Montana Hemp Advisory Committee
January 28th, 2020
2:00-3:00 pm
Conference Call -Department of Agriculture, Conference Room 225

The meeting was called by Andy Fjeseth at 2:01pm

**Introductions** – Those in attendance were:

**Committee Members via Skype:**
- Arlin Fratzke, Stevensville MT
- Jeremy Anderson, Fort Benton MT
- Jamie Fitterer, Bozeman MT
- Bart Icopini, Forsyth MT
- Ken Elliott, Wolf Point MT
- Jackee Beck, Deer Lodge MT
- Perry Miller, MSU Bozeman
- Dean Nelson, Homestead MT
- Kim Phillips, Helena MT -Absent

**Department Staff:**
- Andy Fjeseth, MT AGR ADD Bureau Chief
- Cort Jensen, MT AGR Attorney
- Christy Clark, MT AGR
- Kayla Moore, MT AGR
- Dani Jones, MT AGR
- Zach Coccoli, MT AGR
- Andy Gray, MT AGR
- Virginia Corbett, MT AGR

**Via Phone Call:**
- Ben Thomas, Director MT AGR

**Public Member:**
- Try Home Genetics, North Carolina
- Marty with USDA Risk Management
- Abe Coley
- Kate Cholewa, Public

**Assessment Proposition:**

**AMOUNT**

- Jackee Beck suggested to try at 1%
  - Strategy of information post cards with bullet points, assessment refund information. Mailing envelope should be a bright color
  - Dani Jones will contact Print Services for color and cost information
- Mailing will go to all past license holders, around 309 were mailed out last time
  - Duplicates will be removed
- Jackee Beck made the motion to propose a 1% assessment for Hemp at the first point of sale. Ken Elliott 2nd the motion, Jamie Fitterer 3rd, all in favor- motion passes

**STRATEGIES AND NEXT STEPS**

Ben explain that communication is needed to explain how the fees are use, for research and that growers will benefit from the assessment

- Jackee Beck suggested bullet points, easier to read
- Ken Elliott suggested to hold meetings around the state to talk with growers
  - Ballots cannot be done at the meeting, must stick with a mail in ballot
• Dean Nelson suggested a letter draft that can be edited and sent to the other committee members and used with the ballot
• Christy Clark- if the committee members can give a pitch to the public that will mean more

Committee Terms:
• 1-year term is up March 15, 2020
• Need to fill out an application and send to Dani Jones
• Applications can be found on the department website

Discussion/Public Comment:
Kate Cholewa- suggested fast examples for the post card/ballot, compare info with Wheat & Barley, Grains, what the moneys does, etc.

No other public comment

Adjourn:
Ben adjourned the meeting at 2:48 pm

Ben Thomas, MT AGR Director

3-3-20

Dani Jones, Hail Insurance Technician

3-3-20