

**ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING** 

# ANNUAL REPORT



December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025- 2 PM The Refinery Conference Center 3122 Cecil Dr. Garden City, KS



### **AGENDA**

Invocation ----- Clayton Maddux

Call to Order Clayton Maddux

Welcome

**Declaration of Quorum** 

**Proof of Notice** 

**Approval of Minutes** 

Introduction of Past Board Members

Introduction of Previous General Managers

Introduction of Guests \_\_\_\_\_ Jeff Boyd

Audit Report \_\_\_\_\_ Kelly Drees

Chairman Report \_\_\_\_\_ Clayton Maddux

Management Report \_\_\_\_\_ Jeff Boyd

Nominating Committee Report \_\_\_\_\_\_ Joanna Schmeeckle

Associate Director Report \_\_\_\_\_\_ Shane Browning

Election of Directors \_\_\_\_\_ Joanna Schmeeckle

New Business ...... Clayton Maddux

Employee & Retiree Recognition \_\_\_\_\_ Boyd / Maddux

Question and Answer Session

Redemption Giveaways \_\_\_\_\_ Gordon Drees

**Director Election Results** 

Adjournment

## **2024 MINUTES**

#### **UNAPPROVED**

Garden City Co-op, Inc Annual Stockholders Meeting December 10, 2024

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Garden City Co-op, Inc. (GCC) met Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at the Clarion Inn and Convention Center, Garden City, Kansas. This meeting represents the Fiscal Year Sept 2023 through August 2024.

At 2:03 PM, Tyler Hands, Board Chairman, called the 105th annual meeting to order. Directors in attendance were Gordon Drees, Chris Fullmer, Clayton Maddux, Kyle Deaver, Joanna Schmeeckle, and Dylan Linenberger. Associate Directors in attendance were Jeff Herald, Shane Browning, and Zion Roth. Incoming Associate Directors, Amanda Hands and Garrett Rohl were also in attendance.

Tyler began the meeting with a prayer and stated the agenda.

Tyler Hands advised that there were 180 voting members present, thus making a quorum. Tyler further advised that on November 7, 2024, we mailed 1390 notices certified by the U.S. Post Office. Tyler asked for any corrections to the minutes from the 2023 annual meeting. There were no corrections. Minutes were approved as provided.

Tyler Hands welcomed members and expressed the Board of Directors' appreciation for their attendance. He also recognized past board members and Harley Foulks, former General Manager.

Jeff Boyd introduced special guests: Eric Steinle from Martindale Swearer, Nick Meuting with Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris, Billy Wickman and Brandon White of Frontier Ag, Phillip Kelly with Purpose Driven Coaching, Kevin Royer of Midland Marketing, Chris Irvin from Bayer, Scott Anderson with ProValue Insurance, Kendall Poland of Sublette Cooperative, Mark Koeghan from CoBank, and Jordan Dawson with Commerce Bank.

Kelly Drees, CFO, described the items in the registration packet. Kelly then discussed the financial statement of operations, Sept 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024. Kelly explained the REACH Initiative as well as our efforts to educate students about Co-ops. Grain receipts were severely impacted by significant hailstorms. The River Valley shuttle loader was not complete before the end of the fiscal year, but we have loaded multiple trains since. Agronomy supply was stable, with an increase in liquid fertilizer and stronger NH3 margins. The addition of the Hooker agronomy location helped boost sales. Energy is actively transitioning to a comprehensive software system. The Scott City terminal faced supply shortages. Energy had a 16% increase in oil sales and two million in sales from Hooker. We continue to carefully manage our working capital. We have invested \$2.5 million in infrastructure, mainly at our Hooker facilities. We will not retire equity this year but will distribute \$2.4 million in patronage back to our members with 40% returned in cash patronage. The DPAD will also be passed through.

The following financial information was reviewed: Sales \$222,199,637.71; Gross Margins \$23,380,302.24; Gross Income from Local Operations \$34,677,026.22; Total Assets \$194,553,528.87; Total Current Liability \$59,208,426.95; Total Long-Term Liabilities \$27,840,133.23; Total Members' Equity \$107,504,968.69; Retained Savings for the fiscal year are at \$4,260,929.11; Total Patronage Dividends \$2,436,047.81. Nick Mueting of Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris stated that he had submitted an unmodified or clean opinion on the August 31, 2024, financial statements. There were no questions or comments regarding the financial report.

Tyler then introduced the current Board of Directors and their spouses.

Tyler gave the chairman report. After serving 14 years on the Board of Directors, Tyler's term expires today. Tyler thanked member/owners, his wife Amanda and his family, board, and staff. He is honored to have served one-third of his life on the Board. During his tenure, he witnessed numerous changes to the co-op infrastructure, learned to navigate the family farm without his dad, and assisted with the search for a new General Manager. Tyler attributes his fellow board members, staff, and general manager to the success of the Garden City Co-op. He is proud to be part of this co-op and will miss being on the board. In closing, Tyler quoted Ecclesiastes 3:1-

There were ten regular board meetings. Two monthly meetings did not have full attendance.

Jeff Boyd gave the General Manager's Report. Jeff began by offering his appreciation to Tyler Hands' service on the Board. Jeff addressed the members with the question, "What are we doing to be relevant to your farms?" The member owns the business and guides this business, but how can GCC create value for its members? The co-op continues to make improvements toward accuracy, efficiency, and speed while increasing space and utilizing technology. The Cooperative model can be special if it is supported by its members. River Valley Terminal allows us to control our marketing better by providing us with the opportunity to deliver wheat domestically, to Mexico, and milo to Africa. We recently made \$1.2 million in upgrades to our Hooker facilities, across all departments. We have added a 24-hour liquid fertilizer distribution point at Plymell. This will be available at Lowe later this year. We have also invested in a See & Spray application rig. Energy continues to focus on delivery efficiency, recently acquiring a bulk delivery trailer. We continue to upgrade our technology through new ERP software in both Energy and Agronomy. As business needs evolve, so does the need for good employees. We continue to invest in our resources by building a talented employee group and adhering to a specific culture.

Trevor Hands, GCC Communications Director, presented a video about what a cooperative is to our farmer/members.

Joanna Schmeeckle gave the nominating committee report. The nominating committee consists of Joanna Schmeeckle, Jonathan Lightner, and Boyd Lear. Nominees for the Board of Directors are Shane Browning, Gordon Drees, and Zion Roth. Members were asked to make two selections. Clayton Maddux then came forward and asked if there were nominations from the floor. Those elected were Gordon Drees and Zion Roth.

Clayton presented Tyler with a plaque for his years of service and an Airbnb gift certificate.

Zion Roth gave the Associate Director report. While serving as an associate director, Zion was part of the River Valley Project and the Hooker Equity Merger. He learned important things on the board, and his takeaway is that learning never stops. He concluded by thanking everyone for allowing him to serve as an associate.

Years of Service Recognition: 5 Years-Kelly Drees, Jesse Beesley, Blair Hoffman, Juan Castro, and Megan Finch; 10 Years-Danny Peck, Ambrocio Estrada, Joey Kuehler, Tami Williams, Pete Riojas, Nathan Flores, Rachel Livermore, and Jenna Davis; 15 Year-John Griffin, Abe Hamm, Pedro Hernandez, Octavio Gomez-Favela, Nathan Gonzalez; 20 Year-Henry Miller; 25 Year-Holly Cowan; Retirement: Norman Hensley.

# **2024 MINUTES**

Tyler asked for new business. Eric Steinle took the floor to explain the articles and bylaws changes. Aside fron
standard clean-up, the first change allows the board more flexibility when granting equity redemption to those
who have moved away. The second change states voting members must actively do business with the
cooperative. Under the Capper-Volstead Act, only bona fide producers have the right to vote. The changes were
moved and seconded.

Question-and-Answer session: No questions

Winners for the early redemptions of stock up to \$1,000 were Elizabeth Simmons, Corey Strasser, Keith Strasser, Cedric Hands, and Harley Foulks.

It was moved and seconded that the mee	eting be adjourned.	
	Chairman	
	Secretary/Treasure	er

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO AND CHAIRMAN



# WELCOME TO THE 106TH ANNUAL MEETING OF YOUR CO-OP!



**Jeff Boyd** 



**Clayton Maddux** 

As we gather again for your annual meeting, we do so in the midst of continued volatility—economic, geopolitical, and environmental (RAIN!). The past year has tested our resilience with inflationary pressures, disrupted trade routes, and unpredictable market conditions. Yet, through it all, we've remained focused on what we can control: delivering value to our members.

Global and domestic markets have been anything but stable. Input costs have not been favorable, and interest rates remain elevated. These inflationary expenses have challenged our margins and required sharper financial discipline. Despite these headwinds, we've maintained our commitment to service to our membership.

Shifts in global logistics and grain flows have reshaped how we operate. Export demand for sorghum remains soft. Our investment in the River Valley Terminal continues to be a benefit, positioning us to adapt to these evolving trade dynamics and having more control of our supply chain.

2025 marks the UN's International Year of Cooperatives—a timely recognition of the cooperative model's power to build resilient economies. As a member of Garden City Co-op, you are part of something larger: a system that pools resources, shares risk, and multiplies local impact. Your ownership gives you access to dependable products, marketing options, and a voice in our governance.

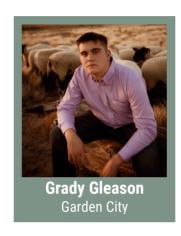
While we cannot control the weather, global markets, or policy shifts, we can control how we respond. Our mission—Cooperatively Creating Value—remains our compass.

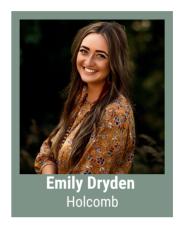
The cooperative system continues to evolve alongside agriculture. Consolidation among farms and co-ops is accelerating, and complexity is increasing. With your continued support, we will remain stable, dependable, and innovative—ready to meet the future head-on.

## MOLZ COOPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

# 2025-2026 OTIS & MARY LEE MOLZ COOPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS







#### Congratulations to this year's GCCC Molz Cooperative Scholarship Recipients!

The scholarship fund, established in 2014, is made possible by the largest donation made by a living donor to the GCCC Endowment Association by Co-op members Otis & Mary Lee Molz. The fund provides three full tuition and standard fees for Garden City Co-op employees, members, and their spouses, children, and grandchildren. A committee comprised of board members from the Garden City Co-op selects the final recipients of the award each year.



## **OUR GIVING POLICY- R.E.A.C.H.**

One of the seven cooperative principles that was established in the cooperative movement's infancy was concern for the community. At the Garden City Co-op, Inc. (GCC), we are committed to being responsive, responsible and respected citizens in the communities in which we live and work. GCC is deeply committed to supporting organizations throughout its service area that help people live more productive, educated, and enriched lives. Our goal is to provide for those in need and assist those who are working to better their communities.

Our giving strategy is designed to support our communities through initiatives that have lasting value, with a priority given to agricultural needs, education, children, and hunger relief in the communities we serve. Nonprofit organizations located within our service area are encouraged to apply.



#### REGION

Preserve and increase access to the region's unique assets.

#### **EDUCATION**

Support educational endeavors for youth and those pursuing continuing education.

#### **AGRICULTURE**

Promote agricultural programs in the community.

### **CHILDREN**

Improve children's overall wellbeing and sense of self by supporting various youth focused programs.

#### **HUNGER**

Support hunger relief initiatives, specifically food insecurity in school children.





**READ MORE ABOUT OUR GIVING POLICY** 

# **GCC INVOLVEMENT METRICS**



# ROOTED IN TODAY, GROWING FOR **TOMORROW**

**SEPTEMBER 2024 - AUGUST 2025** 

**Inspire** Youth

**Support Ag Education** 

Promote Co-op Value

**Give Back** to Community





**Target Audience:** 2-12 Years of Age



Focus: **Planting Seeds of Knowledge about** Ag & Co-ops



**Partners: Schools, Parents & Community Events** 



**Engage Youth on** the Story of Ag and Co-ops







## **GCC INVOLVEMENT METRICS**

VOLUNITEERISM AND COMMUNITY SERVICE



### **Target Audience:**

Organizations within the communities we serve



#### Focus:

Organizations that are Regional, Educational, Agricultural, Child-focused or support Hunger relief



#### **Partners:**

Registered 501(c)(3) Non-Profits, Educational Institutions, Regional Organizations in SW Kansas and OK Panhandle



#### Goal:

To provide for those in need and assist those who are working to better their communities.



EVENTS SUPPORTED IN GCC TERRITORY



ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED



AREA COUNTIES SERVED



S VOLUNTEER EVENTS PARTICIPATED IN

# BUILDING AG CAREER TALENT





COLLEGIATE, HIGH SCHOOL OR FFA LEADERSHIP EVENTS



Target Audience: 12-21 Years of Age



Focus: Spark interest in Ag and Co-ops



Partners: Schools, Universities, and Communities



Goal: Strengthen GCC's Talent Pipeline



## **NOMINATED MEMBERS**



**Shane Browning** 

Shane Browning graduated from Deerfield High School. He moved to Garden City and attended Garden City Community College where he studied Science and Business Management.

Shane is married to Kay Lynn Browning and they have two children: Parker and Hailee.

Shane is a first generation farmer who moved his family to Ulysses in 2008 to help his father-in-law on their fourth Generation farm. They farm dryland and irrigated acres of wheat, corn and milo and run a cow/calf herd.

Shane enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, camping and fishing.



Kyle Deaver was raised in the Plymell area just south of Garden City. He attended Garden City High School and then furthered his education at Garden City Community College where he earned a certificate in agriculture in 2015. Kyle has been very active in agriculture since a young age, being involved in 4-H, FFA, Farm Bureau and is currently serving on the Finney Co. Fair board. He is the third generation to serve on the Garden City Coop Board, following in the footsteps of his grandfather (Harvey Richards; 1984-1995) and his father (Mike Deaver; 2004-2015).

Kyle is a third-generation farmer on his family's farm south of Garden City, where he farms alongside his dad. Together they raise both irrigated and dryland wheat, corn, soybeans, milo, triticale and alfalfa in Finney, Gray and Haskell counties.

Kyle married Aleasha (Krehbiel) in June of 2015. They have two children together, Harper (7) and Jace (5).

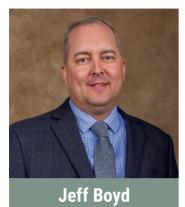
Kyle served as an associate from Dec 2018 - Dec 2021 and joined the board December 2022.



Christopher Fullmer farms in southern Gove County where he raises dryland wheat and milo. He attended Kansas State University where he majored in Math and Psychology.

Christopher became an Associate Director of the Garden City Co-op in January 2014 and was elected to the Board of Directors December 2016.

# YOUR MANAGEMENT



CEO -General Manager



**Kelly Dress** 

**Chief Financial Officer** 



Vice President -



Vice President -Grain Agronomy

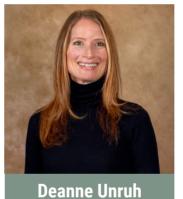


Vice President -Petroleum



Human Resources & **Administrative Services** 

Manager



Strategic Business

**Operations Manager** 



Safety Director



Director of **Agronomy Operations** 



**Grant Geyer** 

Director of **Grain Operations** 



**Trevor Hands** 

**Director of Marketing** & Communications

## YOUR BOARD



**Clayton Maddux** 

Chairman

Deerfield Area
Term Expires: 2026
Served Since: 2017



**Gordon Drees** 

Vice Chair
Garden City Area
Term Expires: 2027
Served Since: 2015



**Christopher Fuller** 

Secretary / Treasurer
Dighton Area
Term Expires: 2025
Served Since: 2016



Joanna Schmeeckle

Asst Secretary / Treasurer
Plymell Area
Term Expires: 2026
Served Since: 2020



**Kyle Deaver** 

Director
Plymell Area
Term Expires: 2025
Served Since: 2022



**Dylan Linenberger** 

Director
Dighton Area
Term Expires: 2026
Served Since: 2023



**Zion Roth** 

Director
Holcomb Area
Term Expires: 2027
Served Since: 2021



Shane Browning

Associate Director
Ulysses Area
Term Expires: 2025
Served Since: 2022



**Jeff Herald** 

Associate Director
Hooker Area
Term Expires: 2026
Served Since: 2023



**Amanda Hands** 

Associate Director
Plymell, Friend &
Deerfield Area
Term Expires: 2027
Served Since: 2024



**Garret Roehl** 

Associate Director

Dighton Area
Term Expires: 2027
Served Since: 2024

## **PIN RECIPIENTS**

For every five years an employee is with us, they receive a pin recognizing their years of service. For employees who are with us for twenty years, they are also recognized on a plaque displayed in the main office.

5 Years of Service

Gustavo Cruz-Deleon
Grain Operations – Friend Elevator

Antoinette Heinitz

Diane Yates
Grain – Accounting Clerk

Maribel Vazquez

Grain – Accounts Receivable

Country McMillen

Tyler Watie

Grain – Director of Grain Trading Grain Operations – Ulysses Elevator Operator

Hugo RevelesMartin Cruz-HernandezGrain Operations – Deerfield / Lakin ElevatorsAgronomy Operations – Plymell Ag Support

Doug WernerMike WisnerAgronomy - Sales Manager / AgronomistGrain - Vice President

- 10 Years of Service ————

Juan PerezMark VanceGrain Operations- Hooker Elevator OperatorAgronomy- Sales Manager/ Agronomist

----- 15 Years of Service -----

Tony Salazar
Agronomy Operations- Director of Ag Operations
Admin - IT Engineer

Agronomy Operations- Director of Ag Operations

Admin - IT Engineer

Victor Duarte

Grain - Lowe Elevator Manager

Admin - Controller

Diane Yates
Grain - Accounting Clerk

Danny Allen
Agronomy Operations - Dighton Ag Support

Grain - Accounting Clerk Agronomy Operations - Dighton Ag Support

Chris Murphy



### **CONTACT US**

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## **STAY CONNECTED**

