

MONTANA WHEAT AND BARLEY COMMITTEE

Interim Board Meeting
Lewis & Clark Room, Heritage Inn
Great Falls, Montana
December 1, 2015

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

DIRECTORS

Leonard Schock, Chairman
Mike O'Hara, Vice President
Randy Hinebauch
Bruce Myllymaki

Milo Mattelin
Denise Conover
Chris Kolstad

EX-OFFICIOS

Ron de Yong, Director, Montana Department of Agriculture
Not Present: Byron Grassman, Manager, Mountain View Coop
Not Present: Dr. Charles Boyer, Vice President, MSU College of Agriculture

STAFF

Collin Watters, Executive Vice President
Steve Becker, Outreach Coordinator
Tammy Suek, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS

Kim Falcon, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture
Cort Jensen, Chief Staff Attorney, Department of Agriculture
Eric Sommer, Director, USDA-NASS
Lola Raska, Executive Vice President, Montana Grain Growers Association
Kevin Brown, Director of Business Development, MSU Alumni Foundation
Lochiel Edwards, TTMS
Chris Christiaens, Project Specialist, Montana Farmers Union
Maia Aageson, Manager of Ag Operations Support, BNSF Railway
Bret Conover, Producer
Dave Tweet, Barley Consultant
Michelle Jones, MGGA,
Ron Davis, Vice President, MGGA

Chairman Schock called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Director O'Hara made the motion to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter with Cort Jensen, Director Myllymaki seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Schock ended executive session and resumed the meeting. Guests introduction themselves, **Chairman Schock called for public comment and heard none.**

Director Myllymaki made the motion to adopt the tentative agenda with changes Director Mattelin seconded it. The agenda passed unanimously.

Review of October 27, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Executive Vice President Watters presented the minutes of the last meeting and asked for any changes or corrections, none were made.

Director Myllymaki moved and Director Hinebauch seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Department of Agriculture Update

Director de Yong talked about the trouble with one of the northern ports closing early and upsetting truck traffic. He will be bringing this issue to the governor in the next couple weeks. There are still a few problems with the Canadian trade and they are continuing to talk to the Canadians about the issues.

The Director updated the board on the Pulse crops and the possibilities in India. The department is also working on the new fees for pesticide training for the next legislative session.

Barley Update

Dave Tweet gave a brief update on the barley in the state and how wheat prices are down so are barley. This is barley contracting season and most have finished, some producers are holding out for higher prices.

MSU Report

Kevin Brown gave the report on behalf of Dr. Boyer who was unable to attend the meeting. He told the committee that this is the 8th straight year of growth in the MSU Ag department. They are continuing to raise funds for the endowed chair and are looking at corporate donors.

U.S. Wheat Associates (USWA)

Director Kolstad updated the committee on the meeting he, Chairman Schock and EVP Watters attended in Tahoe. He went to the Long Range Planning committee meeting where foreign markets were discussed. There has been no support for a national check-off. In the Quality Committee planting is down mostly because of the price of wheat and VP Watters commented on the quality of the winter wheat not doing so well. Chairman Schock thought the speakers were very interesting.

Director Kolstad also attended the Montana Farm Bureau Convention held in Missoula; he noticed an increase of young people at this convention.

Association of Latin American Millers (ALIM)

Chairman Schock attended the ALIM conference in Argentina, he reported that they changed the format back to previous years and it was well attended. South America could be a good opportunity to market U.S. wheat.

International Durum Forum & Missouri River Recovery Improvement Committee(MRRIC)

Director Mattelin talked to the board about the Durum Forum; the durum crop was a good crop with good quality. They discussed a new durum variety and sustainability.

He also attend the MRRIC the main topics there were sandbar building and work on the intakes. He attended a focus group at the USDA-ARS in Sidney.

Northern Crops Institute

Director Hinebauch went to Minneapolis to attend the NCI Board Meeting. They toured a pasta plant and a machinery plant, met the new hires at NCI. There was also a discussion on market place trends.

Break

Executive Vice President Report

EVP Watters went over the highlights of his trip to Asia, which included crop quality and Buckwheat contamination concerns. He asked the board to give feedback to him or Lochiel Edwards on the reports that TTMS provide, do they need more or different information.

Celebrate Ag & MAES Advisory Meeting

Director Myllymaki attended the MAES meeting in Bozeman, where long-term planning was discussed; he later attended the banquet where Lola Raska was named one of the Ag Leaders of the year.

Outreach Coordinator Update

Steve Becker updated the board on the last of the trade teams for the year and the Producer Tour which was a good group and he will be getting ready for the next group at the end of March.

Web Site Discussion

Executive Vice President Watters asked for input on what the directors would like to see in the new design of the web site. Chairman Schock thought it would be good to have the survey at our booth at the MGGA Convention. He would also like to have the historical pricing and basis and information on secondary rail.

General Liability Requirements

Chairman Schock made the motion and Director Myllymaki seconded the motion to maintain the liability insurance requirement for the Organic Advisory & Education Council grant and sponsorships in general at the amount set in the current contract, and asked staff to make this requirement very clear and prominent within the grant application itself. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Out of State Travel

Executive Vice President Watters presented the upcoming travel to the board.

Director Kolstad moved to accept the new travel schedule with additions and Director Hinebauch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Events

Montana Wheat & Barley Committee Board Meeting

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Dec. 3-5	MT Organic Conference – Bozeman
Dec. 7-9	MT Seed Association Meeting - Bozeman
Dec. 8-10	Wheat Milling Course – Kansas
Dec. 9	Pulse Day – Great Falls
Dec. 25	Christmas Day – Office Closed
Jan. 1	New Year's Day – Office Closed
Jan. 11-13	MWBC Board Meeting – Bozeman
Jan. 13	New Trend in Ag – Glasgow, MT
Jan. 14-15	Wheat Foods Council – Phoenix, AZ
Jan. 15-16	Young Ag Couple's Conference - Helena
Jan. 18	MLK Day – Office Closed
Jan. 20-22	PNW Wheat Quality Meeting – Phoenix, AZ
Jan. 27-29	MABA/MGEA – Great Falls
Feb. 1-3	National Barley Growers Meeting – Washington DC
Feb. 2-4	Hard Spring Wheat Show – Williston, ND
Feb. 3-6	US Wheat Meeting – Washington DC
Feb. 9-11	Western Barley Growers Annual Meeting – Canada
Feb. 15	President's Day – Office Closed
Feb. 15-17	US Grains Council Annual Meeting – Sarasota, FL
Feb. 16-18	Wheat Quality Annual Meeting – Kansas City, MO
Feb. 23-25	MRRIC – Kansas City, MO
Mar. 3-5	Commodity Classic – New Orleans, LA
Mar. 6-9	National Barley Improvement Committee – Washington DC
Mar. 13-15	National Pasta Association – Naples, FL
Mar. 29-Apr. 1	Producer Tour - Portland

New Business

Executive Vice President Watters went over the structure of the budget meeting coming up in January.

Public Comment

Dave Tweet informed the committee that winter barley was looking promising for Montana.

Adjournment

Chairman Schock adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.

Collin Watters, Executive Vice President

Date