



**North Dakota Farmers Market and Growers Association
Annual Board Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2026**

Members Present: Sue Balcom, Eric Hegg, Quinn Renfandt, Janel Anderson, Jodi Faaborg, Julia Seiler, Keith Knudson(executive director), Desiree Carlson, Johnathon Moser, Dawn Rognerud, and Jenna Nieters(NDDA Representative). Bonne Munsch were not present. Guests at the meeting included Katrina Hanenberg(NDDA) and Heather Lang (NDDA).

President Renfandt called meeting to order at 7:03 PM

Minutes from January 12, 2026– Eric asked that he be added to the members present. Keith corrected the omission. Sue moved to approve minutes as corrected, Jodie seconded. Minutes approved.

Financials – Keith stated there was \$32,694.34 in the association account. Jodi reviewed all transactions from the last meeting. Janel moved to approve the treasurer’s report, and it was seconded by Dawn. Treasurer’s report approved.

Keith proposed the budget for 2026. Quinn felt that we needed to review the grant committee recommendation before approving the budget. Also asked that the \$500 donation to NDDA for the North Dakota State Fair event included in the budget.

Board reviewed the proposed changes to the grant program and approved the following changes:

1. Farm To School Grant – Change name to Farm to Institution, two grants available and change amount to \$1500 with additional requirements of deadline of May 15th and require a letter of support from the vendors potential institutional customer.
2. New Vendor Grant – Change grant amount to \$600.00 and leave it available to thirty applicants.
3. New Farmers Market Grant – Two grants available annually at \$2000.00 each. NDFMGA to provide farmers market startup information to the successful applicants.
4. All other grants will remain the same amounts.

There was a brief discussion on grant requirements for the “New Farmers Market Grant.”

Eric moved to approve the grant committee proposal. Sue seconded the motion and motion was approved.

Board continued with the 2026 budget proposal with updates for the grant changes and NDDA contribution. There was a brief discussion on how much the Treasurer could go beyond the budget without board approval. It was decided that the maximum limit would be \$500.00 per transaction. Jodi noted that this budget creates deficit spending for 2026. Eric moved to accept the 2026 budget. Jonathon seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The meeting moved to a new business item presented by Katrina Hanenberg, NDDA. Katrina proposed that our next conference be held in conjunction with the Pride of Dakota event held in Bismarck on March 11th and 12th, 2027. First day would be at the Capitol with an exhibit in the Memorial and Legislative Hall. There would be one day, March 12th available for NDFMGA sessions. The venue has not been selected. Katrina asked that we have a decision within two months (end of April). Katrina also indicated that the Pride of Dakota Fresh concept was being put in place and that would make our joining that event more relevant. It was suggested that President Renfandt appoint a Conference Committee to



The North Dakota Farmers Market and Growers Association, Inc.

review and propose a conference for 2027. President Renfandt appointed himself, Dawn, Jenna, Desiree, Eric, and Keith to the committee. Keith will set up a committee meeting date and time on Zoom. The board thanked Katrina and ended the discussion.

Board then moved back to old business with the first item being the Spring 2026 Newsletter. Due date for the articles is March 1, 2026. Sue will work on the newsletter and have it ready for distribution around March 15, 2026.

NDDA Partnership continued with more information from Heather Lang, NDDA. The event at the North Dakota State Fair would be a partnership between NDDA and those organizations who wished to participate. Each organization would have the opportunity to give a presentation to fair goers. It would focus on young people to encourage them to grow and eat more local foods. Heather oversees scheduling the event activities. NDFMGA has donated \$500 for this event and will participate. Board decided not to provide additional funds at this time.

The Board thanked Heather for her time to participate in our meeting.

The 2026 annual meeting was briefly discussed and continued discussion will be held at the next board meeting.

Keith indicated that all paperwork had been completed with the banking activities and that Jodi is able to transact with the account. Keith and Jodi will work with the bank to get Jodi access online. Jodi requested information for our accountant. Keith will provide that information to her.

New Business

The board discussed the idea of having a “Working Session” to discuss board policies and procedures and strategic planning. Board members felt this was necessary. Keith will research for someone to facilitate the event.

Keith has had recent requests from other organizations for a member contact list. It has been NDFMGA policy to not allow any use of the membership list to other organizations. That policy will continue. However, NDFMGA is willing to send out emails for certain events and surveys from other organizations.

Quinn mentioned that he and Keith are going to visit with other state associations to get ideas on how we can improve and grow our organization. More to come at the next board meeting. Next item of new business was joining the Farmers Market Coalition(FMC) Dawn talked about her experience with FMC through her farmers market and felt that it would be beneficial for NDFMGA to join. Eric moved to have NDFMGA join. Jonathon seconded the motion and it was approved.

There was a brief discussion about the Main Street Now 2026 conference. Quinn suggested that we consider this event in future years. Quinn is considering going this year.

For new business was the resignation of our executive director, Keith Knudson. He has set the resignation date as November 1, 2026. Keith will write up a part-time job description so that board members can review and prepare to interview. Keith will also write up a fulltime job description with input from the board.



The North Dakota Farmers Market and Growers Association, Inc.

Final new business was the participation in the Prairie Roots Homestead Conference in Watford City, ND May 15th, and 16th, 2026. We will send in our \$100 to have a booth and participate in the conference. Quinn and Julia plan to attend and be at the booth. Keith will work on information to have available at the conference.

Next Board Meeting – Members decided to have the next board meeting in mid to late April. Keith will send out a doodle poll to find a date that works well for the board members. Eric moved to adjourn the meeting and Jonathon seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes written by:

Keith Knudson, Executive Director.