**MONTANA WHEAT AND BARLEY COMMITTEE**

**Budget Board Meeting**

**In-Person/Zoom Meeting**

**Great Falls, Montana**

**November 27, 2023**

The following were present for either a portion of or the entire meeting.

**DIRECTORS**

Terry Angvick, Chairman Keven Bradley, Director

Denise Conover, Director Lee Dahlman, Director

Max Cederberg, Vice Chair Brett Dailey, Director

Charlie Bumgarner, Director

**EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS**

Dr. Bajwa, Vice President of Agriculture, MSU

Jake McFarlin, Grain Trade Representative

**STAFF**

Kent Kupfner, Executive Director

Lori Wickett, Communications Director

Sam Anderson, Marketing Director

Kolleen Spurgin, Budget & Grants Coordinator

Tammy Suek, Administrative Assistant

**GUESTS**

Nathan Keane, MGGA

Cort Jensen, Staff Attorney, Department of Agriculture

Lochiel Edwards, Montana Grains Foundation

Eric Sommer, USDA/NASS, State Statistician

Darren Boss, MSU

Logan Cruz, Department of Agriculture

Zach Coccoli, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture

Dave Tweet, Barley Consultant

Casey Peterson, NCI

Anna Flies, GF Development

Ian Foley, Department of Agriculture

David Weaver, MSU

Bob Peterson, MSU

Dan Reimer, State Grain Lab

**Monday, November 27, 2023:**

*Chairman Angvick called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Introductions were done.*

**Review of October 23-24, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Angvick presented the minutes of the Board Meetings.

Director Dailey moved, and Director Bumgarner seconded the motion to approve the minutes for October 23-24, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment**

Lochiel Edwards spoke about the need for Wheat Stem Sawfly funding.

**Montana Grain Growers**

Nathan Keane talked about the convention, the trip to Taiwan with the Governor, the upcoming Farm Bill extension and their membership and finances.

**MAES Report**

Darrin Boss updated the directors on MSU and the growth in student enrollment. There is a survey for producers for priorities for research that they want as many people to fill out as possible.

**Jake McFarlin Update**

Jake talked about his trip with US Wheat to SE Asia. He updated about the markets and industry.

**MSU Update**

Dr. Bajwa added to what Darrin said, including the survey. Charlie Cahill was named Ag Leader of the year at the Celebrate Ag Banquet. She would like to see more Trade Missions coming to visit the University.

**Northern Crops Institute Update**

Casey Peterson gave a presentation about NCI and their new building. He talked about the programs being offered by the institute.

**Financial Update**

Kolleen updated the financial report, and let the directors know what the remaining balance is and the budget for the coming year.

**Wheat Marketing Center Report**

Director Bumgarner had a little trouble getting to the meeting, but he did make it. They are asking for money for additional equipment.

**US Wheat Association**

Directors Bradley and Cederberg attended the meeting in Ohio. Director Bradley ran the Wheat Quality meeting for Director Conover. He also attended the Transportation committee and heard from some railroad issues.

**North Asia Crop Quality Tour**

Director Conover traveled to North Asia to talk about the quality of US wheat. It was a great group of staff and producers.

**Governor’s Taiwan Trip**

Director Angvick and Executive Director Kupfner went with the governor and a group of officials and producers. It was a very productive trip for everyone.

**Lori Wickett Update**

Lori talked about an authentication protocol; it is coming for all devices. She attended Celebrate Ag! but was running late so she missed some of it.

**Sam Anderson Update**

Sam has been traveling for the last few weeks. He has also been working on the on-line reporting system.

**Executive Director Update**

Executive Director Kupfner talked about the Taiwan travels and gave the presentation he has been giving to all these groups.

**Approval of Staff and Director Travel**

**Upcoming Events**

Director Conover moved, and Director Dailey seconded the motion to approve the travel. The motion passed unanimously.

Nov. 28-30 MGGA Convention – Great Falls

Dec. 5 Anheuser Busch Customer Appreciation Day - Choteau

Dec. 6 Chouteau County Ag Business Day – Fort Benton

Dec. 7-9 Montana Organic Association Convention – Great Falls

Dec. 11-13 KSU Milling Course – Manhattan, KS

Dec. 25 Office Closed

Jan. 1 Office Closed

Jan. 9 Barley Symposium – Billings

Jan. 10-11 Barley Improvement Conference – San Diego, CA

Jan. 15 Office Closed

Jan. 18 State Executive Meeting - Arizona

Jan. 22-26 US Wheat Board Meeting – Washington DC

Jan. 24-26 MABA/MGEA Convention – Great Falls

Jan. 24 MSU Variety Release Meeting – Bozeman

Jan. 29-Feb.1 National Barley Growers Meeting – Washington DC

Jan. 31-Feb. 2 PNW Wheat Quality Council – Boise, ID

Feb. 6-8 Wheat Foods Council – San Antonia, TX

Feb. 14-16 US Grains Council – Guatemala City

Feb. 19 Office Closed

Feb. 20-22 Wheat Quality Council Conference – Olathe, KS

Mar. 3-7 National Barley Improvement Committee – Washington DC

Mar. 4-8 Wheat Marketing Center Producer Tour – Portland, OR

Mar. 27-28 Wheat Marketing Center Board Meeting – Portland, OR

May 21-24 USW World Staff Conference – Malta

**State Grain Lab**

Dan Reimer talked about the cost of training and the increase of fees. He mentioned the sprout on barley sampling.

**Lunch**

**Bob Peterson & David Weaver**

They discussed wheat stem sawfly.

**Break**

**Executive Session**

Director Cederberg moved to raise Executive Director Kupfner’s hourly wage to $57.69 starting December 4th, 2023, Director Bumgarner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Budget discussion**

The budget was next on the agenda.

Director Bumgarner made a motion to fund a new Rapid Visco Analyser machine for $29,750 using CY2023 funds and Director Dailey seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Bumgarner made a motion to approve the budget of $4,812,907 and Director Cederberg seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

Next board meeting will be March 18-19, 2024

Chairman Angvick called for public comment and heard none.

*Chairman Angvick adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.*

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Kent Kupfner, Executive Director Date