

**AOGC AGM Minutes**

**Monday, Jan. 27, 2020**

**Westin Hotel, Edmonton, AB**

 41 attendees, including 26 oat producers

Brad Boettger, AOGC Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:35pm and welcomed everyone to the AGM.

Motion: Ray Philips/Gordon Pope that the minutes of AOGC annual meeting from January 28, 2019 be accepted as circulated. Carried

Election: Boettger announced that two vacant positions were filled by acclamation, Darwin Trenholm and Anthony Van Rootselaar.

Boettger welcomed these members to the Board. Boettger then recognized Keith Gilchrist, a departing director, as the past chairman of the AOGC and all his contributions to get AOGC established. Gilchrist was given a cutting board engraved with the AOGC and POGA logo as a small gesture of appreciation. Gilchrist thanked the board and producers for his time with AOGC.

FINANCIALS

Shawna Mathieson reviewed the 2018/2019 financials with the attendees. She noted that the AOGC levy returns are about 4.1% of the gross levy dollars, which is below the industry average of 6%. The AOGC finished their fiscal year with a net gain of $55,274. The biggest expense for this group is their contribution to POGA expenses (AOGC’s cost of POGA’s expenses was 9% in the 2018-2019 year).

Mathieson also highlighted the 2019/2020 budget. The budget accounts for an estimated income of $160,148 after refund requests, expenses of $102,524 for a net gain of $57,624. Mathieson did note that refund requests are budgeted at 6% although the AOGC average is around 4% so it is expected that amount requested will be lower than budgeted (6% is used since it’s the industry average).

OAT SUCCESSES

Mathieson discussed the successes of the commission, including those activities through POGA, has had over the past year. Mathieson talked about the success in the Mexico market which has resulted in exports to Mexico being the highest in history in the last 3 of the last 4 years and 2019 looking like it might be the highest year yet (final numbers are not available until March).

Mathieson discussed POGA’s continued push on the market access into China but noted that due to political issues the funding for that project has been redirected to a Marketing Campaign in Japan. Mathieson also discussed Keep It Clean, Oat Breeding funding including announcing a new breeder has been hired by AAFC to replace Dr. Jennifer Mitchell Fetch. In addition, Mathieson noted all the research being done in Alberta and the Ottawa mission to work on issues affecting oat growers.

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion: Neil Gorda/Keith Gilchrist to accept the 2018-2019 financials and 2019-2020 budget as presented. Carried.

Motion: Anthony Van Rootselaar/Bruce Thomi to appoint Baker Tilly of Yorkton, SK as accountant for the AOGC for 2019/2020 fiscal year. Carried.

Motion: Darwin Trenholm to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm.

Minister of Agriculture, Devin Dreeshen brought greetings to the event and took questions from the crowd.

Boettger thanked everyone for attending and invited everyone to remain for the 2 guest speakers, Aaron Beattie, breeder at CDC and Randy Strychar, Oat Marketing Analyst for OatInformation.com.