

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture
October 1, 2008
Conference Call

Present: Gene Hardy, President
Joe Thomas, Vice President
Juan Reyes
Jim Mickelson
Jim Bennage
Dave Graham
Bridget Kukowski
John Etchepare

Absent: Jack Corson
Ryan Lance, Governor's Office
Frank Galey, UW Dean of the College of Agriculture
Dalin Winters
Patrick Zimmerer
John Hansen

Staff: Muff Parker, Recording Secretary

Guests: Teri Bar

CD Appointments

Joe made a motion to appoint Louis Abarr to fill the position vacated by Jim Gould on the Meeteetse Conservation District. The motion was seconded by Jim Mickelson. All voted in favor. Motion carried. The board acknowledged the resignation of Doug Oliver on the Platte Country Resource District. They are not requesting the Board make an appointment at this time, as they will fill it on the November Election Ballot.

State Fair Advisory Committee (SFAC) Meeting Update

The SFAC will meet October 14 in Douglas. The tail docking issue is on agenda. Jim Mickelson said he thinks the Board should stand by the position established years ago. Jim Bennage concurred with Jim Mickelson. Juan said he would like to visit with James about the rule before making any decisions. John explained James' position about changing the rule because we are the only state in the area that holds those lamb show participants to the three vertebrae rule.

Juan wants to talk to his advisory committee member before a decision is made. John suggested each member contact their advisory committee member to visit about the issue before the October 14 meeting. Jim Bennage suggested having a lamb show separate from state fair to alleviate the problem. John said the information will come back to the board for final approval.

State Veterinarian Meeting in Denver Update

John said the Montana, Idaho and Wyoming state vets worked together on the charges to the Brucellosis rules by APHIS. APHIS knows the rules are outdated so they are in the process of changing them. The hope is to create a zone around the Greater Yellowstone Area. There will be different rules within the zone and the rest of the three states. Several questions remain and discussion will continue. Charges to the Tuberculosis rule are also being reviewed. Dr. Clifford of APHIS has assured John they are taking a hard look at the issue. Whatever the final plan, it must be accepted by all state veterinarians. As a side note, the intentionally feeding of elk bill was amended at the Joint Ag Committee to just the western portion of the state.

Wyoming Livestock Board Meeting Update

There is a meeting scheduled for October 9 in Casper regarding the several changes to the rules. Gene asked that if anyone can attend, please plan on doing so. He also reminded the board of the upcoming ADMB meeting October 8th and 9th in Casper.

Joint Ag Committee Update

John Etchepare briefed the board regarding the draft bills worked by the Joint Ag Committee. All of the positions we requested were removed from our bills. We are going ahead with rule changes for the cottage food industry. They are also looking at a pet animal board rather than the Wyoming Livestock Board. The aggie bond bill was also discussed by Cindy Garretson-Weibel. She said the Business Council will work with the banks and the state would issue the bond to the bank. The maximum loan amount would be \$450,000. This revisit of the aggie bond bill was at the request of the Joint Ag Committee. Through this, the borrower can buy breeding livestock and machinery, as well as land purchases.

Conservation District Boundary Update

Leanne said the Little Snake River (LSR) District filed with revenue, but that the issue is not completely resolved. Saratoga-Encampment-Rawlins (SER) would like to have an MOU so they all know what the cost and work to be performed by the LSR would be before the work begins. Lucy has been talking with the two districts and the Natural Resources Section will continue to update the Board. John is concerned as to whether Revenue is satisfied with the boundaries as outlined in the letter the districts sent to the Department of Revenue. Leanne is going to follow-up.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Hardy, President

Date

Attachments: Meetetse Conservation District appointment request
Notification of vacancy in Platte County Resource District