to by:

_____/____/____
Commissioner

_____/____/____
Shane Johnson, Administrator