

Montana Pulse Crop Committee

Winter Meeting- Heritage Inn

Great Falls, Montana

November 30, 2017

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

Committee

Ryan Bogar- Chair

Paul Kanning- Vice Chair

Kim Murray

Jillien Streit

Roger Sammons

EX-OFFICIOS

Ben Thomas, Director, Montana Department of Agriculture of Agriculture

Dr. Charles Boyer, Dean of Agriculture, MSU

Ron Williams, Vice President, Columbia Grain

Montana Department of Agriculture Staff

Treston Vermandel

Zach Coccoli

Cort Jensen

Guests/Public

Mike O'Hara- Producer

Shannon Berndt-NPGA

Marvin Tarum- Producer

Krista Lee Evans

Pat Smith-USADPLC

Chris Kolstad- Producer

Tyler Streit-Producer

Allison Vergeront- Senator Daines Representative

Eric Gatlin- BNSF

Todd Scholz- USADPLC

Charlie Cahill- Producer

Kim Monk- USADPLC

Tim McGreevy- USADPLC

Jerry Schillinger- NPGA

Thursday, November 30, 2017

-Chairman Bogar called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

- Introductions were made

Chairman Bogar asked for public comment and heard none.

-Adoption of Agenda- Motioned by Jill Streit to approve tentative agenda. Seconded by Paul Kanning. Motion passed

-Reviewed minutes from July 6, 2017 meeting

-Kim Murray motioned to approve minutes. Seconded by Jill Streit. Motion Passed

Montana Department of Agriculture

Director Thomas gave an update for the department. Explained to the committee that the department must replace accountants Cid Sivils and Libby Lovshin, who resigned and transferred to other job opportunities. Cid and Libby were taking care of financials and assessments. They will be greatly missed. Mark Nicadome has been hired for the head of science,

The marketing department is continually working with Montana pulse processors/growers, resulting successful trade missions and food shows which are resulting in successful sales.

Pulse Industry Update

Ron Williams updated the committee on what the pulse industry is looking at. It was a down crop year, with a decrease in international trade. The world markets are growing and growers in foreign countries are increasing production. Explained how quality will become more of a factor every year. Need to continue to work with producers to educate/inform what the world is looking for and what trade barriers are in front of us. Discussed the 50 percent tariff India has put on all imports of dry peas. Columbia is continually working with the railroad while trying to develop infrastructure and processing across the state. Container and freight costs are an issue and working with the ports is very important. The new processing plant in Plentywood is on schedule to be done the summer of 2018.

Dr. Charles Boyer: MSU update

Dr. Boyer informed us that Keven McPhee is up and running. MSU is in its tenth straight year of an increase in enrollment. Enrollment is at 17,00 students, and the College of Agriculture is growing every year. MSU wants to help develop the Montana pulse crop industry and focus on pulse crop quality traits with quality research programs. It will be the 125th anniversary for the MSU AG Experiment stations.

Legal Update & Review

Zach Coccoli gave an update on administrative rules. Discussion on collecting from Canada and how to proceed. Is it up to the elevator to enforce? There was discussion how to proceed with a reciprocal agreement between Montana and Canada/Canadian Provinces. Zach will continue to work on this. Need a portion of the law to state that we have the right to collect the crop insurance information.

Krista Lee Evans suggested that we change the language in the bill. Amend statute
Zack explained how the Wheat & Barley staff is continuing to work with department accountant on reporting pulse sales. We will work with Wheat & Barley and USDPLC to update forms to get all the right information for RMA.

Rules will be open to the public and published.

-Jill Streit motioned to publish rules as written. Seconded by Roger Sammons. Motion passed.

Financial Review.

Director Ben Thomas goes over financials and explains the breakdown of awards and costs. Expenses are separated into grants and administrative costs. Administrative costs are capped at 8%. Grant balances from previous years and payments made in FY 18 are shown in tables. The group discusses projected budgets and what has been collected so far. Projections based on past figures shows the committee could choose to award up to \$2,500,000 from FY 2018 funds.

USADPLC/NPGA Update

Tim McGreevy and Shannon Berndt gave updates on activities and went over upcoming events, trade shows and education opportunities. Went over plans for 2018 and how developing the domestic markets is a must. Increasing the demand is a must. Tim gave an update on the Spaygo situation with the new tax bill proposed.

Described production numbers and how India is roughly 30% of the total U.S. export Market.

Lunch- 12:30

USADPLC update on contracts-report

Went over contracted services(handout) and the domestic and international activities.

Todd Scholz gave an update on research that is happening and how important it is. Discussion of how yield bumps can occur by planting winter sown pulses. Max tolerance -5. Disease, insects, and weeds are still somewhat of an unknown.

Charlie Cahill asked about a data base available for the research that is being done. A list of current research that can be available on the website.

NASS Update

Eric Sommer handed out the new 2017 AG Stats. Looking for continued support and explained how important the census is. Explained how specialty grants are based of census and showing the importance what is being produced. Discussed and wanted feedback to separate pulse crops into classes and if that would be beneficial.

Mission Statement

Kim Murray handed out options of mission statements and visions. The committee discussed options and:

Roger Sammons motioned to accept the following the mission statement. Seconded by Paul Kanning. Motion passed.

-Invest in and deliver support for marketing, research, education, and policy development programming that improves return on investment for pulse producers of Montana.

Discussion on vision statement- It was decided only to have a mission statement.

Logo discussion

Discussions on having a Pulse Crop Committee logo. Cort Jensen explained the legal parameters and cost breakdown.

-Jill motioned to budget \$2,000 for a logo to be put out to bid. Seconded by Roger Sammons. Motion passed

Website update

Discussion on website updates. The department will continue to put pulse material on website and update a page for the Committee.

-Kim Murray motioned for this action. Seconded by Roger Sammons. Motion passed

Elections

It was decided to have elections at the March 20th meeting.

Washington D.C. trip- Discussion on who was to be picked for D.C. trip. Kim Murray suggested the Paul Kanning go. It was discussed to pick from a signup sheet at Pulse Day of interested parties.

-Roger motioned for this action, Seconded by Kim Murray. Motion passed.

Kim Murray requested travel forms for future travel. Treston will send voucher out to committee.

Continued refund discussions

Discussion concerning a Canadian producer that was looking for a refund from a March 27, 2017 sale in Montana, but had passed the 90-day rule from settlement. Ben Thomas recommend that the refund takes place. The committee discussed and decided to grant the producer the refund request.

-Roger Sammons motioned to refund the request. Seconded by Kim Murray. Motion Passed

Grant Proposal Request (RFP)

Treston went through the document to see if there was any objection. It was decided to have the deadline for submittal be March 1, 2018. The committee decided to have the Committee meeting/grant review on March 20, 2017 in Great Falls MT.

-Jill Streit motioned. Seconded by Roger Sammons. Motion passed

Promotional Ideas

Discussion on working with the Northern AG Network to do Pulse reports/Advertisement. Paul Kanning was going to discuss with Russel Nemetz and get some pricing options/ideas.

Call for Public Comment

Krista Lee Evans explained there needs to be a main contact for the committee and let the Montana producers know what is going on.

Adjourn

Jill Streit Motioned to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Paul Kanning. Motion Passed

Chairman Bogar adjourned meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Ryan Bogar, Chair

Date

Benjamin Thomas, Director

Date