

2009 Annual MOCAC Meeting

March 19th & 20th 2009

Noon - Noon

Department of Agriculture

Conference room # 225

Council Members

Mark Bruckner

Sharon Lindquist

Jill Owen

Rob Forstenzer

Laura Garber

Andy Sponseller (absent)

Greg Thayer (absent)

Department Staff

Director Ron de Yong

Greg Ames – Administrator ASD

Andy Gray – Bureau Chief CSB

Doug Crabtree – Program Manager

Ann Bay –Administrative Specialist

Meeting called to order at 12:10 pm by Greg Ames.

Motion made to adopt the 2008 program review, Sharon Lindquist moved, Laura Garber seconded and council approved unanimously.

Discussion of 2009 program review with the key areas of note being: timeliness of inspectors and reviewers with a comparison utilizing similar operations with different inspectors, focus of consistency and timeliness with relation to crop rotations and/or cropping systems, address internal and external processes that impact timeliness.

Council decided the review subcommittee would consist of Rob Forstenzer, Laura Garber and Sharon Lindquist. They would focus on rotations and timeliness and how the inspection was done. Deadline for the subcommittee to have their report to the council was set for April 15th, 2009. Council will submit their report to the department by April 24th, 2009.

Motion to adjourn for the day moved by Sharon Lindquist, seconded by Mark Bruckner and unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 to reconvene at 8:00 am March 20th.

Second day of meeting called to order by Greg Ames at 8:10 am.

Andy Gray presented a report to the council regard the current fiscal situation of the program.

The council discussed the program budget and options for increasing revenue via fee increases. Various options were presented and it was determined that more in-depth discussion would be required but increases should be made in order to help the program become self sustaining. Ultimately, it was determined that a conference call would be set up for further specific review of potential changes in fees.

Doug discussed further details on how the cost share programs were to be distributed and gave a timeline of when payments might be expected to be processed.

Nancy Matheson presented a wrap up of the Organic Grower Awareness Campaign with discussion of how the meetings were attended and if anyone had applied as a result of the community meetings. Council members who had involvement and Doug shared ideas of how to make any future meeting more productive and other opportunities to generate program interest such as media awareness through radio, television and newspaper public service announcements. Involving the Department's public Information Officer, Ron Zeller and also more cooperative efforts with the Ag Marketing Division to spur further organic interest were presented.

There were no public comments.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm