

Minutes of a Meeting of the Oil and Gas Research Council

Held on July 22, 2024 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Department of Mineral Resources West Conference Room

Present: Brent Brannan  
Ryan Kopseng  
Ron Ness  
Preston Page  
Steve Holen  
Zac Weis  
Brent Lohnes  
Daryl Dukart  
Ed Murphy  
Mark Bohrer  
Justin Kringstad  
Reice Haase- Deputy Director, NDIC  
Erin Stieg- Recording Secretary, NDIC

Others Present: Troy Vareberg, Jim Sorenson, Eric Nelson, Geoff Simon, Jonathan Rosencrans. This meeting was open on Microsoft Teams so all other attendees are unknown.

Chairman Ryan Kopseng called the meeting of the Oil and Gas Research Council to order at approximately 10:02 a.m.

Meeting minutes from the December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 grant round were considered.

**A motion was made by Preston Page to accept the minutes as written. Zac Weis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Justin Kringstad gave a presentation from the North Dakota Pipeline Authority.

Mr. Reice Haase gave a presentation of the Oil and Gas Research Program Financial and Project Management Report. The cash balance as of June 30, 2024 was \$27,540,577.33, and the non-committed cash funding is \$6,353,346.49. There are currently 14 active projects, and \$93.2 million has been awarded. There is currently \$21,187,230.84 outstanding committed.

The consideration of the Grant Round 60 Application was presented.

- A. **G-060-A “Well Site Thief Hatch Methane Detectors, Phase II”** – Blue Rock Solutions, LLC;  
Principal Investigator: Troy Vareberg, PE; Project Duration: 2 years; Total Project Cost: \$900,000.  
Request for: \$450,000.

Mr. Troy Vareberg briefly discussed the history of the project over the years and what activities the investments have gone toward.

There was a short break for lunch.

Mr. Jim Sorenson from the Energy & Environment Research Center gave a final report of the Unitized Legacy Oil Fields .

Mr. Eric Nelson from Creedence Energy Services gave a final report of the Estimated Ultimate Recovery (EUR) Biosurfactant Applications.

Mr. Geoff Simon of the Western Dakota Energy Association and Meteorologist Jonathan Rosencrans gave a final report of the Weather Information System to Effectively Reduce Oilfield Delays and Disruption (Wise Roads).

The Ballots were handed out at this time to the voting members.

**With a unanimous vote, the Oil and Gas Research Council voted to recommend funding the Blue Rock Solutions grant application G-060-A “Well Site Thief Hatch Methane Detectors, Phase II” for \$450,000. A motion was made by Preston Page to pass this recommendation to the Industrial Commission at the July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting. Zac Weis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

The next Oil and Gas Research Council’s grant deadline is tentatively set for November 1, 2024.

The next North Dakota Industrial Commission meeting is scheduled for December ??, 2024.

With no other business, Chairman Kopseng requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**A motion was made by Brent Lohnes to adjourn the meeting. Steve Holen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

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Jordan Kannianen  
Deputy Director, NDIC

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Erin Stieg  
Recording Secretary, NDIC

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Date

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Date