

# **Montana Pulse Crop Committee Meeting Minutes**

March 10, 2021

## **I. Call to order**

Chairman Bogar called to order the regular meeting of the Montana Pulse Crop Committee at 9:05am on Wednesday March 10, 2021.

Director Mike Foster introduced himself to the committee. Director Foster gave a department and legislative update to the committee

## **II. Roll call**

Dani Jones conducted roll call. The following committee members were present: Chairman Ryan Bogar, Vice Chairman Paul Kanning, Colby Johnson, Jillien Streit, Gordon Stoner, Dr. Sreekala Bajwa, and Director Mike Foster. Matt Franks was absent

Department of Agriculture: Cort Jensen, Cindy Trimp, Weston Merrill, Marty Earnheart, Andy Fjeseth, Zach Coccoli, Adam Gutzwiler from the State Grain Lab, Cassidy Marn and Sam Anderson from the Wheat and Barley Bureau, and Dani Jones

Members of the public: Augie Aga with Northern Ag Network. Shannon Berndt, Dolores Rohrich, Mary Bartsch, and Brian Goin from Northern Pulse Growers Association. Tim McGreevy and Todd Scholz from USDPLC. Tara Beck from REAL Montana. Eric Sommer from USDA NASS. Mary Burrows and Chengci Chen from MSU, Russell Nemetz from Nemetz Communication. Shauna Farver from Farver Farms

**Chairman Bogar asked for public comment. No public comment.**

## **III. Approval of November 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

The committee was provided with a copy of the meeting minutes from the November 17, 2020 meeting. Paul Kanning made the motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Gordon Stoner 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

## **IV. New Business**

- a) Review budget and FY 2021 projections
  - i) Cindy Trimp presented the committee with the current budget and FY 2021 projections. Paul Kanning requested a box item on the budget that will include the reserve amount that the committee requested.

- b) NPGA Carryover Funds
  - i) Shannon Berndt with Northern Pulse Growers Association requested a carryover from previous grant funds that have not yet been received. Retain amount of \$31,341.00. Gordon Stoner made the motion to approve the retention of funds. Jillien Streit 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

## V. Review Grant Proposals

- a) Eric Sommer, USDA/NASS: 1) \$22,500.00 2) \$1,700.00
- b) Chengci Chen, MSU: 1) \$60,000.00
- c) Tara Becken, REAL Montana: 1) \$5,000.00
- d) Russel Nemetz, Nemetz Communications: 1) \$15,000.00
- e) Tim McGreevy, USDPLC: 1) \$2,000,000.00
- f) Zach Coccoli and Adam Gutzwiler, MT State Grain Lab: 1) \$51,609.00
- g) Shauna Farver, Farver Farms: 1) \$22,139.42
- h) Augie Aga, Northern Ag Network: 1) \$20,000.00
- i) Shannon Berndt, NPGA: 1) \$356,915.00

**The Committee took a 10 minutes break**

## VI. Updates:

- a) Weston Merrill gave an update on the Virtual Pulse Marketing, 'Hola Montana. Website and social media launch. Stories from Nemetz Communications will also be shares on the 'Hola Montana webpage and social media pages.
- b) Tim McGreevy from USDPLC updated the committee on the QLA Program proposal for discounted crops needing special consideration. Tim asked for input from the Committee. Gordon spoke up about giving the producers a fair shake. Paul Kanning mentioned to Tim that we will call him and directly discuss his thoughts.
- c) Shannon Berndt with NPGA gave a short update to the committee

**Next Meeting Date:** Gordon Stoner made the motion to meet with Director Foster within the next 3 weeks to further discuss the Executive Director Position. Jill Streit 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor. Dani Jones will work with Virginia Corbett for the next meeting date- March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 9:00am to 12:00pm

**Chair Ryan Bogar asked for public comment. No public comment.**

Jill Streit made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Gordon Stoner 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, meeting was adjourned.

Chairman Bogar adjourned the meeting at 1:10pm

Minutes submitted by: Dani Jones

Minutes approved by: Andy Fjeseth