

**Agriculture Development Council Minutes
SKYPE/Teleconference Business Meeting
Department of Agriculture Conference Room 225
302 N. Roberts
Helena, Montana
December 4, 2018**

Members in attendance:

Amy Kellogg, Chair, Kalispell
Ben Thomas, Director, Department of Agriculture, Helena
Tom Kaiserski, representing the Department of Commerce, Helena
Lars Hanson, Vice Chair, Edgar (by phone)
Greg Jergeson, Chinook (by phone)
Patricia Quisno, Harlem (by phone)
Tara Mastel, Whitehall (by phone)

Members absent:

Pam Haxby-Cote, Director, Department of Commerce, Helena (proxy received granting voting authority to Tom Kaiserski)

Montana Department of Agriculture Staff attending in person:

Zach Coccoli, Legal Counsel, Agriculture Development and Marketing Bureau
Angie Nelson, Growth Through Agriculture Program Manager, Agriculture Development and Marketing Bureau
Kim Mangold, Deputy Director, Montana Department of Agriculture
Christy Clark, Bureau Chief, Agriculture Development and Marketing Bureau
Charsi Workman, Marketing Specialist, Agriculture Development and Marketing Bureau
Lina Al Assadi, Budget Analyst, Agriculture Development and Marketing Bureau

Amy Kellogg, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m., December 4, 2018

Roll Call/Call for Proxies

- **November 13, 2018 a general, irrevocable proxy was received from Agriculture Development Council member Pam Haxby-Cote, Department of Commerce granting voting authority to Tom Kaiserski, Department of Commerce, who was present as Director Haxby-Cote's representative.**
- **December 4, 2018 a one-time revocable proxy was received in person from Agriculture Development Council member Ben Thomas, designating Kim Mangold as his proxy while he was absent from the meeting from 10:05am to 10:40am.**

Public Comments

Chair, Amy Kellogg, called for public comments. No public comments were presented.

Business Items

~Review of August 30, 2018 Council Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes as presented.

By: Tom Kaiserski

2nd: Ben Thomas

Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Review of Ethics Policy / Conflict of Interest

Zach Coccoli, Staff Attorney, reviewed the state ethics policy and conflict of interest relative to Council members that serve the state.

Amy Kellogg noted conflicts for Cream of the West and Root Foods applications and recused herself from discussion of those proposals.

Tara Mastel noted a potential conflict for Missouri Breaks Brewing.

Greg Jergeson noted a potential conflict as a member of Northern Plains Resource Council.

FY2019 Financial Report

Lina Al Assadi, Budget Analyst for the Agriculture Development and Marketing Bureau, reported on the final accounting funds spent for FY18 and the projected budget and revenue forecast for the GTA program funding for fiscal year 2019 as well as funds spent to date.

Application Scoring Matrix Review

Angie Nelson, GTA Program Manager, reviewed the scoring matrix that would be used to score the applications for this meeting and prepared a spreadsheet with the initial proposal scores from the Council members to start discussion.

Review of Applications

Amy Kellogg, Chair, led the discussion and consensus scoring of each proposal.

Invited to Present to the Council (see attached scoring sheet)

Bainville Meats LLC

Bear Canyon Farm

Bell Crossing Farms, LLC

Cowboy Cricket Farms Inc.

Cream of the West LLC

Crooked Yard Hops LLP

Fat Robin Orchard & Farm a dba for Lise Rousseau

Golden Triangle Brew Co

Grist Milling and Bakery LLC

KJ'n Ranch, Inc. & Sheep Mountain Creamery

Limberlost Brewing Company, LLC

Living Root Farm ABN for Evan Van Order

Lower Valley Processing Company Inc.

Meadowlark Brewing LLC

Meier Farm and Orchards dba for Noelle and Corey Meier

Missouri Breaks Brewing, LLC

Montana Certified Beef ABN for SC Group LLC

Montana Craft Malt Company

Montana Sheep Company

Montana Timber and Iron an ABN for Jennifer Resse

Mountain Kind Farm ABN for The North Shore Farm LLC

Northern Plains Resource Council, Inc.

Nourishing Roots Farm, LLC DBA Native Seed Foundation

Ray Holes Leather Care Products, Inc.
Rivulet Apiaries LLC
Root Foods, Inc
Strike Farms, LLC
Sunflower Bakery ABN for Fox Valley Farm LLC
Tomorrow Farms ABN for Kelsey Allen
Trout Culture LLC
Western Cider Company LLC
Willow Mountain Winery LLC

Not invited to Present to the Council – scored below 20 out of 40

ABC ACRES LLC
Emely Lambert
Global Agro Commodities LLC
Go Roam Free LLC
Great Burn Brewing LLC
Montana Gluten Free Prairie, LLC
Ruby Valley Brew Inc
The White City Brewery LLC

Next application deadline

Discussed the next application deadline. The Council decided to table this discussion until Spring 2019, pending outcome of Legislation proposed to continue program funding. The Council agreed to Ms. Nelson’s proposal to post language on program website indicating to check back in June 2019 for updates regarding continued funding and Fall 2019 funding deadline.

Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday and Tuesday, February 4-5, 2019 for in person presentations of the proposals that were invited to present to the Council.

Public Comment

Amy Kellogg, Chair called for public comments. No public comments were presented.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Angie Nelson, Manager, Montana Department of Agriculture