

**MONTANA ORGANIC COMMODITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Business Meeting — December 4, 2002**  
**Helena, Montana**

**CONFERENCE CALL ATTENDEES:**

**Council Members**

- Judy Owsowitz, Producer
- Bob Quinn, Producer
- John Hoffland, Consumer
- David Oien, Producer
- Nancy Matheson, Producer
- Mikel Lund, Producer

**MDA Staff Members**

- Steve Baril, FSB Chief
- Doug Crabtree, Organic Certification Program Manager
- Carol Kimble, Administrative Assistant

The ASD Field Services Bureau Chief, Steve Baril served as chairman and called the conference call meeting to order at 8:48 am. Steve advised those participating that Ralph Peck and Greg Ames were not going to be present as they were attending the Grain Growers meeting in Great Falls.

Steve requested a formal approval of the November 12, 2002, meeting minutes.

Discussion took place after Nancy Matheson suggested there needed to be grammatical changes in some of the wording in some of the rule areas and needed to be amended.

Nancy also pointed out that the wording in RULE I was incorrect and it should read RULE I. Definitions (4) "Mixed operation" means organic and non-organic production on the same production operation.

**A motion was made by Nancy Matheson to amend the minutes to allow staff to wordsmith the language from the motion.**

John Hoffland second the motion.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Bob Quinn moved that the amended November 12, 2002, minutes be approved.**

John Hoffland second the motion.

**The motion to pass the November 12, 2002, meeting minutes passed unanimously.**

### **New Business And Additions To The Agenda**

Steve called for new business.

Announcements will be provided near the end of the conference call so the rules could be discussed in a timely manner.

### **Old Business**

Steve asked that Doug lead the conversation on the definition of mixed operation.

Nancy moved that “mixed operation” means organic and~~—or a non-~~organic production on the same producer-production operator operation.

John Hoffland second.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Review Of Draft Administrative Rules**

David Oien brought forward that in Rule III and Rule IV. (1) – (3) language consistency of shall, will and must needs to be determined. Discussion among other conference call members

**David Oien moved that the staff check with legal council on advisement of the change in language in rules so shall and discretionary will be consistent.**

John Hoffland second

**The motion unanimously passed.**

### **RULE IV. Seal**

Doug discussed the placement of the wording on the seal. There was considerable discussion about the size that was sent via e-mail and that the final seal needs to be readable at the size of a dime.

**Judy Osowitz moved that the dots that appear between the letters in Certified Organic be removed.**

No second was made.

Discussion brought forward that there should be more space between Certified and Organic.

**Judy moved to table previous motion.**

John second.

**Motion to table previous motion was unanimously passed.**

Discussion continued about the seal versions and wording. Steve rephrased the discussion to say that there is to be move space between Certified and Organic and must be legible in dime size. Judy stated that there is a possibility of deleting the outline, simplifying the furrows and making more stylized. Doug asked that discussion of the seal color be postponed because 2 (a) describes colors, needs to be left up to the artist.

Steve stated that we may need to revisit RULE 4, 2 (b) and (c).

**Judy moved that the council recommend Version 3 and the department will work with the graphics artist to refine the seal with the discussion included.**

John second.

**The motion was passed unanimously.**

Steve mentioned for the record, the department adopts Version 3 in concept and will work with graphic artist to make legible at small size.

## **RULE V**

**Nancy moved that Rule V, 2 (b) needs to be restated as A Certified producer who changes crops, wild crops, and/or livestock of their own production into a new distinct product by physically, chemically or otherwise changing the original product, must also certify as a handler. However, a Certified producer may clean, wash, grade, dry, package, transport, or do similar preparation of their own production with~~out~~ handler certification.**

**Amend to motion capitalize Certified.**

David second.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

An assignment was given to David Oien to contact Margaret & Elizabeth McGuire to see about sales to nonorganic markets and also look at gross sales of organic production in

Montana and providing input back to the department so project income can be projected.

**Bob moved to table further discussion until the next meeting.**

John second.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

An assignment was given to get information from the OCIA chapters on most recent gross sales. Bob Quinn will contact north central, Mikel will contact northeastern, David will contact OCIA #4, Judy will contact OCAM. Mikel will also contact OCIA International and ask how they are verifying sales and using the TC system after implementation of the NOP.  
~~An assignment was given to get information on most recent gross sales and Bob will contact north central, Mikel will contact northeastern, David will contact OCIA #4, Judy will contact OCAM and Mikel will get OCIA and how they trade sales become PC was how they did in past continue certified sales.~~

The next conference call will be Wednesday, December 18, 2002 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The conference call disconnected at 11:25 a.m.

The conference call terminated at 11:25 a.m.