

Maize Genetics Cooperation Board of Directors
Sept 16, 2024 on Zoom
Meeting Minutes

BoD members present:

Wojtek Pawlowski (Chair)
Matt Hufford (Incoming Chair)
Erin Sparks (Treasurer)
Laurie Smith (Secretary)
Mike Muszynski (Communications Director)
John Fowler (At Large Member)
Andrea Eveland (At Large Member)
Jeff Ross-Ibarra (At Large Member)
Marna Yandean-Nelson (Outgoing Chair)

Invited visitor:

Sherry Flint-Garcia (2025 Steering Committee Chair)

Meeting began 5pm ET

[Motions in blue](#)

1. BoD meeting minutes

[Motion made and seconded to approve May 13 2024 BoD Meeting Minutes; approved unanimously](#)

2. Site selection update for the MGM2027 meeting (Steering Committee report)

Steering Committee is working w-Conference Direct to investigate several possible midwestern locations for 2027 meeting. Remaining under consideration: Chicago Hyatt in Chicago; CHI Health Ctr in Omaha; Madison, WI Hilton. Need to decide soon. Guidelines from last year's Steering Committee and Root and Shoot for transparent site selection are being utilized. BoD discussed how to communication site selection criteria, also whether and how to invite community input into the final decision. Steering Committee is also working on creating day pass system for people who want to attend a single session or day (these participants must still agree to the Code of Conduct).

3. FY 2025 Budget

All MGC committee chairs were asked to submit budget request by Sept. 1 for BoD approval. Steering Committee is by far the biggest budget (for conference) – see below. Our professional conferences service provider Conference Direct put this conference budget together.

Summary of Expenses

	Expenses	Meeting (Restricted)	Other (Unrestricted)
BoD Operating	\$ 10,500.00	\$ -	\$ 10,500.00
Membership	\$ 4,166.00	\$ -	\$ 4,166.00
MGMSC	\$ 393,776.00	\$ 393,776.00	\$ -
CODIE	\$ 26,020.00	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 20.00
MGAC	\$ 820.00	\$ -	\$ 820.00
ANC	\$ 6,620.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 620.00
Total	\$ 444,902.00	\$ 425,776.00	\$ 16,126.00

Anticipated Income & Endowment Interest

	Income	
Conference Grant	\$ (28,500.00)	Restricted
Sponsorship	\$ (50,000.00)	Restricted
Endowments	\$ (38,000.00)	Restricted
Meeting Income	\$ (294,000.00)	Restricted
Membership	\$ (23,410.00)	Unrestricted
Total	\$ (433,910.00)	

**Note: Endowment Interest has accrued for several years.

Table above uses conservative assumptions about income – one sponsorship not projected could wipe out the red below. Deficit could be covered by current bank balance.

Net Expected Year End

	Expenses	Meeting (Restricted)	Other (Unrestricted)
Total	\$ 441,902.00	\$ 435,776.00	\$ 16,126.00
	\$ (433,910.00)	\$ (410,500.00)	\$ (23,410.00)
	\$ 7,992.00	\$ 15,276.00	\$ (7,284.00)

Following discussion of these budget requests and possible fee increases:

Motion made and seconded to approve all the budget requests as is. Unanimously approved.

Motion made and seconded to maintain current membership rates. Approved unanimously.

Motion made and seconded that Treasurer will discuss with Steering Committee and Conference Direct possible registration rate changes that would increase 2025 meeting income by \$10K. Will also discuss adding a category for lab tech/staff associates as conference participants. Approved unanimously.

4. Press release for the 2025 McClintock Award: In the works; coming soon

5. Roots and Shoots

Brandi Sigmon (current CODIE Chair) will Roots & Shoots Steering Committee as a second MGC rep. Other MGC members (BoD members, early career scientists) are wanted to join MGC reps at the in-person R&S Shoot retreat in November.

Meeting adjourned 6:30PM ET