

Montana Pulse Advisory Committee (MPAC)
Teleconference Meeting Minutes
Department of Agriculture Conference Room 225
Helena, Montana
June 6, 2016

Members in attendance by phone:

Kim Murray, Chair, Froid
Grant Zerbe, Vice Chair, Frazier
Ryan Bogar, Vida
Dustin Kreger, Great Falls

Members absent:

Chad Doheny, Dutton
Jon Stoner, Havre

Staff in attendance:

Ron de Yong, Director, Montana Department of Agriculture
Kim Falcon, Deputy Director, Montana Department of Agriculture (partial attendance)
Christy Clark, Bureau Chief, Development and Marketing Bureau, Montana Department of Agriculture
Ben Tiller, Legal Counsel, Montana Department of Agriculture
Cid Sivils, Accountant, Agriculture Development and Marketing Bureau, Montana Department of Agriculture
Jana Mertens, Technician, Agriculture Development and Marketing Bureau, Montana Department of Agriculture
Lindra Davies, Program Specialist, GTA Program, Montana Department of Agriculture
Greg Stordahl, Bureau Chief, State Grain Lab, Great Falls
Montana Department of Agriculture (partial attendance by phone)

Guests in attendance by phone:

Jerry Schillinger, Circle
Tim McGreevy, Moscow, ID

Kim Murray, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Monday, June 6, 2016.

Roll Call/Call for Proxies

No proxies were presented for the June 6, 2016 Pulse Advisory Business meeting.

Public Comments

Chair, Kim Murray, called for public comments at the beginning of the Monday, June 6, 2016 meeting. No public comments were presented.

Chair, Kim Murray, called for public comments at the end of the Monday, June 6, 2016 meeting.

Jerry Schillinger presented his comments on Montana Pulse Advisory Committee processes.

No other comments were presented.

Review of March 21, 2016 Committee Teleconference Business Meeting Minutes

Amendment: Clarification of Department of Agriculture administrative fees for the March 21, 2016 Committee meeting financial report: 5% of the Pulse assessment allocated to Montana Department of Agriculture and broken down as follows:

- 10% Christy Clark's total salaries,
- 25% Ben Tiller's total salaries,
- 30% Cid Sivils' total salaries.
- Some travel for Treston Vermandel, Business Development Officer, Montana Department of Agriculture, and
- Supplies for advisory meetings.

Motion: To accept the amendment to the minutes for March 21, 2016.

By: Ryan Bogar

2nd: Grant Zerbe

Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

NOTE: Cid Sivils, Accountant for the Department of Agriculture, clarified that financial reporting varies from meeting to meeting depending on financial activity. The Committee agreed to continue and include discussion of financials on the agenda each meeting.

Motion: To accept the March 21, 2016 minutes as amended.

By: Grant Zerbe

2nd: Ryan Bogar

Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Financial Report

Ms. Sivils provided the Committee with a report of the financials as of May 31, 2016.

Motion: To accept the financial report.

By: Grant Zerbe

2nd: Dustin Kreger

Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Old Business

~ Grain Lab Grant – Greg Stordahl, Bureau Chief, Montana State Grain Lab

Mr. Stordahl requested that the Committee approve grant savings from the purchase of vehicles for the Grain Lab to be used for computer and video conferencing equipment so that satellite offices would be able to participate in training, compliance reviews, and general communication.

Chair, Kim Murray, declined to entertain a motion to modify the current agreement.

The Committee agreed to reassess the request and invited Greg Stordahl to present the request through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process during the Committee's December meeting.

~ Review of Research Grant Process

Director de Yong discussed with the Committee a draft letter he had sent to interested parties outlining the process document for reviewing research grants as a way to efficiently and effectively award research grants.

The Committee provided Director de Yong with feedback and a few revisions to the draft review process document.

~ Grant Proposal Matching Funds Request – Audrey Kalil, PhD – Plant Pathologist, Williston Research Extension Center

Ms. Kalil requested that the Committee approve use of the \$26,422 award provided by the Northern Pulse Grower's Association for a pea and lentil scout to be used as match for the chitin research project. Ms. Kalil requested that matching funds be allowed through another source for her grant after her request was not funded by Northern Pulse Grower's Association.

The Committee did not approve the request.

New Business

~ Addition of Seat to Montana Pulse Advisory Committee – Administrative Rule

Ben Tiller, Legal Counsel for the Department of Agriculture advised the Committee about the conversations he and Christy Clark had with the MSU School of Agriculture regarding the addition of the school's dean as an Ex Officio position to the MPAC Committee. If the Committee approved, he would draft an amendment to the MPAC Administrative Rule to include the position of Ex Officio.

The Committee discussed the issue. Some members raised concern that this was an issue that should be considered when the full Committee was present. The Committee agreed to reconsider the issue at the December meeting.

~ European Pulse Inbound Trade Team – Dinner Sponsorship

Christy Clark, Agriculture Development and Marketing Bureau Chief for the Department of Agriculture, announced that the European Pulse Inbound Trade Team will be in Great Falls June 22 – 24, 2016. She invited the Committee members to attend and discussed the possibility for dinner sponsorship from the Committee.

Motion: To sponsor a dinner for 25 European Pulse Inbound Trade Team members at the Cattlemen's Cut in the amount of \$500.00 with Chad Doheny and Dustin Kreger attending as representatives from the Montana Pulse Growers Association.

By: Grant Zerbe

2nd: Ryan Bogar

Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

~ Pulse Breeder Position

Ron de Yong, Department of Agriculture Director, announced that the Pulse Research Breeder position at MSU-Bozeman was filled by Kevin McPhee who will begin in January 2017.

Other Business

~ Pulse Assessment

Tim McGreevey, a guest attending the business meeting by phone, provided the Committee with a pulse assessment update from recent activities occurring in Washington and Idaho.

Mr. McGreevey shared that the Washington commission's proposal of a 2% assessment failed and that they will be submitting a new referendum of 1.5%. Idaho will establish a 1.5% assessment effective July 1, 2016.

Adjournment – 11:00 a.m.

Motion: To adjourn the June 6, 2016 Committee business meeting.

By: Grant Zerbe

2nd: Ryan Bogar

Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

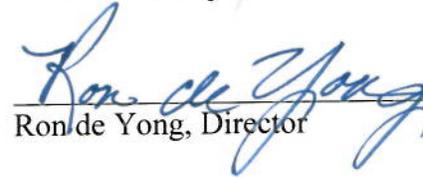
Respectfully submitted by:

Jana Mertens, Technician and Lindra Davies, Growth Through Agriculture Program Specialist
Montana Department of Agriculture



Kim Murray, Chair

7-22-16
Date



Ron de Yong, Director

8-4-16
Date