

**Montana Agriculture Development Council Minutes
Business Conference Call
Originated from Department of Agriculture
Helena, Montana
December 4, 2012**

Members attending in person:

Ron de Yong, Director of Agriculture, Helena

Members attending by phone:

David Tyler, Chair, Belgrade

Patricia Quisno, Harlem

Bill Koenig, Kalispell

Members absent:

Dore Schwinden, Director of Commerce, Helena

Ervin Schlemmer, Vice-Chair, Joliet

Verges Aageson, Gildford

Staff attending in person:

Joel Clairmont, Deputy Director, Montana Department of Agriculture

Collin Watters, Bureau Chief, Agricultural Marketing and Business Development Bureau

Angie Nelson, Program Manager, Growth Through Agriculture

Lindra Davies, Program Specialist, Growth Through Agriculture

Chad Lee, Business Development Officer, Agricultural Marketing and Business Development Bureau

Staff attending by phone:

Cort Jensen, Chief Attorney, Montana Department of Agriculture

Montana Department of Agriculture staff were available to the Agriculture Development Council, (Council) for information purposes.

David Tyler, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m., December 4, 2012.

Roll Call/Call for Proxies

No proxies received.

Business Items

Request

- Global Agro Commodities, LLC – 1350602 GRANT and 1350603 LOAN
Divyesh Patel of Global Agro Commodities, LLC requested that the Council approve the following:

- Increase in award amount: The increase of program funding to his project to \$150,000 total as originally proposed, **OR**
- Change in award structure: Or, if that was not possible to change the October 2012 award of a \$30,000 loan and a \$20,000 grant to a \$50,000 grant
- Change in awarded use of funds: Requested that the grant funds be approved for equipment purchases, construction and maintenance costs to renovate the Chester elevator instead of engineering costs. Also requested that the funds be used for maintenance costs.

Motion: To approve the change in the structure of the award to a total of up to \$50,000 as a grant, on a reimbursement basis, to assist with equipment purchases and construction costs needed to renovate the Chester elevator from a wheat facility to a pulse crop facility; not to approve the use of GTA funds for maintenance costs.

By: Bill Koenig

2nd: Patty Quisno

Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Public Comment Period

David Tyler, Chair, called for public comments. No public comments were presented.

Adjourn

Hearing no public comment, David Tyler, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m., December 4, 2012.

Respectfully submitted by Lindy Davies, Growth Through Agriculture Program Specialist.