

Montana State Hail Board
March 14, 2023
Yogo Inn, Lewistown, Montana

The meeting was called to order at 9:04am by Chairman Bing VonBergen

Introductions – Those in attendance were:

Bing VonBergen – Board Chair, Moccasin MT

Vince Mattson – Board member, Chester MT

Jim Schillinger – Board member, Circle MT

Troy Downing, Commissioner of Securities & Insurance, State of Montana

Andy Fjeseth, Proxy for Director Christy Clark, Montana Department of Agriculture

Walt Anseth – Montana Department of Agriculture

Dani Jones – Montana Department of Agriculture

Members of the Public:

RJ Waggoner-Lewistown MT, Lynn Goldhahn-Great Falls MT, Eddy Joyce-Geraldine MT

Public Comment:

Chair Bing VonBergen called for public comment and there was none.

Minutes:

Minutes were presented from the November 29, 2022, meeting. Troy Downing motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Andy Fjeseth 2nd the motion, motion passed.

Financials:

Financials were presented by Walt Anseth. \$1.4 to 1.5 million between cash and STIP, short term investment. Personal costs have gone down in the past years.

Old Business:

Reinsurance – Walt Anseth suggested a 50/50 split would be more viable for 2023. Walt met with the reinsurance company just before the meeting to review numbers. On average there has been an 84% loss in the last ten years, minus 2013. There has been 73% loss average for the life of the program.

Premium rate review – Walt Anseth presented the Montana State Hail Insurance Program Rates from 2023. Walt Anseth suggested to raising Pulse Crops offset rate to 8%. Vince Mattson made the motion to recommend raising all pulse crops to 8% off set rate. Jim Schillinger 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Crop Offset - Chairman Bing VonBergen would like to address the county rate of the following loss counties, Fallon, Valley, Rosebud, Daniels, Glacier, Dawson, McCone, and Bighorn Counties. Bing and Vince suggested to raise Dawson to 12.6% and McCone to 11.55%. Vince Mattson

made the motion to move the above counties up to the next step for the county rate. Commissioner Troy Downing 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

County rates raise as follows:

- Fallon Co- 9.45% to 10.50%
- Valley Co- 8.40% to 9.45%
- Rosebud Co- 10.50% to 11.55%
- Daniels Co- 8.40% to 9.45%
- Glacier Co- 9.45% to 10.50%
- Dawson Co- 11.55% to 12.60%
- McCone Co- 9.45% to 10.50%
- Bighorn Co- 10.50% to 11.55%

New Business:

NEW Hail Insurance Program- The current database that is being used in the office is getting to the stages of be outdated and upkeep and updates are getting slim. The department staff and IT have been working with MyCrop, who currently has an insurance type program that could work to replace the old system. Costs are estimated to be \$35k to start, and \$5,000 a year for service.

Additional Hail Office staff- only one position is needed, should be filled by the first part of May, Mikayala Witter is returning, so that will be helpful to the office and program.

Adjusters – Returning adjusters; Cary Jones, Clayton Gernaat, Michael Metcalfe, Jamie Beasley, Steve Chrest, Roger Merritt. Hoping to add another adjuster in the Valley County area, or highline area.

Walt Anseth will update the board via phone around July to let the members know how the season is going.

Next Meeting- the next meeting will be held in conjunction with Montana Grain Growers. Dani Jones will reach out to the board for meeting date information.

Public Comment:

Chair Bing VonBergen called for public comment and there was none.

Adjourn:

Bing VonBergen moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 pm.



 Dani Jones, Hail Insurance Technician

12/11/2023
 Date



 Walt Anseth, Section Supervisor

12/11/23
 Date