



Montana Pulse Crop Committee Meeting Minutes

November 9th, 2021

*Montana Wheat and Barley Committee Headquarters
Great Falls, MT*

I. Call to order

Ryan Bogar called to order the regular meeting of the Pulse Crop Committee at 9:01 am on Tuesday November 9, 2021.

II. Roll call

The following committee members were present: Chair Ryan Bogar, Vice Chair Paul Kanning, Jillien Streit, Todd Hansen, Brian Aklestad (virtual). Mary Burrows was present as proxy for Dr. Bajwa. Matt Franks was absent

Department of Agriculture: Zach Coccoli, Andy Fjeseth, Weston Merrill, Cindy Trimp (virtual)

Montana Wheat and Barley Committee: Sam Anderson

Members of the Public: Shannon Berndt – Northern Pulse Growers Association, Tim McGreevey, Jeff Rumney, Drex Rhodes – US Dry Pea & Lentil Association

Chair Ryan Bogar asked for public comment. There were no comments from the public.

III. Board Administrative Consent Items

- a) The meeting minutes from the June 8, 2021, meeting was presented for review. Paul Kanning moved to accept the minutes as presented, Jillien Streit seconded. All in favor
- b) Paul Kanning noted the minutes from the June 22, 2021, meeting was not included in the packet. Andy Fjeseth noted that Department staff would send them out for review/approval at the conclusion of this meeting.
- c) Paul Kanning relayed his recent travel to the Pulse meeting in Spokane. He then moved to continue to sponsor Gordon Stoner for his involvement with APAC. Jillien Streit seconded. All in favor.

IV. New Business

- a) Election of Officers & Committee assignments
 - i) Paul Kanning discussed the roles and responsibilities of the Chair and Vice Chair of the MPCC.
 - (1) Paul Kanning moved to nominate Ryan Bogar to serve as Chair of the MPCC. Todd Hansen seconded. All in favor.
 - (2) Jillien Striet moved to nominate Paul Kanning to serve as Vice Chair of the MPCC. Todd Hansen seconded. All in favor.
 - ii) More discussion was had on the various US Dry Pea & Lentil committees where Montana is expected to provide representation. Todd Hansen indicated his willingness to serve on the Research Committee. More discussion was had on the current representation on the various committees. Todd Hansen then moved to have Jillien serve on the Infogov committee. Jillien made a substitute motion to have the following representation on the various committees:
 - (1) Todd Hansen on the Research Committee
Brian Aklestad on the International & Domestic Marketing Committee
Todd Hansen & Paul Kanning on the USADPL National Committee
Jillien Streit & Gordon Stoner on the Infogov Committee
 - (2) Paul Kanning seconded the motion. All in favor
- b) Financial Report
 - i) Cindy Trimp presented the Committee's financial report. The Committee discussed the production year and asked Cindy to provide historical context for the new members. Paul Kanning moved to accept the financial report. Todd Hansen seconded. All in favor
- c) FY 22 Request for Proposals
 - i) Jillien Streit brought up that there have been numerous questions/concerns regarding the Committee not doing enough for Montana pulse breeding. She indicated that she had received feedback from producers about the research question, and that she herself was concerned that Montana-specific research did not have as good a chance as other proposals to be ranked high in the USADPL research-only RFP. Jillien indicated that she was interested in the MPCC accepting research proposals directly through their own RFP, rather than through the USADPL RFP. The Committee discussed various solutions to

this issue, including whether or not moving the MPCC RFP timeline would help solve the problem.

- ii) After much discussion, Jillien Streit moved to allow research proposals to be submitted directly to the MPCC through their own RFP. Todd Hansen seconded. Jillien & Todd voted in favor. Ryan, Paul, and Brian voted against. Motion fails.
 - iii) There was further discussion regarding the RFP. Paul Kanning moved to approve the RFP with Department discretion for edits should they be needed. Jillien seconded. All in favor.
- d) Reciprocal Agreements with Canada
- i) Paul Kanning initiated the discussion regarding reciprocal collection agreements with the various provinces where Montana producers sometimes deliver. He mentioned that his biggest priority here was the data collection for RMA. Zach Coccoli with the Department mentioned a recent meeting Department staff had with the Alberta Pulse Board regarding reciprocal agreements. He noted that it is not an easy fix, but that the Department would continue in those efforts. It was noted that Saskatchewan collects assessments for the North Dakota pulse checkoff.
 - e) Jillien and Paul provided reports from the various committees they work with, including Infogov, Domestic Marketing, International Marketing, and the National Board.

V. Old Business

- a) Executive Officer
 - i) Paul Kanning and Jillien Streit discussed their desire to continue the efforts of exploring the option of hiring an Executive Officer type position for the MPCC. They noted that this would need to be a separate RFP and that it would be nice to work with an organization like the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee or the Northern Pulse Grower Association. Paul and Jillien resolved to continue working together on the issue and promised to have a draft RFP for an executive officer prior to the next MPCC meeting
- b) Committee Term Dates
 - i) Paul Kanning voiced his frustration that the term appointment dates are now off-cycle and therefore there are three appointments coming open when there should be only two. Zach Coccoli and Andy Fjeseth discussed their efforts with

the Governor’s Office to get the terms correctly set so the Committee was not in a position to lose a majority of members every 3 years. The Committee voiced their preference that any adjusted term be extended rather than shortened.

VI. Organization Updates

- a) Montana Department of Agriculture
 - i) Zach Coccoli provided a department update. He gave a staffing update. He also mentioned the Department was given \$7.5 million to administer a Value-Added Ag Infrastructure grant program. Zach gave a rundown on the Department’s process and indicated they were looking forward to seeing the proposals start to come in.
- b) Northern Pulse Growers Association
 - i) Shannon Berndt provided an update for the Northern Pulse Growers Association. She noted that she has been the only employee on staff since July 1st, but that they had recently hired for their vacant position. The organization has been busy preparing for Montana Pulse Days (being held in Great Falls the same day) and that they were eager to get together with producers.
- c) USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council
 - i) Tim McGreevey provided an overview of USADPLC and their current activities. He highlighted the upcoming opportunities related to “Climate-Smart Agriculture” that will be coming out of USDA and also touched on the Council’s work with

Chair Ryan Bogar asked for additional public comment. There were no comments from the public.

The Committee discussed the next meeting date. They noted that the Northern Pulse Growers Meeting was set for January 24th & 25th in Minot. They decided to hold the next MPCC meeting on March 22nd at the Northern Ag Research Center in Havre.

Jillien Striet moved to adjourn the meeting. Paul Kanning seconded. All in favor and Chair Bogar adjourned the meeting at 1:43 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Andy Fjeseth_____

Minutes approved by: Ryan Bogar_____