

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture
August 16, 2013
Wyoming State Fair Grounds

Present: Jana Ginter
Shaun Sims
John Moore
Alison Lass
Jim Price, Jr.
Patrick Zimmerer
John Hansen
Cameron Smith
Richard Schlenker
Jason Fearneyhough
Dr. Frank Galey
Nephi Cole with Governor Mead's Office

Absent: Jim Hodder
Bryan Brost

Guests: See Attached Attendance Sheet

Approval of Minutes

Alison Lass made a motion to approve the July 9, 2013 minutes. The motion was seconded by John Hansen. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Ag Producer Research Grant Presentations

Chris Wichmann talked about the development of the grant and the rules. He said they are taking this slowly and intend to have about three RFPs. They would like to fund four from this round. The review team was also developed and is not to be involved in the development. Chris clarified that they will recommending only four from this round, but will be recommending as many as they have good application from, in the future rounds.

The following applications were recommended to the Board of Agriculture for approval:

- ❖ **UW Genetics of Resistance to High Altitude Disease in Yak/Cow in the amount of \$20,000.00**
- ❖ **UW Perennial Cool Season Grasses for Hay Production in the amount of \$19,997.00**
- ❖ **Chicken Creek Consulting Bulbous Bluegrass-Control Options Through Mechanical Treatments in the amount of \$19,535.00**
- ❖ **UW Effect of Planting Time and Fertilizer Management on Quinoa Production in Wyoming in the amount of \$20,000.00.**

Shaun Sims made a motion to approve the top four choices (listed above) Jim Price seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Water Quality Interim Reports

Jana Ginter made a motion to approve the Powell Clarks Fork - Biter Creek/Shoshone River Watershed Project interim report. The motion was seconded by Richard Schlenker. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Cameron Smith made a motion to approve the Hot Springs - Kirby & Owl Creek Assessment Project interim report. The motion was seconded by Shaun Sims. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Livestock Board Update (WLB)

Leanne Correll talked about some of the growing pains, such as efficiencies, which includes some staffing positions. They are working on covering a few vacant brand inspector positions. Dr. Logan introduced Thatch Winslow as the new field brand inspector. He said there are currently three cases of West Nile Virus in the state. Game & Fish reported yesterday of the death of several deer in the Big Horn Basin due to Blue Tongue. Brucellosis in elk has been found through hunters in the Big Horn County. He said this is the first time the disease has been found outside of the surveillance area and the WLB is urging the testing of cattle in the area at their expense (WLB). They are working with Game & Fish on this. The two agencies have sent a joint request in to the Governor's Office to obtain some additional funding that is already there for prevention and surveillance. Those two boards are awaiting a response from the Governor's Office as to whether they can access those dollars.

Texas has requested comments on their proposal of requesting post transport on breeding cattle coming to Texas. Dr. Logan went on to say that the Animal Traceability rule took effect March, 2013 and pertains to livestock traveling interstate. This rule is a federal rule. The rule applies to cattle that are sexually intact and under 18 months. The Brucellosis vaccination tag, the green, silver, etc., are the tags approved by USDA. The brand can be used if approved by the State Veterinarian. No state is willing to accept on the brand alone. Wyoming requires all cattle coming into the state, have the brucellosis vaccination. Dr. Logan said the final rule is certainly better than the original rule which indicated APHIS listened to the comments.

Water Quality Final Reports

Carrie explained they had gotten an extension last year which proved very helpful and they were able to meet the grant requirements.

Alison Lass made a motion to approve the Sheridan County – 2010 Urban/Residential Runoff Demo Project final report. The motion was seconded by John Hansen. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Jim Price made a motion to approve the LSRCD – Savery Creek Project interim report. The motion was seconded by Jana Ginter. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

RHAP Reports and Extension Requests

Amy Cameron w/ the FS explained what they had done to date.

Jan Ginter made a motion to approve the Lincoln County – Little Hornet & Fontenelle Project Update. The motion was seconded by John Hansen. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Alison Lass made a motion to approve the Star Valley – Forest Dell & Grover Blaney Project Update. The motion was seconded by Cameron Smith. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Jana Ginter made a motion to approve the Star Valley – Spring Creek & Little Greys Project Update. The motion was seconded by Richard Schlenker. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Amy Cameron said they need the extension because of the lateness of receiving the funding. The NEPA process will be finished in 2014.

Cameron Smith made a motion to approve the Uinta County Commissioners – East Fork Smith Fork & Gilbert Creek Project –Project Update and Extension Request with the contract to expire December 31, 2014 and the final report due January 31, 2015. The motion was seconded by Shaun Sims. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Teton County is asking for the extension due to receiving the funding past the grazing season.

John Hansen made a motion to approve the Teton County – Bridger-Teton Forest Project – Extension Request with the contract to expire June 30, 2014 and the final report due July 31, 2014. The motion was seconded by Alison Lass. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

FSA Update

Gregor Goertz, State Director joined the meeting to talk about some of the issues his agency is experiencing. See attachment.

CRM

Larry Bentley said there are currently twenty-five CRMs in the state. Larry is working closely with four of them in the state. He said there have been a variety of problem with some of them and he has spent most of the summer working on those four. BLM is not doing the monitoring they are supposed to be doing, etc. He and Weston have been getting BLM to get this all taken care of. He also said Western Watersheds is closely watching these four projects.

He also said that the wild horses are really impacting the permittees grazing.

Intern Presentation

Allie Jones – Administration

Weston Mueller – Natural Resources and Policy.

WBC Update

Cindy Garretson-Weibel said there is a new L.E.A.D. class starting in the fall, Donn Randall has taken the lead on the Farmer's Market, as Kim Porter has taken another position at the WBC, and the Mercantile is going well.

Wyoming Stock Growers Update

Jim Magagna said The Padlock Ranch has been awarded the regional Leopold winner and Wyoming has had more national winners than any other state in the Union.

He said they are not looking at too many bills for the session. Any state land acquisitions to go before the Land Commissioners and that a cap be put on those sales is one bill being proposed, as well as the bill that was introduced last year, but failed.

Governor's Office

Nephi Cole expressed the gratitude from the Governor on all the board does.

Lunch

AgriFuture/Farm Bill Update

Jason Fearneyhough said there is no farm bill at this point and they are hoping for an extension. AgriFuture will be October 8, 9 & 10 in Laramie. The Board will be having a meeting in the afternoon of the first day. Jason said AgriFuture could possibly move to Nebraska or Colorado next year.

Interstate Shipment of Meat

Dean Finkenbinder shared the requirement of our program to come under the USDA requirements. Dr. Rory Means talked about the possibility of using the UW plant for a pilot project. His focus is teaching and this pilot project would be secondary. He said it is estimated the cost is 2.4 million to add on to the lab. Equipment would be about \$633,000, and total estimate is 3 million as a one-time cost. Personnel estimates would be about \$81,000 per year, which would be an increase for the current manager and the hiring of one additional staff member.

NRCS

Astrid Martinez said Chief Weller is now permanent. They have had some reorganization at the program level and phase one on the review of easements is about finished. They are revising landowner eligibility. In looking at these, they are doing everything to have to not terminate any of them. Phase two will be to move the good ones on.

She said a thorough review of contract applications is going on. There are 302 applications in the state and they are reviewing each one of them.

Wyoming Ag in the Classroom

Jessie Dafoe came to the meeting to talk about their various programs and the new direction of others. She also thanked the board for continuing to support ag education.

Healthy Habitats Coalition (HHC)

Slade Franklin handed out a summarization of the proposal which explains the funding and a letter he prepared for the Board to sign in support of the HHC. (See attached)

Shaun made a motion to approve the letter with the change in paragraph three to read agriculture rather than agricultural. Jana Ginter seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Agenda items for the joint meeting with Game & Fish

The members preferred meeting in Laramie on either November 13 or 14, rather than meet in Jackson in September.

The following items were identified as those of interest for the joint meeting in November:

Shaun – nominate and pick the landowner in January or February rather than March.

Shaun would like to know the hunter results for brucellosis on elk samples if they have them.

Jana would like to have an update on watercraft inspections on aquatic invasive species.

APHIS Update

Rod Kruschke said they are very busy with the predation. Their goal is to get animals to market. He said the programs set up in Wyoming are a huge help with predators.

Rod said in the last week the Governor appointed three new members to the ADMB.

Board Updates

Frank said the GBCT will meet in early October, maybe in Sheridan. Frank also said the new President is saying good things about the Land Grant University.

Public Comment

None

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Zimmerer, President

Date