

Meeting Minutes

Arkansas Wine Producers Council

Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 9:00 am

Zoom

Appointed Members

Mr. Andrew Post

Ms. Audrey House

Mr. Dennis Wiederkehr, Chair

Mr. Michael Post, Treasurer

Mr. Daniel O'Shea, Secretary

Dr. Renee Threlfall, Vice Chair

Ex Officio Members

Dr. Renee Threlfall, AAGG Chairman

- A. Call to Order at 9.01 am

- B. Welcome Council Member Roll Call: Present – Dr. Threlfall, Dennis Wiederkehr, Andrew Post, ,and Dan O'Shea. No guests were present.

- C. Consideration to approve July 2024 quarterly minutes: Renee made a motion to accept minutes, Andrew seconded it. Motion carried. ``

- D. Treasurer Report: Michael had informed Dennis that the only transaction this quarter was a \$1000 payment to NGRA.

- E. Committee Reports
 - a. Council Bylaws: Nothing to report.

 - b. 2024 Budget: Nothing to report.

 - c. Website: Nothing to report.

 - d. Tourism Signage Protocols & Procedures: Dennis is still trying to get the Highway Dept to replace his sign.

 - e. Tourism Facility: Tourism Development Trust Fund (3-5-1802): Michael has had conversations with Legal in the governor's office and the office has reached out to Dennis on this. The AWPC is currently within the Commerce Department and, because entities within the department cannot own land, will need to be put into another

department, yet to be determined. The amount currently in this fund was questioned by Renee and whether it would be enough to build the building. Lots of questions still need to be answered here but everyone was encouraged by the movement on this important issue.

- f. National Grape Research Alliance: Dennis is now our representative. Dennis will be attending the November meeting on Zoom and the January meeting in person to be accepted into this organization.
- F. Unfinished Business : None.
- G. Other Business
- a. AQW Update: Renee said that the 2025 completion will take place on May 27 and 28.
 - b. Arkansas Grown: AAGG will have a workshop from 1:30 to 5:00 pm on Thursday, January 30 2025. It will take place at the Hot Springs convention center. Speakers will be Doug Meyer on grants, Amanda McWirt on cold-hardy muscadines, and other speakers on such topics as weed control, signage, Hot Tunnels, and wet/dry counties.
 - c. Cowie Cup: AAGG will temporarily take ownership. Saturday November 9 is the date of the competition this year. It will take place at the Food Science Department in the morning and a Wine Sensory 101 event will take place from 2 to 4 pm that will be open to the public.
 - d. Cowie Museum Collection: The Cowie family would like the collection to be housed in the Tourism facility. The Cowie Winery has been closed and the collection will need to be removed and stored somewhere else. Dennis and Andrew will go there and see how much material is there.
- H. Comments: The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday January 14, 2025 at 9 am.
- I. Adjournment: Andrew made a motion to adjourn and Renee seconded it. Meeting ended at 9:26 am.

AWPC P.O. Box 101 Altus, AR 72821

NOTE: All exhibits for this meeting are available by electronic means and are accessible on [Arkansas Wine Producers Council | Arkansas.gov](https://arkansaswineproducerscouncil.com)

Notice: Silence your cell phones. Keep your personal conversations to a minimum. Observe restrictions designating areas as “Members & Staff Only” and know these public meetings are recorded for reporting purposes.