

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture
August 14, 2009
Wyoming Department of Agriculture Conference Room

Present: Juan Reyes
Jim Hodder
Jim Bennage, Vice President
Joe Thomas, President
Byan Brost
Jim Price Jr.
Patrick Zimmerer
John Hansen
Bidget Kukowski
Dalin Winters
Jason Fearneyhough, Director
Frank Galey, UW College of Ag Dean

Absent: Ryan Lance, Governor Freudenthal's Office

Guests: See sign-in sheet

Minutes

Juan Reyes made a motion to approve the August 4 Conference Call minutes noting a change in the first sentence under Living Legacy from discussing to discussed. The motion was seconded by John Hansen. All voted in favor. Motion carried. Shaun Sims made a motion to approve the July 14 conference call minutes. The motion was seconded by Jim Bennage. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

CD Appointment

Juan made motion to appoint Ann Sanchez to the Board of Supervisors of the Laramie County Conservation District as a rural replacement to Duane Cook who resigned. The motion was seconded by John Hansen. After clarification of the type of position as being rural, all voted in favor. Motion carried.

In review of the minutes from July 14 where Justin Williams updated the members on the Wyoming We Want Conference, Dalin would like to participate in the discussion with Jim Magagna and Terry Cleveland on the issue of keeping young people in Wyoming agriculture.

Policy Review

The Board began the review processes of their policies. Due to time restraints, it was tabled for a later date. Muff will incorporate the changes made and send them out for review.

Intern Presentations

The interns gave presentations to the Board on their accomplishments of their internship with the Department this summer.

Agricultural Statistics

Jason introduced Todd Ballard and he gave some personal background. Todd said they are in the process of wrapping up the nation-wide Organic Census and should have results published in February. He indicated they will be doing some energy related surveys.

Animal Care Policy

James said the process works well. Superintendents can bring an issue to the committee (Jim Logan, James Goodrich, and Jason Fearneyhough) and the committee makes the decision.

NRCS Update

Paul Shelton with NRCS talked a little about the implementation of the projects from the farm bill.

Paul said that there is no guarantee an ag producer will receive any funding for CSP because there, in essence, no budget for the program.

Natrona County Conservation District Appointment

Leanne said the Department had asked for a ruling from the Attorney General's Office regarding the Natrona County Conservation Districts' request to replace a board of supervisor. They (the Conservation District) had received a verbal resignation from Amanda Waldron and the Board approved the appointment of Richard Hallingstad at their July 14, 2009 meeting. It appeared that by statute there needed to be a letter on the resignation. In the meantime, Amanda did send in a letter of resignation. **John Hansen made a motion to reaffirm the appointment of Richard Hallingstad to an urban position, replacing Amanda Waldon on the Natrona County Conservation District Board of Supervisors. The motion was seconded by Jim Price Jr. All voted in favor. Motion carried.**

Wyoming State Vet Update

Jim Logan joined the Board and talked about the Brucellosis area being proposed by USDA. He also wanted to make them aware of Blister Beetle and the precautions associated with them. He said he's going to ask the Wyoming Livestock Board to consider changes to the trichomoniasis rules because they are seeing over 100% more confirmed cases at testing. He said that sometimes it may not be detected on the first or second test and the infection rate has increased greatly over ten years. He would like to see a one-time testing state-wide to all bulls twenty month of age or older unless they are virgin bulls.

He went on to say that Wyoming is on the verge of being able to manage Brucellosis. He said it is not a cattle to cattle problem.

The APHIS plan would declare the nation "free status" and would not have state status anymore. He said the rules would be done to focus on wildlife management. The intent is to focus the resources in the Greater Yellowstone Area to provide for better tests and, hopefully, a new vaccine. There would be incentives to producers for direct and indirect costs. He feels the federal government is here to stay and we need to work with them. There would be an MOU between the producers and APHIS. The state would then define the boundary, which has been done already. If Brucellosis is found within that

area, there is no status to lose. They would test, quarantine, and depopulation is an option. The WLB will be having meeting in Cody on August 18 and in Pinedale August 19 to discuss this further with those affected producers. They will also have meeting in Sheridan and Wheatland. Those dates will be announced soon.

Joint Meeting with Game and Fish

Game and Fish has identified the following issues as their topics for the meeting: In-stream Flow; Sage Grouse/Sensitive Species; and Private Land Access. The Board wanted these issues to also be discussed: Licensing/Herd management numbers/forage Utilization; and Wildlife/Bruceellosis. The meeting has been changed from September 10 to September 9.

The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. at the Game and Fish building in Casper. The Board would like to have the same process that was used last year.

Frank Galey said that if Bob Budd was unable to facilitate, Dianna Holm with the Ruckelshaus Institute would be a good choice.

The board would like to have their October meeting in conjunction with the State Fair Advisory Committee. The thought was to have the meeting in the morning of October 14. Details will be worked out after State Fair.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Thomas, President

Date