

Montana Wheat and Barley Committee
Winter Board Meeting and Research Review
#108 Plant Bioscience Building, MSU
Bozeman, MT
February 18-19, 2015

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

DIRECTORS

Randy Hinebauch, Chairman
Tom Siderius, Vice Chairman
Bruce Myllymaki, Director
Mike O'Hara, Director

Buzz Mattelin, Director
Leonard Schock, Director
Chris Kolstad, Director

EX-OFFICIOS

Dr. Charles Boyer, Vice President - MSU College of Agriculture
Director Ron de Yong, Montana Department of Agriculture
Byron Grassman, Manager, Mountain View Co-op

STAFF

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

GUESTS

Joel Clairmont, Deputy Director - Montana Department of Agriculture
Charles Hort, Production Coordinator, MSU
Maia Ageson, Agriculture Liaison, Senator Tester's Office
Lola Raska, Executive Vice President, Montana Grain Growers Association
Michelle Jones, Director/Secretary, Montana Grain Growers Association
Mitch Konen, Director, Montana Grain Growers Association
Dan Works, Director, Montana Grain Growers Association
Randy Wolenez, Director, Montana Grain Growers Association
Eric Sommer, State Statistician, USDA/NASS
Chris Christiaens, Special Projects, Montana Farmers Union

Wednesday, February 18, 2015

Chairman Hinebauch called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. He called for public comment and heard none.

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

Executive Vice President Collin Watters presented the minutes of the December 2, 2014 Board Meeting.

Director Myllymaki moved and Director Schock seconded the motion to approve the minutes with changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report and Collection Update

Kolleen Spurgin presented the Financial Report; she reported that as of December only 25% of the budget has been expended.

Director Myllymaki moved and Director Mattelin seconded the motion to accept the December financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

MT Department of Agriculture Update

Director de Yong gave a legislature update to the board; bill #91 has to do with the increase in per diem for committee members and it was sitting on the Governor's desk waiting to be signed. He felt House bill 2, the appropriation for the department, went well.

"View from the Trade Report"

Byron Grassman reported that the winter wheat was in great shape and that the protein in the spring wheat was not the greatest. The ample supply of wheat was having a direct effect on the low price of wheat.

Break

Transportation Report

Director O'Hara gave a brief report and stated that the railroad is becoming caught up with the backlog.

STB Meeting

Director O'Hara and Kolstad attended the meeting in Washington DC, where services issues were discussed. They had to meet with each member individually so it was not considered a quorum.

U.S. Wheat Association Meeting

Director Schock attended the budget meeting Montana is a fully funded state and 18 out of 19 will be this year. U.S Wheat would like to require federal inspector to do their jobs. They would also like to see at least a 5% GMO tolerance in mixed grains; this would be a good starting point.

Director Kolstad added that there was more talk of a National Check-off for wheat to help support the foreign markets, but more research needs to be done.

U.S. Wheat Board Trip

Director Schock and three others attended the board trip to Taiwan and the Philippines. Their first stop was Portland where they toured Wheat Marketing Center, FGIS and the United Grain export terminal. They met with millers and bakers in both countries and toured factories in both. They discovered that the U.S. has a 90% market share in both countries.

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U.S. Grains Council

Director Mattelin and Executive Vice President Watters traveled to Costa Rica and attended the meeting this year. They met with the Barley Sector and advisory committee. They found out that most of the craft brewers buy their malt from Germany. After the Grains council meeting they attended meetings in Colombia, they toured some breweries and talked to SAB Miller who buys most of their barley from Argentina.

U.S. Grains Board Trip

Director Mattelin traveled to South America and Central America visiting with brewers and touring breweries in several countries. They were trying to find ways to market U.S. barley to those countries.

Wheat Foods Council Update

Director Siderius attended the meeting in Phoenix; there was discussion of gluten-free and Celiac disease. Interviews will be starting shortly for a replacement for Judi Adams the president; she retires the end of June.

Varietal Release Meeting

Director Siderius reported on the meeting in Bozeman; the wheat portion of the meeting went very quickly two new winter wheat varieties were approved for release.

National Barley Improvement Committee & TCAP Meetings

Director Mattelin & EVP Watters attended both meetings in San Diego; the TCAP was very technical and research centered. One of the biggest debates was "is it the barley or malt that makes the taste in beer?" there was a case for both sides.

Kansas Wheat Milling Course

Director Myllymaki and Cassidy Marn attended the milling course in Manhattan, KS, it was very intense and a great learning experience. This course had a whole day dedicated to baking and what kind of wheat makes the best baked goods.

Western Barley Growers

Director Kolstad and Steve Becker attended the meeting in Calgary and Steve gave a presentation of what the committee does and how our barley program is doing. They learned that 50% of the cost of beer is tax and transportation and this is a big issue in Canada.

Wheat Show

Director Mattelin attended the show in Williston and gave an update for Montana. It has a very large trade show.

Executive Vice President's Report

Collin attended the PNW Wheat Quality conference in San Francisco, no Montana varieties were evaluated, and the organizers would really like Montana to participate, maybe the committee could help make that happen. He also attended the National Barley Growers Meeting in Washington DC, it was a good meeting with 3 states participating.

Collin made a handout to try to explain the process to get a new variety released to the public; he tried to simplify the process. Dr. Boyer answered some questions about the Tech transfer office and said the process needs to be examined. Lola Raska said that MGGA was fine with the royalties as long as it goes back into research.

Collin talked about his vision for a new website and that \$5000 would be enough to start the search for an outside firm to be hired. He let the board know that the office is looking for an intern for the summer to help with sample collection.

Collin asked the board what they wanted to do about durum now that Dr. Joyce Eckoff is retiring this year. He also asked if belonging to the Brewer's Association at a cost of \$500 would be a good investment. He let the board ponder both questions.

Jamie Sherman – Barley Breeder

Jamie wanted the committee to prioritize what they want to see out of the barley breeding program, she came away with some good suggestions and ideas.

MSU Update

Dr. Boyer let the board know that the search as begun for Dr. Joyce Eckoff's replacement; the search for the endowed chair is on the first round. The Legislature has been good to the MSU Ag department so far. He is concerned that the endowed chair advisory committee has not convened yet.

Program Manager Update

Cassidy Marn attended the Young Ag Couple conference where she and Steve Becker presented; it was well attended with a good mix of farmers and ranchers. She traveled to Canada with U.S. Wheat to sit in on the discussions about getting U.S. varieties approved for Canada.

Outreach Coordinator Update

Steve Becker led a group to Portland for the Producer Tour, it was a good group and they had a lot of good questions. He will be taking another group in March.

Approval of out-of-state Director & staff travel

There was a discussion about trip insurance and who is covered when doing business for the committee.

Director Siderius moved and Director Kolstad seconded the motion to approve the travel with changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 24-26	Missouri River Recovery and Improvement Committee – Kansas City, MO
Mar. 7-11	National Barley Improvement Committee – Washington DC
Mar. 8-10	National Pasta Association – Litchfield Park, AZ
Mar. 10-17	USWA Asian Tour - Asia
Mar. 11-13	World Barley, Malt & Beer Conference – Dublin, Ireland
Mar. 15-18	Producer Tour – Portland, OR
Mar. 18	Legislator Ag Luncheon – Helena
Mar. 19	NCI Board Meeting – Fargo, ND
Mar. 19-20	WMC Board Meeting – Portland, OR
Mar. 31-Apr. 1	MWBC Budget Board Meeting – Great Falls
Apr. 7	State Executives Meeting – Salt Lake City, UT
Apr. 14-17	Craft Brewers Conference – Portland, OR
Apr. 21	PGI Board Meeting – Denver, CO
Apr. 18-26	USWA Breeders Team – Korea
May 4-9	Japanese Executive Millers Team – Great Falls
May 25	Memorial Day – Office Closed
Jun. 8-10	National Barley Growers – Chicago, IL
Jun. 16-17	Wheat Foods Council Board Meeting – Durango, CO
Jun. 24	Field Day – Kalispell
July 1	Field Day - Havre
July 3	Independence Day – Office Closed
July 12-15	USWA Board Meeting – San Diego, CA
July 12-16	PNWER – Big Sky
July 14	Field Day – Sidney
July 16	Field Day – Moccasin
July 17	Field Day – Conrad
July 21	Field Day – Bozeman
July 23	Field Day - Corvallis
July 27-29	U.S. Grains Council 55 th Annual Meeting – Denver. CO
Nov. 6-24	USWA-Asian 2015 CQ Tour - Asia

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Director Mattelin moved and Director Kolstad seconded a motion to approve the \$500 to join the Craft Brewer's Association. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee gave approval to pursue web development up to \$10,000. Staff will report any progress at the March meeting.

Director Hinebauch recessed the meeting at 5:15pm.

Thursday, February 19, 2015

Executive Session was held from 8:00am to 8:35am to discuss personnel issues.

Director Hinebauch called the meeting back in session at 8:40am.

New Business

A decision was made to hold the Summer Board Meeting in Havre to correspond to their centennial celebration on June 30-July 1, 2015.

The staff will work with the Department of Ag to draft and update the rules for the committee. Including deferred payment contracts and other wording issues. We can wait until after the Legislature has adjourned we will just have to have public hearings.

Call for Public Comment – none

Chairman Hinebauch adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Director Schock moved and Director Siderius seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Collin Watters, Executive Vice President

Date