

Montana Pulse Crop Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday June 9th, 2020 9:00 am via Zoom Meeting

I. Call to order

Ryan Bogar called to order the regular meeting of the Montana Pulse Crop Committee at 9:02 am on June 9th, 2020.

II. Introductions

Introductions were made starting with the committee members with department staff following.

Committee Members:

Ryan Bogar, Chair, Vida MT

Paul Kanning, Vice-Chair, Flaxville MT

Colby Johnson, Conrad MT

Jillien Streit, Chester MT

Gordon Stoner, Outlook MT

Sreekala Bajwa, Ex-Officio, MSU Dean of Agriculture

Matt Franks, Ex-Officio, Columbia Grain, Plentywood MT

Ben Thomas, Director of the Department of Agriculture from Helena MT

Department Staff Present:

Christy Clark, Department of Agriculture Deputy Director from Helena MT

Zach Coccoli, Department of Agriculture Attorney from Helena MT

Cindy Trimp, Department of Agriculture CSD Administrator from Helena MT

Weston Merrill, Department of Agriculture Marketing Officer from Billings MT

Dani Jones, Department of Agriculture from Helena MT

Ingrid Mallo, Department of Agriculture CSD Financial Manager from Helena MT

Judy Clay, Department of Agriculture Budget Analyst from Helena MT

Members of the Public:

Barnett Sporkin Morrison, Great Falls Development Authority

Sandra Rumney, USDPLC

Shannon Berndt, USDPLC

Tara Becken, REAL Montana

Jamie Edmudson, REAL Montana

Russell Nemetz, Nemetz Communication

Lorri Brenneman, Montana Ag in the Classroom
Chris Westergard, Northern Pulse Association
Christian Orms, Montana Premier Protein
Eric Sommer, USDA NASS, Helena MT
Beau Anderson
Tim McGreevy, USDPLC
Todd Scholz, USDPLC

Ryan Bogar called for Public Comment, no comment at this time

III. Board Administrative Consent Items

- a) Approval of past meeting minutes, March 17, 2020
- i) Jillien Streit made the motion to accept the minutes as presented, Gordon Stoner 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion passed

IV. New Business

- a) Review budget and look at FY2020 projections- Cindy Trimp
- b) Review unused grant funds from FY2019, Barnett Sporkin Morrison, Great Falls Development
 - i. Weston Merrill gave the update that the funds will not be used in this fiscal year, due to the travel restrictions caused by Covid.
 - 1. The request has been made to amend the dates on the contract to allow for more time to complete the project.
 - ii. Barnett Sporkin Morrison updated the committee that spring travel was halted because of Covid. He still fully intends to complete the project and spend the awarded funds. Paul Kanning asked about future travel plans. Barnett Sporkin Morrison responded that he doesn't have plans for the near future, depending on travel restrictions in the fall, travel to Israel or the east coast.
 - iii. Colby Johnson made the motion to extend the grant beginning July for 1 full year, the trips would remain the same. Paul Kanning 2nd the motion. Gordon Stoner was not in support of the motion, he would be in favor of

resubmit the application next year. Remaining committee members were in favor, motion did pass.

V. Grant Proposal Review

Jill Streit made the motion to grant 1.5 Million in funding. Colby Johnson and Paul Kanning agreed

- a) Eric Sommer, USDA NASS
 - i) Requested Amount 1) \$22,500.00 2) \$1,600.00
 - ii) Jillien Streit made the motion to fund both USDA NASS projects, Colby Johnson 2nd the motion.
- b) Lorri Brenneman, Montana Ag in the Classroom
 - i) Requested Amount 1) \$21,114.00
 - ii) Jillien Streit made the motion to fund the MT Ag in the Classroom project, Gordon Stoner 2nd the motion, Dr Sreekala Bajwa voiced her support for this project.
- c) Tara Becken, REAL Montana
 - i) Requested Amount 1) \$5,000.00
 - ii) Paul Kanning made the motion to fund Real Montana, Colby Johnson 2nd the motion.
- d) Russell Nemetz, Nemetz Communications
 - i) Requested Amount 1) 25,000.00 2) \$12,000.00
 - ii) Gordon Stoner made the motion to fund Nemetz Communications for \$25,000.00, Jill Streit 2nd the motion.

Committee Break 10:30-1:40

- e) Christian Orms, Montana Premier Protein
 - i) Requested Amount 1) \$57,500.00
 - ii) Jill Streit made the motion to not fund Montana Premier Protein, Paul Kanning 2nd the motion.

- f) Tim McGreevy, USDPLC
- i) Requested Amount 1) \$2,000,000.00
- ii) Paul Kanning made the motion to fund USDPLC the remaining balance, \$1.375 million, Gordon Stoner 2nd the motion.

VI. Updates

- a) Executive Director Update, Jill and Paul
- b) Department of Agriculture Update, Director Ben Thomas
- c) Grades Committee Update, Dan Bruce, Columbia Grain
- d) USDPLC and NPGA Update, Tim McGreevy

VII. Public Comment

Ryan Bogar called for Public Comment, no public comment

VIII. Meeting updates

National Committee/Board Meeting June 17th 8am-3pm, Tim McGreevy

Montana Pulse Days, November 11-12

NPGA Board Meeting, contact Shannon Berndt for updates

IX. Next Meeting

- a) Tentative for November 10th in Great Falls, During MT Pulse Days
- i) Weston Merrill will reach out to the committee members with the final information

X. Adjournment

Paul Kanning made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Gordon Stoner 2nd the motion, all in favor- motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:14pm

Minutes submitted by: Dani Jones
Minutes approved by: Ryan Bogar

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Ryan Bogar
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November 3, 2020