



betterseed.org



JUNE 21, 2021
11:00_{AM} – 12:00_{PM}

WASHINGTON D.C.

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OPENING GENERAL SESSION



PROGRAM

SCHEDULE

CALL TO ORDER

John Latham, *Latham Hi-Tech Seeds; ASTA Chair*

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

United States Army Color Guard

NATIONAL ANTHEM

United States Army Choir Soloist

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

United States Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack

STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION ADDRESS

John Latham, *Latham Hi-Tech Seeds; ASTA Chair*

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Tracy Tally, *Justin Seed Co.; ASTA Past Chair*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

John Latham, *Latham Hi-Tech Seeds; ASTA Chair*

ASTA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



ASTA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

asta

CHET BORUFF

Chief Executive Officer

*Association of Official Seed
Certifying Agencies*



Chet Boruff began his career as Chief Executive Officer of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA) in October, 2004. AOSCA represents seed certifying agencies across the U.S. and seven other countries that are responsible for applying uniform standards to maintain varietal purity for over 60 major agricultural crops. In his role as AOSCA's first CEO, Chet has been responsible for serving as its spokesman, managing the Association, providing assistance to its members as they administer AOSCA seed certifying standards, and developing related services for the seed and ag industry. He has been an active liaison with other seed industry stakeholder groups.

Earlier in his career, Boruff served for seven years as Deputy Director at the Illinois Department of Agriculture. In that role, he was responsible for the Department's natural resource and regulatory programs, including administering Illinois' state seed law. He also worked for the Farm Credit System and organizations promoting value-added agricultural commodities.

Throughout his career, Chet has operated his family's cash grain farm in Rock Island County, Illinois.

Boruff is an alumnus of Iowa State University and served on its College of Agriculture Endowment Board. He is also a graduate of the Illinois Ag Leadership Program and serves on its Board of Directors.

Chet and his wife, Joy, have two married children who live and work in Chicago.

The American Seed Trade Association Distinguished Service Award recognizes those who have made significant contributions to the association and the seed industry.