

# **MONTANA WHEAT AND BARLEY COMMITTEE**

**Fall Board Meeting  
In-Person/Zoom Meeting  
Great Falls, Montana  
October 23-24, 2023**

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

## **DIRECTORS**

Denise Conover, Chairwoman  
Terry Angvick, Vice Chairman  
Lee Dahlman, Director  
Max Cederberg, Director

Charlie Bumgarner, Director  
Keven Bradley, Director

## **EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS**

Christy Clark, Director of the Department of Agriculture  
Dr. Bajwa, Vice President of Agriculture, MSU  
Jake McFarlin, Grain Industry Representative

## **STAFF**

Kent Kupfner, Executive Director  
Sam Anderson, Market Development Director  
Lori Wickett, Communications Director  
Kolleen Spurgin, Budget & Grants Coordinator  
Tammy Suek, Administrative Assistant

## **GUESTS**

Alison Vergeront, MGGA  
Cody Pearce, CFO, Department of Agriculture  
Sunni Hitchcock, Budget Analyst, Department of Agriculture  
Barry Jacobsen, Consultant  
Randy Bogden, Rep. Rosendale's Office  
Dave Tweet, Barley Consultant  
Brandee Johnston, MSU & Foundation Seed

## **Monday, October 23, 2023:**

*Chairwoman Conover called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Introductions were made.*  
The Chairman asked for public comment. Heard none.

## **Review of June 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Chairwoman Conover presented the minutes of the Board Meetings.

Director Bumgarner moved, and Director Dahlman seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Department of Agriculture Update**

Director Clark reported to the committee about trade teams and interest in horse genetics. They are working on administrative rules and collecting information for the next session. Working with businesses wanting to set up shop in Montana.

Executive Director Kupfner asked about the State Grain Lab and the last time they ran in the black. She explained how Dan Riemer turned the lab around to where it is today.

### **MSU Update**

Dr. Bajwa announced the Ag Leader of the year Charlie Cahill and will be awarded at the Celebrate Ag!! banquet. They are exploring new granting opportunities for innovations in agriculture. She is sending a QR code for producers to request research projects for the college.

### **MT Grain Growers Update**

Alison updated the committee about the convention and the farm bill. There is a draft legislation she wanted input on before moving forward.

### **Brandee Johnston**

Brandee is working with the craft malting to look for producers to contract with to raise Buzz barley. She is doing lots of trade shows this winter. She brought t-shirts that have all the MSU wheat & barley varieties.

### **Grain Industry Rep. Update**

Jake McFarlin reported that futures are moving very slowly, waiting for some movement around the world. China is buying and that is affecting markets. Rail prices will decrease the first of the year. Winter Wheat is looking very good for this year.

### **Financial Update**

Cody Pearce showed the directors the tool to help calculate available balances and projected cash available to grant out. The interest earned has been increasing the last few years.

### **Financial Year-to-Date Update**

Kolleen went through our current and last year's budgets and explained a couple of payments and the refund list.

### **Lunch**

#### **Staff Update**

Executive Director Kupfner explained how the hiring process worked when selecting Lori Wickett. He talked about the trade teams that we hosted. He went through his activities since the last meeting.

Sam Anderson talked about the new Commodity Assessment process that will start after the first of the year.

Lori introduced herself and gave her background. She gave an update on what she has been up to.

### **Approval of Staff and Director Travel**

Director Bumgarner moved, and Director Angvick seconded the motion to approve the travel. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Upcoming Events**

Oct. 25	Pasta MT Team – Great Falls
Oct. 25-26	Wheat Marketing Center – Portland, OR
Oct. 27	Showa Team – Great Falls

Montana Wheat & Barley Committee Board Meeting  
Fall Board Meeting  
October 23-24, 2023  
3

Oct. 27-28	MT Farmer's Union Convention – Great Falls
Oct. 27-Nov. 3	Governor's Taiwan Trip - Taiwan
Nov. 3-4	Celebrate Ag!! Weekend – Bozeman
Nov. 6-10	US Wheat Fall Board Meeting – Cincinnati, Ohio
Nov. 8-15	USWA SE Asia Country Elevator Manager Team – SE Asia
Nov. 10	Office Closed
Nov. 11-21	USWA North Asia Crop Tour – North Asia
Nov. 13-21	USWA South American Crop Tour – South America
Nov. 23	Office Closed
Nov. 27	MWBC Budget Meeting – Great Falls
Nov. 28-30	MGGA Convention – Great Falls
Dec. 11-13	KS Milling Course – Manhattan, KS
Dec. 25	Office Closed

### **New Business**

Next board meeting – November 27, 2023  
Board Assignments – See attachment for changes.  
Election of officers – Chairman – Terry Angvick  
Vice Chair – Max Cederberg

Director Dahlman moved, and Director Bumgarner seconded the motion to elect Terry Angvick as Chairman and Max Cederberg as Vice Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Membership Applications**

The Directors walked through all the applications and discussed the requested amounts.

### **Standard Applications**

The Directors went through all the applications and discussed the requested amounts.

### **Research Applications**

Barry Jacobsen gave his opinion on all the research applications.

*Chairwoman Conover adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.*

### **Tuesday, October 24, 2023**

Call to order 8:00 a.m. – Chairwoman Conover

Research – Continued

The directors will take this month to go over the applications more thoroughly for the next meeting on November 27, 2023.

Adjourned 12:00 – Chairwoman Conover

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Kent Kupfner, Executive Director

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Date