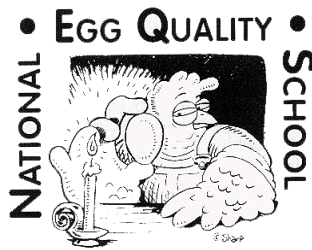


---

Paul Patterson, Director  
Elizabeth Myers, Assistant Director  
Michael Abbott, NEQS Coordinator  
Diana Sparks, Treasurer  
E.L. Knicely, Secretary



National Egg Quality School  
Office of the Secretary  
102 Governor St  
Richmond, VA 23219

---

## NATIONAL EGG QUALITY SCHOOL

---

2023 National Egg Quality School Regular Meeting  
January 25, 2023 Atlanta GA

Attendees: Diana Sparks, Ken Anderson, Paul Patterson, Michael Abbott, Cary Wise, Dianna Bourassa, Ken Anderson, Mike Persia, Shari Yeatts, Jeff Hendricks, Elisa Maloberti, Aaron Kiess, Kari Harding and E. L. Knicely

Paul Patterson called the meeting to order and asked E. L. Knicely if there was a quorum. E. L. said he received seven proxies, the executor of one of the proxies was not present so only six will be considered towards a quorum. With the Board members present and the proxies submitted, Paul declared a quorum.

Paul asked for reading of minutes from the May 2022 Regular meeting held in Indianapolis IN. Motion received to dispense with the reading of the minutes, second received, motion passed.

Treasurers Report; Diana Sparks provided a 2022 financial report and reviewed the report with the group. She reviewed total income received and expenses with net profit. Without sponsorships the school would have realized a loss. Diana plans to complete a per-student cost for future schools to determine if tuition is at a sufficient level. Overall school finances are very healthy.

Diana said we currently have 43 students registered for 2023 school. Elisa said AEB could send out a notice to the trade about registration being open for the 2023 NEQS. The notice was posted in the UEP newsletter. Ken Anderson suggested reaching out to Midwest Poultry to post in their newsletter, Paul said he had a contact.

No Committee reports provided.

Paul reported that the 2022 school held in Indianapolis IN was successful and student evaluations reflected positively. Moving the Wednesday exam review to 4:30pm instead of the traditional after dinner format went very well and will be continued moving forward.

Jeff asked if the labeling lecture received any feedback. Paul said there were no negative comments regarding the lecture. Jeff said he would ask the FDA representative if they can come in person to the 2023 school. He said if they can't, USDA-AMS would do the lecture. Mike Persia suggested we have a speaker on the most up to date bio-security measures or best practices for farms. Ken said he would provide contacts for USDA-APHIS. Jeff offered Dr. Jacqueline Mason as a speaker on the subject, she was formerly with USDA-APHIS but recently accepted a position with USDA-AMS.

Curriculum for 2023 school; Paul said he and Elizabeth Myers have been working on determining the speakers and progress was being made.

Future School Locations: for the 2024 school, Cary Wise said he received a proposal from the Marriott in Salt Lake City, he said access to surrounding eateries would possibly be limited for students, he hopes to get proposals from additional hotels. We have not received much information from hotels in the Phoenix AZ area. Michael feels it could be difficult to get government lodging rates in California. Diana asked about San Diego or Sacramento. Michael said he would do some research in those areas. Additional research will be conducted before a decision is made on the location of the 2024 school.

New Business: Diana has been exploring the possibility of the school purchasing 60 new candling lights. She has acquired contact information for the AHPharma company, who has manufactured candling lights in the past. Jeff Hendricks said USDA-AMS purchased over 100 lights from them in 2021. Unfortunately, they have experienced quality problems with the lights and have been unable to utilize many of them as a result. Jeff said he has a planned meeting with a AHPharma representative to discuss the problems they are having and would let us know what the results are. Jeff also said he didn't think the company was manufacturing the lights at this time. Diana suggested tabling the order until more information is received about the company. Jeff said if the school needed additional lights for the 2023 school, USDA would be able to provide up to 50 lights. It was decided that we would let Jeff know if the school needed additional lights for the 2023 school.

Diana said the company who shipped the lights from Indianapolis to Minneapolis billed the school, however they did not give credit for the deposit that was paid up front. As a result, she has disputed the bill and continues to work on getting it corrected.

A discussion was had about possibly purchasing a collapsible bulk container pallet to use when shipping lights and other materials from one location to another. Michael said it was a challenge getting everything strapped onto the wooden pallet last year and felt having a pallet with solid sides could possibly help with securing and protecting items. He said we need to make sure the pallet will fit on hotel freight elevators. A question was asked if all of the pelican cases that contain the candling lights would fit on the pallet. No one knew for sure, but it was noted that if we utilized a second one, they are stackable. Michael said he would do a little research to help determine if purchasing one or two of them would help with packing and shipping the school supplies.

A motion was made to adjourn, second received, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

E.L. Knicely, Secretary

