

Hard Winter Wheat Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Wheat Quality Council

February 18, 2026

8:00 am, Embassy Suites, Olathe, Kansas

Meeting was called to order by chairman Gang Guo

Welcome and Opening Comments were given by Dave Green and Gang Guo

Gang Guo reviewed the agenda for the 2026 Meeting and the 2025 Meeting Minutes. Rich Kendrick moved to approve the 2025 Meeting Minutes. Jeff Wright seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Gang Guo presented the nominations for Technical Board.

Guorong Zhang – Kansas State University

Marco Hernandez – Miller Milling

Announcing Board for 2026 – Gang Guo

Chairman	Kevin Kloberdanz - GrainCraft
Vice Chairman	Scott Baker – Bay State Milling
Secretary	Rhett Kaufman – USDA/ARS
Member	Guorong Zhang - KSU
Member	Marco Hernandez – Miller Milling Co

Bart Bender motioned to approve the election of the Board. Motion was seconded by Sunish Sehgal. Motion Passed

Review of HRW Breeding Targets – Gang Guo

- Discussion of the phasing out of the SKCS and the Mixograph
- Need for new technologies to replace or complement the data being generated

Overview of Wheat Tours – Dave Green, WQC

- 2026 HRW Tour will be May 11 – 14, with registration information available by the end of February
- 2026 HRS Tour will be July 20 – 23

Overview of Milling of Wheat Samples - Paul Blodgett, KSU Manhattan

- 26 samples were milled, starting on Oct 27th and the last sample on Nov 7th
- Started with a target temper moisture of 16.5, but changed to 16.0 after the first five samples

- Review of the highest and lowest values for Extraction Rate, Flour Protein, and Flour Ash
- Sifter frame cracked on the second to last sample and needs to be repaired
- Grain Science Department is on schedule to move into the newly named Western Star Global Center for Grain and Food Innovation in June/July.
- The plan is for the MIAG milling to take place in Shellenberger Hall next year or until Shellenberger is torn down with the possibility of moving it to USDA after that.

Wheat Quality Council HRW Report for 2025 – Rhett Kaufman - USDA/ARS

- 11 Breeding programs submitted 26 samples for evaluation by 18 collaborators
- Southern, Northern, and Montana growouts were completed
- Some Southern Growout composites only had 3 locations due to TW or FN concerns due to disease pressure or late season rain events.
- Small scale samples were tested on locations not included in the composites
- There are ongoing discussions on how to modify and improve the book reporting the results and possibly creating a dashboard

Review of 2025 Wheat Crop – Royce Schaneman, Plains Grains Inc.

- 566 samples analyzed which are split into 34 grain sheds that feed into either a Gulf or PNW Export Region
- Crop quality was better than expected given weather conditions
- PGI Dashboard is available to those interested. Contact Royce to request access
- Currently seeking proposals from qualified organizations to conduct data reporting and analysis

Growout Program for Hard Winter Wheat – Marla Barnett, Limagrain

- Southern Growout had 13 lines in 10 locations
- Composites made from Clay Center, NE; Hays, KS; and Bushland, TX due to disease and/or weather issues at some locations
 - Composites normally made from 6-8 locations
- Need for a new Check as current check, Monument, is difficult to find seed

Soft Wheat Update – Byung-Kee Baik, USDA/ARS Wooster

- Review of 2025 entries and breeders
- 13 samples, 10 Collaborators
- Soft Wheat Quality Council Meeting will be held March 24, 2026

State Crop Reports 2025 Crop –

- Texas – Jackie Rudd – TX Wheat
- Oklahoma – Mike Schulte, Oklahoma Wheat Commission
- Kansas – Aaron Harries, Kansas Wheat Commission
- Nebraska – Royce Schaneman, Nebraska Wheat Board
- Colorado – Brad Erker, Colorado Wheat
- South Dakota – Jon Kleinjan, SD Wheat Commission
- Montana – Kent Kupfner, Montana Wheat and Barley Committee

Financial Report – Dave Green, WQC

- Enough funding is available to meet budget

Exhibitor's Session

- Perten Instruments – Steve Watts
- Neogen – Matt Nichols
- CW Brabender/ Anton Paar – Helga Gschwind / Norbert Ponweiser
- Midland Scientific – Paula York
- Buchi – Seth Bryan