

MONTANA WHEAT AND BARLEY COMMITTEE

Fall Board Meeting
Columbus Center
2nd Floor Conference Room
Great Falls, Montana
October 6, 2014

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

DIRECTORS

Chris Kolstad, Chairman	Buzz Mattelin, Director
Randy Hinebauch, Vice Chairman	Bruce Myllymaki, Director
Leonard Schock, Director	Frank Schoonover, Director
Tom Siderius, Director	

EX-OFFICIOS

Ron de Yong, Director, Montana Department of Agriculture
Byron Grassman, Manager, Mountain View Coop
Dr. Glenn Duff, Interim Dean of Agriculture

STAFF

Collin Watters, Executive Vice President
Cassidy Marn, Marketing Program Manager
Steve Becker, Outreach Coordinator
Kolleen Spurgin, Budget & Grants Coordinator
Tammy Suck, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS

Lola Raska, Executive Vice President, Montana Grain Growers Association
Lochiel Edwards, Board Member, Montana Grains Foundation
Joel Clairmont, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture
Cort Jensen, Staff Attorney, Department of Agriculture
Chris Christiaens, Project Specialist, Montana Farmers Union
Justin Loch, Membership Specialist, Montana Farmers Union
Dave Tweet, Tweet Consulting, LLC
John Sherwood, Plant Science Department Head, Montana State University
Terry Whiteside, Whiteside and Associates
Bruce Nelson, State Executive Director, Farm Service Agency

Monday, October 6, 2014:

Chairman Kolstad called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Director Schock made the motion to adopt the tentative agenda and Director Myllymaki seconded it. The agenda passed unanimously.

Chairman Kolstad called for public comment and heard none.

Review of July 2, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Executive Vice President Collin Watters presented the minutes of the July Summer Board Meeting.

Director Mattelin moved and Director Siderius seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Review

Kolleen Spurgin presented the Financial Statement and Assessment collection update.

There was a brief discussion about refunders and tracking incoming commodities from Canada. Cort Jensen clarified that state money can be used in an endowment.

Collin Watters asked the board if the financial reports that are presented to them necessary or could reports generated by SABRS be used instead eliminating the need for Kolleen to double key into two reports. Directors Schock and Schoonover liked the format as is and suggested maybe some of the graphs could go. Cort Jensen suggested that it might come down to the cost of the reports.

Director Siderius moved to accept the financial statement. Director Myllymaki seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Montana Department of Agriculture

Director de Yong reported on the handling of the event at the southern research station, everyone was on the same page and the right message was sent to the media. The department is still meeting with BNSF regularly. The State Grain Lab is swamped with samples and the crew is working overtime processing the demand.

The "Grown in Montana" magazine will be produced annually and will be looking for advertisers to be in the magazine. The Hail Insurance program is in better shape than this same time last year.

MSU Update

Dr. Glenn Duff informed the board on the new hires at the university, Dr. Charles Boyer will be the new Vice President for Agriculture and Chris Murray will be the new Vice President for the MSU Foundation. Olga Walsh has resigned her position; someone else will be taking over her work at the research station. Joyce Eckoff is retiring after the first of the year; no decision has been made on what will happen with her research.

Dr. Duff reminded the board about Celebrate Ag and the new format for the event.

View from the Trade

Byron Grassman reported that the army worm has become a problem this year. Most fields have had average yields, the year can be divided into before rain and after rain when talking about quality. Director Siderius asked about the Orange Blossom Midge and if he had seen much around the triangle. Byron hadn't seen that much this year.

U.S. Grains Council

Director Mattelin attended the U.S. Grains Council meeting in Omaha; the guest speaker was Howard Buffet the son of Warren Buffet.

MSU Barley Breeder Search Update

Director Myllymaki is on the search committee for the new barley breeder; there were 30 applicants they narrowed it down to 9 phone interviews and in the end had 3 candidates. Those 3 candidates will be coming to the university for face-to-face interviews and campus tours. They hope to have someone in place by the end of the year.

Lunch

Dave Tweet Update

Dave Tweet gave the directors a list of his activities that he has participated in on behalf of the committee. He enjoyed his involvement with the trade teams.

Legal Team Presentation

Cort Jensen talked about the upcoming legislature session and the activities that could be considered lobbying by the committee. If there is something that needs the committee's attention the Department of Ag or another farm group needs to address it.

If a quorum of the committee is together then no business can be discussed, if business will be discussed then a public meeting notice needs to be sent out at least 14 days ahead of the meeting. If a discussion topic that needs to have action taken is brought before the committee it should be talked about at one meeting and action taken at the next, if possible.

Transportation Update

Terry Whiteside gave his report and expressed concern that grain is taking a backseat to oil and coal with the railroads.

Montana Grain Growers Update

Lola Raska updated the board on the Legislative Ag tour, it went very well and the tours and information was better than expected. MGGA will be touring the state for listening sessions on the new 2014 Farm Bill. She will also be attending the Wheat Forum in St. Louis in November.

Latin American Buyers Conference

Director Schoonover and Executive Vice President Watters attended the conference with about 100+ participants. They made some important contacts and received some good information.

Program Manager Update

Cassidy Marn was a speaker at the Women Stepping Forward in Ag conference, held in Billings; there were more farmers this year than in previous years. Cassidy is collecting samples for the upcoming surveys, she will be sending them out soon.

Outreach Coordinator Report

Steve Becker reported on his activities for the last couple months; he and Collin attended the Montana Fair in Billings, they were not impressed and will try to find a way to better represent the committee. Steve attended the last of the field days and he has done a few radio commercials for the Northern Broadcasting network. He has another group ready to go on the Producer's tour to Portland; he tried very hard to get producers from all over the state.

Executive Vice President's Update

Collin Watters attended barley field days where he met several of the brewers; talking to them about the new barley breeder position at MSU. He mentioned some of the travel issues, including spreading out the travel to all the board not just a few board members.

Collin talked about the advertising in the "Grown in Montana" and the prices for the various sizes of ads.

Director Mattelin made a motion to purchase a ½ page advertisement in the magazine.
Director Schock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Wheat Milling Short Course

There was a discussion on who to send to the course, because we do not have a new director yet, it was decided that Cassidy and Director Siderius would attend this year.

Officer Appointments

Nominations were asked for to appoint officers for the committee, Director Hinebauch was nominated for the Chairman position and Director Siderius was nominated for the Vice Chairman position. No others were nominated, a vote was taken and they were voted in unanimously.

Montana Farm Services Agency Update

Bruce Nelson updated the board on the changes in the new farm bill. His agency will be traveling around the state helping producers make the right decisions for them.

Board Assignments

A few changes were made to the board assignment list and the Transportation was taken off the list. Tammy will send out the updated list as soon as a new director is appointed.

New Business

Collin Watters talked about a change in the way the board handles the February research meeting in Bozeman. He would like more of a panel discussion with the directors able to ask questions of the researchers. He will get with John Sherwood to work out the details.

The December Interim board meeting will be held on the 2nd in the morning.

Approval of Staff and Director Travel

New travel events and meetings were added to the calendar.

Director Schock moved to accept the new travel schedule. Director Schoonover seconded.
The motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 11	6 th Annual MT Brewers Fall Festival – Missoula
Oct. 12-13	2014 MT Brewers Association Conference - Missoula
Oct. 12-18	North American Buyer Conference – Hawaii
Oct. 13	Columbus Day – Office Closed
Oct. 20-21	USGC Export Exchange - Seattle
Oct. 23-24	Wheat Marketing Center Board Meeting – Portland

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Oct. 23-25	Montana Farmers Union Convention – Great Falls
Oct. 29-Nov. 1	US Wheat Fall Board Meeting – Santa Ana Pueblo, NM
Nov. 4	Election Day – Office Closed
Nov. 4-6	Missouri River Recovery and Improvement Committee – Omaha, NE
Nov. 7-8	Celebrate Ag – Bozeman
Nov. 8-13	Latin American Industrial Millers Association (ALIM) – Dominican Republic
Nov. 9-12	MT Farm Bureau Convention - Billings
Nov. 11	Veteran’s Day – Office Closed
Nov. 20-21	Harvest Montana Conference – Great Falls
Nov. 25	NCI Board Meeting – Fargo, ND
Nov. 27	Thanksgiving – Office Closed
Dec. 1-13	USGC Board Trip – Central America
Dec. 2	MWBC Interim Board Meeting - Great Falls
Dec. 2-4	Montana Grain Growers Convention – Great Falls
Dec. 8-10	DTN/Ag Summit – Chicago, IL
Dec. 10-13	Producer’s Portland Tour – Portland
Dec. 16-18	Wheat Milling Short Course – Manhattan, KS
Dec. 25	Christmas Day – Office Closed
Jan. 1	New Year’s Day – Office Closed
Jan. 11-12	National Barley Improvement Committee – San Diego, CA
Jan. 13-14	Wheat Foods Council Board Meeting – Phoenix
Jan. 15-25	US Wheat Board Trip – Taiwan & Philippines
Jan. 19	Martin Luther King, Jr Day – Office Closed
Jan. 21-23	PNW Wheat Quality Meeting – San Francisco, CA
Jan. 24	Circle Ag Show – Circle
Jan. 29-31	MABA/MGEA Convention – Great Falls
Jan. 29-Feb. 2	U.S. Wheat Winter Meeting – Washington, DC
Feb. 9-11	U.S. Grains Council 12 th International Marketing Conference – Costa Rica
Feb. 24-26	Missouri River Recovery and Improvement Committee – Kansas City, MO
Feb. 25-28	Commodity Classic – Phoenix, AZ
Feb. ?	Canadian Variety Release Meeting
Mar. 11-13	World Barley, Malt & Beer Conference – Dublin, Ireland
July 27-29	U.S. Grains Council 55 th Annual Meeting – Denver. CO

Public comment

Chairman Kolstad asked for public comment and Lochiel Edwards asked about our policy on paying indirects on grants such as for the MSU Foundation. There was a discussion and a decision was made to have Collin Watters, Ron de Yong and Cort Jensen create a rule stating that the grants awarded by the committee contain no indirect payments.

Lochiel also let the committee know that the rate increase from the railroad that was scheduled for the first of the year has been pushed back.

Chairman Kolstad adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm.

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Collin Watters, Executive Vice President

Date