

Agriculture Development Council Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2022

I. Call to order

Chair John Wicks called to order the meeting of the Agriculture Development Council at 9:01 am on Wednesday October 19, 2022.

II. Roll call

Dani Jones conducted roll call and introductions were made my council members and department staff.

Council Members: Chair John Wicks, Megan Hedges, Lars Hanson, Sara Hollenbeck, Liane Taylor Department of Commerce Deputy Director proxy for Scott Osterman via phone, and Department of Agriculture Director Christy Clark.

Department Employees: Andy Fjeseth, Aly Townsend, Bailey Kaskie, Caitlin Hortert, Alicia Hamm, Logan Kruse, and Dani Jones.

Members of the public: Rich Gannon, SBDC Great Falls, Grace Nichols-Hamilton/Ravalli FADC, Alissa Miller Eastern MT FADC, Katesha Campbell FADC Great Falls, and Douglas Fejes with Sapphire Suri Alpaca Farm and Mill

III. Public Comment

Chair John Wicks called for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

IV. Approval of the past meeting minutes

Lars Hanson made the motion to approve the meeting minutes from previous Council meetings, September 22, 2022. Megan Hedges 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

V. Updates

Andy Fjeseth updated the council that George Kipp gave his resignation from the council. Hoping to have the position replaced by the award meeting in February.

Director Christy Clark updated the council that trade teams are back in full swing. Which has included livestock genetics, pulse in bounds, malt barley with Heineken, female cattle buyers from Mexico. Wheat and Barley committee is in the first week of application reviews for the Executive Director position. Wheat and Barley have

discussed raising the assessment. The upcoming legislative session should be a quiet one, the department is looking to eliminate a duplicated committee and the huckster license, door to door vegetable sale. Director Clark shared with the council that the department is helping put on the Montana Ag Tech Summit. Director Clark will pass the information to Andy Fjeseth to share with the Council. Director Clark let the committee know that she will need to step out of the meeting, Andy Fjeseth will be her proxy at that point.

VI. GTA Pre-App Review

Aly Townsend shared her screen to review the scores of the pre-applications. All pre-applications that scored 5 to 4.16 and 4 are invited to submit a full application. 38 total applicants will be invited to submit a full application. \$1,847,926.60 is the total requested amount. Lars Hanson made the motion to approve the 38 applicants to move to the next step. Sarah Hollenbeck 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

VII. Next Meeting- February 2023

Two options will be drafted up for the February meeting. Two days for in person and two to four days for Zoom. The department will work up a schedule and get it sent out.

VIII. Public Comment

Chair John Wicks called for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

IX. Adjournment

Director Christy Clark made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:19am, motion was second by Sara Hollenbeck, Meeting was adjourned

Minutes submitted by: Dani Jones

Minutes approved by: