

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 fess 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

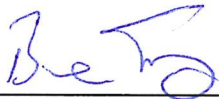
Discussion/Public Comment:

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



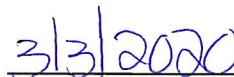
Ben Thomas, MT AGR Director



Date



Dani Jones, Hail Insurance Technician



Date