MEMORANDUM

TO: MACA Board of Directors
Executive Committee
Committee Chairs/Vice-Chairs
Consultants
FROM: Rodney Schmidt, Executive Director
DATE: February 27, 2026. Updated with attendees May 26, 2026
RE: Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes
ACTION: As requested

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The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) quarterly board meeting was held virtually held on Thursday, February 12.

Meeting minutes are as follows.

Present – Board Members: Aaron Deardorff - Syngenta, Matt Lawrence - Valaent, Aaron Locker – Kincannon & Reed, Tim Elliott - Gharda, Sarah Betzhold - BASF, Keith Miller – Albaugh, Patrick Murray – Nutrien, Mike Lehman – AMVAC, Drew Ratterman – Corteva, Brian Clark – Schuetz Containers.
Others Present: Jerry Van Oort – Russell Associates – Developing Professionals Program Chair, Scott Stout – Valent – Annual Meeting Committee Chair, Addie Broermann – Meister Media – Comms & Mkg Committee Chair, Andrea Rice – MACA Water Consultant, Johnny Jay – Executive Committee At-Large Member, Barbara Dunn – Barbara Dunn Law – Legal Counsel.

Call to Order – Aaron Deardorff, President at 7:30 AM

- Introductions
- Review of "Antitrust & Fair-Trade Practice Guidelines"– Deardorff

Consent Agenda – Reviewed by President Deardorff

- Secretary's Report – November 13, 2025
- Treasurer's Report – December 31, 2025
- Executive Committee reports – December 19, 2025 – January 16, 2026
- Agriculture Academy – Michelle Kilper
- Young Leader Scholarship Program Update – Michelle Kilper
- State Association Update – Randy Stookey, KARA
- Executive Director Update – Rodney Schmidt
- A motion was made to accept the consent agenda and reports as provided. There was a second. Motion carried.

Water Update

- Andrea Rice, MACA Water Consultant, provided a summary of State and Federal updates taking place the past months. Highlights are provided in her Monthly Water Updates.

Committee Reports

- **Executive Committee**
  - Matt Lawrence reviewed Executive committee report, where specifically Johnny Jay was elected to the executive committee as an At-Large Member for a 2-year position. He replaced Keith Miller, who moved to the open 3-year board seat vacated by Jaime Yanes, following his retirement from the industry.
  - Lawrence reviewed the MACA Educational Programs Fund Raising auction that's proposed to be on the 2026 annual meeting. MACA Legal counsel, Barbara Dunn, Barbara Dunn Law, reviewed the rules around that, spelling out fair market value, registrations, and the States. Specifically, we will need to check on these regulations with state of Nebraska. Rodney will work with Barbara to proceed to register for all 13 States in the MACA geography.
  - A motion was made to accept the committee report as presented. There was a second. Motion carried.
- **Membership & Meetings Committee**
  - Membership Committee report was provided by Rodney Schmidt in absence of Chair Matt Wagner.
    - To date, about 50% of membership dues are in.
    - An individual was assigned to follow up with each MACA member which has yet to pay 2026 membership dues.
    - One new member is in the process of joining - Sipcam
    - Scott Stout announced they are developing a PowerPoint presentation to review with members as far as the MACA story.
  - Annual Meeting Planning Committee Chair Stout, then provided an Annual Meeting Update
    - He reviewed the proposed agenda for the 2026 Annual Meeting.
    - He also shared the proposed theme as “Fields to Force”.
    - Along this theme line the industry tour is recommended to be at the US Strategic Air Defense site near Omaha.
    - The speakers and panels would be selected along the lines of the theme as well.
    - Per the committee recommendation, primarily due to rising hotel cost the Annual Meeting Registration fee be raised from $545 to $595 per person, keeping the sponsorship registration fee levels with the same guidelines.
      - A motion was made to accept the Annual Meeting Registration fess as presented. There was second to the motion. Motion carried.

        - Stout then presented a recommendation to have future Annual Meetings at 3 sites rotating every third year. This would make it easier for members to plan and attend. It would also allow for consistency in hotel selection. The sites/cities would be Indianapolis, St. Louis, and Minneapolis.
            - A motion was made to accept the Annual Meeting site selection as presented. There was a second. Motion carried.
        - Then Stout reviewed the MACA Educational Programs Fund Raising auction & survey concept and asked the Board for approval to proceed with further actions as needed for development of this initiative.
            - A motion was made to proceed with the MACA Educational Programs Fund Raising auction & survey concept as presented. There was a second. Motion carried.
    - A motion was then made to accept the overall Membership & Meetings committee report as presented. There was a second. Motion carried.
- **Education - Aaron Locker, Chair**,
    - Developing Professionals – Jerry Van Oort & Tim Elliott, Co-Chairs
        - The 2026 class is underway with two sessions already completed and the rest planned over the next few months.
        - Jerry and Tim are planning outreach to the DP sponsors to gain their feedback.
        - They will also work on determining what the cost of going to the market for this type of leadership training would cost them so we can assign a value for this member benefit.
    - YLSP – Drew Ratterman, Chair
        - Drew shared in 2026 we had more YLSP applications then ever from all 13 States.
        - The committee recommended to the Board that MACA awards scholarships to 11 recipients from 11 states.
        - The only two states not represented were ND and CO due to those applicants being of the same caliber as the other states.
        - A motion was made to approve as presented. There was a second to the motion. Motion carried.
    - Ag Academy – Michelle Kilper
        - We have been getting project updates with the 2026 recipients who are implementing their projects now.
        - Michelle will share those updates with membership.
        - The 2026/27 applications are open until the end of March on the MACA website. Look for updates in the March News Update and in email communications.
    - Lunch & Learn – Jane Hanson

        - All L&L sessions are planned with a few exceptions.
        - The February session will feature Michael Swanson of Wells Fargo on the ag economy.
        - March will feature a grower from Kevin Cox (panel speaker at the 2025 Annual Meeting) to give his perspective.
        - The current plan is to conduct 7 Monthly Lunch & Learn Sessions this year. Which will be 2 more than previous years.
    - A motion was made to accept the committee reports as presented. There was a second. Motion carried.

- **Critical Member Issues (D&E, PES) – Mike Lehman, Chair**
    - Lehman provided a summary of the activities of this committee
    - Work is well underway for the Warehouse & Distribution Task Force
        - Whereas the committee is focusing efforts to reinvigorate the "D&E" (Warehouse) and PES (Production & Environmental Stewardship) portion of the MACA membership and offering.
        - They will be reviewing and updating current tools provided by MACA, as well as considering new tools.
    - The committee is selecting speakers for the upcoming June Quarterly Meeting and the CMI Panel at the Annual meeting.
    - A motion was made to accept the committee report as presented. There was a second. Motion carried.
- **Communications & Marketing – Addie Broermann**
    - Beginning formation of an RFP for the MACA Social Media efforts
    - Will be exploring new vendors to provide merchandise for the MACA Member Store
    - The committee will be reviewing the website to see where updates and new content/look as needed
    - Also working on one-pagers and other collateral to support the MACA committees
    - A motion was made to accept the committee report as presented. There was a second. Motion carried.
- **Long Range Plan – Matt Lawrence**
    - VP Lawerence reviewed his plans to update the MACA Long Range Plan (or Strategic Plan)
- **Old Business**
    - Review '26 budget by Schmidt
- **New Business - Deardorff**
    - New Board Member – President Deardorff asked for a motion to approve Keith Miller, with Albaugh LLC, as Board Member for the open 3-year position as a Standard Member. A motion was made as presented. There was a second. Motion carried.

- New Board Member – President Deardorff asked for a motion to approve Patrick Murray, Nutrien Ag Solutions, as Board Member for the remainder of the last year of the open 3-year position as a Standard Member. A motion was made as presented. There was a second. Motion carried.

- **Next Meeting**
  - June 4, 2026, at 7:30 am – St. Louis, MO
    - June 3 – Committee Meetings
  - Will be in-person – plan to attend (virtual participation will also be accommodated)

10:30 AM Adjourn

MID AMERICA CROPLIFE ASSOCIATION
(MACA)
ANTITRUST AND FAIR-TRADE GUIDELINES

While some activities among competitors in the same industry are both legal and beneficial to the industry, group activities of competitors are inherently suspect under the antitrust laws. Agreements or combinations between or among competitors need not be formal to raise questions under antitrust laws, but may include any kind of understanding, formal or informal, secretive or public, under which each of the parties can reasonably expect that another will follow a particular course of action.

Each individual is responsible to see that topics which may give an appearance of an agreement that would violate the antitrust laws are not discussed at your meetings. It is the responsibility of each individual in the first instance to avoid raising improper subjects for discussion. This reminder has been prepared to assure that individuals in meetings are aware of this obligation.

The following "Do" and "Do Not" highlight only the most basic antitrust principles. Each party and every individual at every meeting related thereto should be thoroughly familiar with his/her responsibilities under the antitrust laws and should consult counsel in all cases involving specific situations, interpretations, or advice.

DO NOT, in fact, discuss or exchange information in person, electronically or by other means regarding:

- Individual company prices, price changes, price differentials, mark-ups, discounts, allowances, credit terms, etc., or data that bear on price (e.g., costs, production, capacity, inventories, sales).
- Industry pricing policies, price levels, price changes, differentials, etc.
- Changes in industry production, capacity or inventories.
- Bids on contracts for particular products; procedures for responding to bid invitations.
- Plans of individual companies concerning the design, production, distribution or marketing of particular products, including proposed territories or customers.
- Matters relating to actual or potential individual customers or suppliers that might have the effect of excluding them from any market or of influencing the business conduct of firms toward such suppliers or customers.

DO NOT discuss or exchange information regarding the above matters during social gatherings incidental to meetings, or by electronic mail, even in jest.
DO adhere to prepared agendas for all meetings and object when meeting minutes do not accurately reflect the matters which transpired.
DO understand the purpose and authority of the group.
DO consult with your company counsel and your company policy guidelines on all antitrust questions before attending meetings.
DO protest against any discussions or meeting activities which appear to violate the antitrust laws; disassociate yourself from any such discussions or activities and leave any meeting in which they continue.

Notes:

- Approved by MACA Board of Directors – June 7, 2001