

Paul Patterson, Director
Ken Koelkebeck, Asst. 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

2025 National Egg Quality School Regular Meeting
January 30, 2025 Atlanta GA

Attendees: Diana Sparks, Ken Anderson, Paul Patterson, Cary Wise, Dianna Bourassa, Mike Persia, Jeff Hendricks, Elisa Maloberti, Elizabeth Myers, Deana Jones, Michael Abbott, Aaron Kiess, Pratima Adhikari, Derven Bryan, Ken Koelkebeck and E. L. Knicely

Paul Patterson called the meeting to order and asked E. L. Knicely if there was a quorum. E. L. said there was a quorum in attendance, plus he had received four proxies.

Paul asked for reading of minutes from the last meeting. Motion received to dispense with the reading of the minutes, second received, motion passed.

Treasurers Report: Diana Sparks distributed the 2024 financial report and reviewed the report with the board. She reviewed total income received and expenses with net profit. She said sponsorships totaled \$43,450 which included \$15,000 from USPE. It was the highest sponsorship revenue the school has ever received and helps keep tuition at its current level. Overall school finances are very healthy.

Diana said the limit for number of students for the 2025 school was set at 72 since we didn't have a waiting list for last year's school. A question was asked if there would be flexibility to exceed that number if registration is strong and Diana said she was confident we could increase the number if we needed to. As of today, the school has received 39 registrations for the 2025 school. Diana said a new pallet for shipping the equipment to and from schools was purchased. Michael and Diana thanked Deana for the help her staff provided in creating a packing scheme on how the pallet should be packed and for storing the equipment once the school is over each year.

Jeff Hendricks visited AH Pharma in August 2024 to discuss the schools candling light order. He said the visit went well and he recently received 3 of the new models to test. He said the testing went well with none of them overheating and smoking. Diana said she received an email from AH Pharma January 29, 2025, that said they had received half of the parts they needed to build the lights to meet the schools order and wanted to know if they could start. Diana asked them to please start building.

Paul shared that the 2025 school will mark 75 years of consecutive egg schools. Paul asked if the Board wanted to celebrate the 75 years. After discussion it was decided not to promote or celebrate the 75-year egg school milestone for fear it would create confusion since we celebrated 30 years for the National Egg Quality School at last years school.

No Committee reports provided.

Paul handed out the 2024 school evaluations for the school held in Park City Utah. Paul congratulated Elizabeth Myers for being top Section Leader based on her sections average score and the student evaluations average. It was pointed out that the top Section Leader is based only on a sections average score for the exam, and Rebecca Wysocki's section had the highest average score for the exam. Paul said he thought it was based on a section's average exam score and the student evaluations score. Ken Anderson suggested creating the Deana Baldwin Section Leader Award that would combine the Section scores with the student evaluation averages. After discussion, a motion was made to create the Deana Baldwin Section

Leader Award that would be given to the Section Leader whose student evaluation average was the highest. Second received and motion carried.

Paul asked Aaron Kiess if he would like to report on North Carolina State University's (NCSU) egg processing training facility they have been planning. Aaron said they have received enough donations to begin putting the facility together and have identified a building on campus that could potentially be used for the training center. If it is determined the building can house the training center, it could possibly be ready in 2026. The center will be used for research and education of NCSU students as well as industry personnel. Ken Anderson said the university has also secured funding for a 4,800-bird aviary for research purposes as well.

2025 School Curriculum: Paul said he and Ken Koelkebeck were working on the curriculum for the upcoming school.

Future School Locations: It was decided Indianapolis would be the location for the 2026 school. Diana said she would ask the Hilton for room estimates. Des Moines Iowa was also discussed as a possible destination and will be considered if Indianapolis doesn't work out.

New Business:

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

Respectfully submitted,

E.L. Knicely, Secretary

