



Montana Board of Livestock Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2018

MT Department of Livestock Board Room #319
301 N. Roberts, Helena, Montana

Board Members Present

John Scully, Vice-chair (cattle producer)
Lila Taylor (cattle producer)

Nina Baucus (cattle producer)
Sue Brown (dairy & poultry)

John Lehfeldt, Brett DeBruycker and Ed Waldner were not present

Staff Present

Mike Honeycutt, EO
Gary Hamel, Meat & Poultry Bureau
George Edwards, Livestock Loss Board
Evan Waters, Centralized Services
Leslie Doely, Brands Enforcement Division

Donna Wilham, Adm. Asst. to EO
Dr. Marty Zaluski, Animal Health
Dr. Tahnee Szymanski, Animal Health
Dan Olson, Centralized Services
Tom Shultz, Centralized Services

Public Present

Kraig Glazier, USDA Wildlife Services
Kelsie Harbert, MFBF
Max Krantz
Shane & Tanya Flowers, S&T Project Meats
Dr. Tom Linfield, USDA-APHIS

Rob Miller
Rob Stutz, Legal Services Division
Stuart Doggett, Brad DeGroot, MVMA
Shauna Albrecht, DOA

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

8:00 AM

Vice-Chairman John Scully called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

8:02 AM

MOTION/VOTE

8:02 AM

Lila Taylor moved to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2018 meeting. Nina Baucus seconded. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

8:04 AM

John Scully requested removal of reports from the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab and the Meat & Poultry Inspection Bureau from the Consent Agenda

MOTION/VOTE

8:04 AM

Lila Taylor moved to approve consent agenda items, including the reports from the Livestock Loss Board, Milk Control Bureau, and Milk & Egg Bureau, and Out-of-State Travel Requests from the Animal Health and Food Safety Division, Milk Control Bureau and Centralized Services Division. Sue Brown seconded. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

8:05 AM

Veterinary Diagnostic Lab Report (Removed from Consent Agenda)

John Scully requested an update on the Lab Director position at the VDL:

- Mike Honeycutt reported that the vacant Lab Director position that had been posted, was pulled
 - The position was pulled when it was decided it wasn't going to be hired in a timely fashion
 - There were few applicants and those few did not meet qualifications
 - The position had been posted through the US Animal Health Association, the US Associated Veterinary Lab Association, the State of Montana website and appeared on Monster, Indeed and other big job search engines
- Dr. Steve Smith has been serving as Interim Lab Director and was given an increase in salary during that time
- Mr. Honeycutt said it is anticipated to fill the Lab Director position by July 1st

Meat & Poultry Inspection Bureau Report (Removed from Consent Agenda)

- Per Lila Taylor's request at a previous BOL meeting for information on the Meat & Poultry Inspection Bureau, Mr. Hamel submitted the Bureau's FY2017 Annual Report
- Gary Hamel reported that the Annual Self Assessment-Civil Rights portion of the USDA audit came back with an "At Least Equal To" designation

- Mike Honeycutt reported on the meeting he, Gary Hamel and Dr. Zaluski had with Ron Eckel, Chief, Federal State Audit branch of USDA-FSIS:
 - Discussion covered what needs to be in place when FSIS does their follow-up audit in the May/June timeframe
 - The “not adequately trained” problem has been addressed, with Meat & Poultry Inspection Bureau personnel attending updated training on sanitation and HAACP
 - Mr. Hamel plans to contact establishments selected for review well ahead of audit time, outlining the types of issues to be addressed during the upcoming audit
 - Field and proposed recall processes documents were discussed and have already been submitted to Mr. Eckel to assure they are “At Least Equal To”
 - ✓ Mr. Scully requested that Mr. Hamel contact Mr. Eckel regarding the timeframe those documents will be needed by the DOL because Senator Buttrey had expressed his concern about having them in place
 - Mr. Hamel reported that the Meat & Poultry Inspection Bureau is communicating more proactively than in the past with establishments, holding weekly meetings with them and documenting those meetings with a Memorandum of Interview and a weekly report
- Mr. Honeycutt reported that he, Gary Hamel, Eastern Area Supervisor Marci Lipke, Dave Johnson, area in-plant personnel, and Dr. Zaluski, plan to attend the spring industry meeting in Forsyth, April 26-29, 2018

OLD BUSINESS

8:27 AM

8:27 am – Personnel Committee Update – Deputy Executive Officer Position

Mike Honeycutt reported that the Deputy Executive Officer position has been posted as “Open Until Filled”:

- March 16, 2018 will be the first review of candidates for the position
- As of this date, there has not been a huge interest in the position and it is possible the DOL may have to seek other methods of recruitment and repost it with different criteria

8:35 am - Legislative Audit Update

Brucellosis Performance Audit Update

Dr. Tahnee Szymanski reported that the new Brand Inspection Books have been ordered:

- A DSA check box has been added to the Brand Inspection books that will help the Helena office identify movements and brand inspections in a more timely fashion

- When the DSA box is checked, inspections from the four DSA counties will be entered into the system on a priority basis
- A quick-reference laminated card, listing a summary of DSA regulations, is also part of the new book

Dr. Szymanski reported on recent DSA correspondence being sent from Animal Health Bureau:

- A letter will be sent to DSA producers, veterinarians and market staff, that includes a summary of DSA regulations
- Another letter was sent over a month ago to DSA veterinarians and producers alerting them that their Lid will need to be added to their test charts when it is sent to the VDL

Dr. Szymanski reported that the live capture FWP has been doing for the past five or six years has been funded by brucellosis management money from the DOL:

- Dr. Szymanski said she would circle back with FWP regarding Mr. Scully's questions specific to the collaring of elk in geographic areas that might be questionable regarding the DSA and also on the east side of the Madison River... what it is that FWP is tracking

There was discussion regarding the IBMP slaughter plant:

- Gary Hamel said he would check with USDA regarding the slaughter records at the IBMP slaughter plant, a Federally-inspected plant, to find where the bison meat is being shipped after slaughter
- Mike Honeycutt said that Yellowstone National Park is not testing bison set for slaughter, but are only testing those in quarantine

There was discussion regarding the justification of brucellosis vaccinations:

- Dr. Zaluski cited some cases in Texas of people contracting a vaccine-strain brucellosis from raw milk consumption
- The USDA has declared the entire US brucellosis-free, except for the four DSA counties

Mike Honeycutt reported that he, John Lehfeldt and John Scully had received a letter from the Legislative Audit Committee stating that the Committee is looking into the possibility of an audit on State use of unmanned aerial vehicles:

- The DOL utilizes one small drone, operated by Jeff Mount, and utilized for investigative purposes, in the bison management program
- Although, according to Montana law, the drone has to be flown in line of sight of the operator, it has saved time, risk and expense for DOL employees, not having to pack into areas to find where bison are located

9:03 AM – Meat & Poultry Inspection Process Improvement Committee Report

Appeal Process Update

Mike Honeycutt explained the latest edits made to the Meat & Poultry Inspection Bureau Appeals Guidelines:

- Mr. Honeycutt added the BOL-approved edits to the Guidelines, made at the last meeting

- Mr. Honeycutt also added edits received the night before that helped clarify language regarding who can seek legal counsel. It now states that both the DOL or BOL may seek legal counsel
- Because of concerns from the Legislative Finance Committee, clarifying language was added, stating that all appeals are to be submitted to the Executive Office, no matter who receives them
- Mr. Honeycutt said that the BOL is still awaiting an answer from the Federal State Audit Branch's policy group to assure that the entire document is considered "At Least Equal To" and also waiting for the DOL proposed appeal rule to go through the administrative rule process
 - If an appeal comes before the DOL before both are approved, the Meat & Poultry Inspection Rule Appeals Guidelines voted on by the BOL today will be the ones followed

MOTION/VOTE

9:09 AM

Nina Baucus moved to accept the revised Meat and Poultry Inspection Bureau Appeals Guidelines, presented by Mike Honeycutt, as policy. Lila Taylor seconded. The motion passed.

9:09 AM - Food Recall Process

Mike Honeycutt reported on adjustments he had made in the Meat & Poultry Inspection Food Recall Information and Procedures document that had been discussed during the February 21, 2018 BOL meeting:

- Mr. Honeycutt requested input on a change made, stating that if an establishment wishes to engage the Recall Committee in a preliminary investigation to gain a recommendation on whether or not a recall is necessary, they should contact their In Plant Personnel (IPP) in writing; the IPP would then immediately send that request to their area supervisor and bureau chief
- Mr. Honeycutt said that Federal language was used in a section discussing how consumers can identify recalled products, but the wording was changed to say that on the package label "State" mark of inspection rather than "USDA" market inspection
- It was suggested that before the BOL formally adopts the document, it should first be presented to the Federal State Audit Branch policy group for their input with a note saying that no Recall Committee has been established at this point
- It was requested that those who were part of the Meat & Poultry Inspection Process Improvement Committee meet to discuss the budget of the Meat & Poultry Division and what might be happening at the Federal level because of that budget

9:28 am – Overall DOL Appeal Rule Update

Mike Honeycutt reported that language was sent back from the Secretary of State's Office for the Overall DOL Appeal Rule and that it is now open for public comment for a period of 28 days

OLD BUSINESS

9:30 AM

9:30 am – Economic Affairs Interim Committee Update

John Scully reported on the Economic Affairs Interim Committee meeting attended by DOL staff and meat industry people:

- There may be a push by the Legislature, because of general fund dollars available, to end the State Meat Inspection Program and give that responsibility to the Federal inspectors
- Representative O'Connell requested specifics from Ron Eckel, Chief, Federal State Audit branch of USDA-FSIS, regarding a specific Butte processing plant and their dealings with FSIS investigators during a Federal inspection
- There was not 100% satisfaction in the discussion of what the Meat & Poultry Inspection Process Improvement Committee had accomplished already, but improvements were identified
- Mike Honeycutt gave reports to the Committee on two proposed processing plants, one in the Great Falls area and one, a beef processing facility with no disclosed location as of yet, that had been agreed upon with Chinese eCommerce retailer JD.com and the Montana Stockgrowers Association
- Mr. Honeycutt said he had submitted copies of Montana's audit findings and Montana's action plan that has been accepted by FSIS, to the Committee

9:37 am – Finance Committee Update

- John Scully brought the BOL up to date on the salary increase that had been given to employees, bringing them up to 80% of market:
 - DOL was not given authority for those salary increases that would be covered with increased per capita dollars, even though they were included in the budget request, because the increases were reported after the snapshot was taken
 - Those salary increases amount to around \$450,000/year
 - Mr. Scully said that the DOL has the cash, but not the authority to spend it for the increases, so he was going to be meeting with some legislators later that day about the situation and possible alternatives to dealing with it
- Mr. Scully reported that the Finance Committee had discussed the need for an IT plan and he requested that plan be ready to present at the April 2018 BOL meeting
- The deficiencies in the Lab, in terms of the building were discussed briefly, but will be discussed later in the meeting

RECESS

9:51 AM

RECONVENE

10:17 AM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

10:17 AM

RECONVENE

10:27 AM

LEGAL COUNSEL UPDATE

10:27 AM

10:27 AM – Legal Counsel Update

John Scully called for a motion to approve a settlement amount for the Montana City Meats, Wheelock litigation:

MOTION/VOTE

10:27 AM

Lila Taylor moved to approve a settlement amount of \$37,500 be paid by the BOL for the Wheelock Litigation and a Risk Management and Tort Defense payment for a like amount. Nina Baucus seconded. The motion passed.

Rob Stutz, DOL Legal Counsel, gave an update on developments in the S&T Project Meats litigation:

- A motion has been filed to dismiss
- S&T Project Meats' attorney filed a response
 - Basis of the response regarded the timing of the BOL's decision sent to S&T Project Meats, questioning whether it was sent on the actual date of the letter
 - A certified mail certificate, recently uncovered, shows the letter was received prior to the date that would make it untimely
- Judge Moses set a hearing for April 5, 2018 in Billings

CENTRALIZED SERVICES DIVISION REPORTS

11:30 AM

11:30 AM – Predator Control

Kraig Glazier, USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services (WS), gave an update on their activities:

- February is breeding season for coyotes and wolves
 - With snow conditions and calving, WS has seen a lot of coyote populations around the state and that has been reflective in the service they have given to producers
- Mr. Glazier said that FWP has been working with George Edwards, LLB, on a non-lethal project for dealing with wolves and grizzlies right at a producer's home, a trailer stocked with non-lethal supplies

- The non-lethal trailer will be stored at FWP in Missoula
- Mike Honeycutt asked Mr. Glazier to explain the difference in county petition numbers and the per capita numbers reported to the Department of Revenue (DOR)
 - Mr. Glazier said that WS utilizes the livestock numbers that have been reported to the DOR for the work that they do for producers in counties with livestock petitions
- Mr. Glazier reported that M44 use was shut down nationwide for a time, but EPA has agreed to change the use restriction, with a relabeling of the M44s to sodium cyanide and new precautions instituted for individuals using it

LUNCH

11:45 AM

RECONVENE

12:20 PM

CENTRALIZED SERVICES DIVISION REPORTS CONTINUED

12:20 PM

12:20 PM – Fiscal Bureau

12:20 PM - February 2018–June 2018 Expenditure Projections

Evan Waters gave a summary of projections for spending authority for the entire DOL until fiscal year end:

- Personal Services are projected to be over by \$433,608; Operations are projected to be to the good \$325,263
 - Netting projections for Personal Services and Operations together, leaves the DOL's projected budgeted authority over by \$112,637 until year end
 - Per Capita fees of \$400,000-\$500,000 were intended to be used for the "to 80% of market" salary increase in the DOL, but when authority was not given to spend for all those increases, per capita authority was shorted by \$222,458. Reoccurring revenue is covering the remainder of the increase
- Personal Services in the Centralized Services Division are over by \$96,752, but Operations are \$125,357 to the good. A BCD may be utilized, moving authority from Operations into Personal Services
- The 10% reduction in general fund, requested by the Governor, took the Livestock Loss Board's total budgeted funds to a negative \$16,760
- The Milk Control Board utilizes no general fund dollars, but money from assessment fees. Their Personal Services, Operations and Total Budgeted Funds are projected to be all in the positive range
- Corrections were made in the State Veterinarian Import Office funding from the previous month and so Personal Services are to the good by \$29,826

- Total Budgeted Funds in the DSA are all general fund dollars, showing a shortage of \$50,231. However, there are still expenses in that shortage that need to be coded to the Federal Umbrella Grant because they are not categorized as surveillance expenses
- The Animal Federal Umbrella Grants show a transfer of \$240,000, which is associated with FWP contract work
- In the VDL projections, Personal Services expenses are based upon not filling the Lab Director position until the end of the fiscal year and also include a couple other potential retirement payouts
 - If STIP account funds of \$150,000 from previous collections are moved into the VDL enterprise account and expended, they will put the VDL in a positive state
- The Milk Lab has been charged for their share of the utilities and recharges for the building. The negative \$22,473 in Total Budgeted Funds will be balanced out after a transfer of the same amount from the VDL's general fund
- Both the Milk & Egg Inspection Program, and the Shielded Egg Grading Program are running in the positive
 - Only 3.75 of the 4.75 FTEs have been filled with no reason to expand operations at this time due to the future outlook
- The Meat & Poultry Inspection Program got a double hit in their budget with the 10% general fund reduction requested by the Governor, plus losing the Federal matching funds as well
- It appears that two FTEs in the Meat & Poultry Inspection Program that had been cut were already unfunded and when the Governor's budget cuts went into effect, funding for two more FTEs were cut
- In the Brands Enforcement Division, there is a spending authority of nearly \$3 million, but with the lack of spending authority given to cover the "80% of market" salary increase, Personal Services are overspent by \$237,505

12:44 PM - January 31, 2018 Budget Status Reports

Evan Waters said that timing affected the DOL overall budget status numbers, which compares last year same period to this year:

- The Contract piece under Operations is \$205,767 over because of the timing of when testing was done in the DSA
- Personal Services are over as well because there was an extra pay period in January compared to last year, but by March, it will be the same
- Timing of when expenses are paid, some being paid once a year, rather than once a month, some paid earlier in the year, have affected expenditure numbers

12:57 PM – Per Capita Fee Reporting and Collection Update

Evan Waters said that there were no alarming issues with the State Special Revenues, the per capita collections, which are due by May 31, 2018

- John Scully requested that if enforcement penalties have been dropped for those refusing to pay per capita, that it needs to be reinstated and he would like a discussion about that at the next BOL meeting

- 8800 per capita forms have been turned in to the Department of Revenue up to this point. Those are due by March 1, 2018

Mr. Waters said that the auditors are still working at the DOL office and that they were happy with the way the DOL is dealing with the brands rerecord and unearned revenue

ANIMAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIVISION REPORTS

12:59 PM

12:59 PM – VDL: Update from Legislative Fiscal Division on Lab Study Committee

Shauna Albrecht, Legislative Fiscal Division, gave an update on HB 661 (Study of State Labs in Montana) and the research the Legislative Lab Study Committee is doing relative to a proposed combined Lab Complex:

- The bi-partisan Legislative Lab Study Committee is made up of: two members from the Legislative Finance Committee, two members from the Environmental Quality Council and two members from the Economic Affairs Interim Committee
- The Committee is charged with analyzing and developing three economically-viable proposals to move forward to the 2019 Legislative Session
 - Infrastructure changes and updates – is a new building needed or just updates
 - Organizational changes or financial changes – would it make sense to put it under one organization or keep it under separate entities
 - Statutory changes that would come forth with any of the proposals
- Letters will be sent to the Montana delegation to see if there are options with some of the presented bills to put capital funding inside of them
- The Committee has approved the hiring of a consultant to do program planning of the Lab spaces
 - Six firms have applied for the consultant position – the Director of DOA will make the selection
 - By statute, the firm that applies must have a licensed Montana architect
 - Data that has already been researched and gained from the lab tours the Committee has already completed will be shared with the consultant
- Just one agency has not responded to the request as to whether or not Labs wanted to be a part of the proposed Lab complex
- Goal of the Committee is to have a report to the Legislative Fiscal Division by September 2018

1:10 PM – Animal Health Bureau

1:10 PM - Answers to Animal Health Questions from the Morning's Animal Health Discussion

Dr. Tahnee Szymanski made some points of clarification regarding Animal Health issues brought up in the morning meeting discussion:

- There are three instances where cattle can leave the DSA without an inspection
 - If the cattle are moving out of the boundaries of the DSA but are still within the county they are already in

- If the cattle are moving on a grazing permit and are returning home
- If the cattle are moving on a market permit. They will be inspected when they arrive at their destination
- The elk capture in Gallatin County is brucellosis-oriented, but is a separate study from the traditional live elk capture that has been ongoing for several years
 - This capture is helping FWP assess their mitigation activities (hazing, special hunts, etc.)
- DOL is contributing to the Madison County elk capture, along with FWP and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- The capture season is going on now and at its conclusion DOL and FWP will meet and discuss the next year's capture

1:15 PM – Import Office Overview

Dr. Tahnee Szymanski gave an overview of the Animal Health Import Office, including duties and roles of employees:

- The Animal Health Import Office is primarily driven by MCA 81.2.703 that says all animals, animal semen and biologics that are reported into Montana must have a health certificate or a certificate of veterinary inspection and an import permit
- In 2017, a total of 24,161 calls came in on the State Veterinarian's and import permit lines
- After-hours calls go to an after-hours service, a private company in Flathead County
- Large volumes of dogs from out-of-state shelters come into the state on a weekly basis and it is required that paperwork for them be sent ahead of time and approved before receiving an import permit
- Blanket permits are issued primarily to veterinarians who have several animals coming to Montana. Rather than issuing several import permits for each health certificate, a blanket permit number can be written on each of the animals' health certificates
- Alternative livestock herds are required to have annual inspections and CWD surveillance requirements, two forms of ID, any movements of those animals must be reported to the import office, along with any deaths and inventories of those herds are reconciled to tag numbers
- Biologics, including vaccines, serum-based treatments and autogenous vaccines that veterinarians might order are also required to have import permits, and so those companies who manufacture those products in Montana must send their information, a copy of their USDA license, vaccine information and reports of adverse reactions to the import office
- Before a vaccine can be distributed in Montana, there must be a diagnosis of the disease and the vaccine must also be approved for distribution
- The import office also offers State-specific training to veterinarians who want to practice in Montana and write health certificates. The office oversees over 500 veterinarians, assuring they are in compliance with the regulations and provides continuing education for them, including a quarterly newsletter put together and distributed by the import office

- The import office administrative duties include administrative rules, records management, mail processing, monthly reporting, ordering of supplies, including health certificate books and forms, trich and alternative livestock tags and tuberculin shipments and data entry of export health certificates

Dr. Szymanski and Leslie Doely explained processes and requirements for bringing horses into Montana and proving ownership:

- For those horses coming from out of state into Montana permanently, they must have import permit paperwork, and that followed by a brand inspection once they arrive
- Horses coming into Montana temporarily are to be inspected before they leave if they do not have a current or lifetime brand inspection, but for animal health purposes, the person requesting that inspection does not have to own that horse
- When horses come temporarily into Montana from brand states, there is a specific process to recognize ownership of the animals. Horses coming from non-brand states must go through a process beyond health certificate data to prove ownership

1:38 PM – Update on Preparation for 3-Day Functional FMD Exercise

Dr. Tahnee Szymanski reported on the most recent preparations for the 3-Day Functional FMD Exercise scheduled in May 2018:

- Dr. Szymanski, Dr. Liska and Dr. Hellerbach have been attending some additional Incident Command System (ICS) training
- Mike Honeycutt spoke with the Department of Agriculture, and they have given the DOL permission to utilize their Public Information Officer for the ICS
- Mr. Honeycutt will not be part of the ICS, but will be in a role as a liaison to the Governor's office. Dr. Zaluski won't be part of the ICS, but will be coordinating with other state veterinarians across the US
- 15 states will be participating in the full-scale exercise in May that will last for three days. There are approximately six states that will be participating in the exercise for one day, doing a table-top exercise.

Dr. Szymanski gave a quick run-down of events for the simulated three-day exercise:

- Montana is "Ground Zero" for the simulated exercise
- The night before the full-scale exercise begins, a presumptive diagnosis will be given and Dr. Zaluski will hold a full, national-assembled call with all state veterinarians, announcing the Montana findings at 6 am, the first day of the exercise
- An ICS structure will be set up at the DOL with staff from DOL, DES, DPHHS and the Department of Agriculture, manning it for three days
- A Governor's declaration of emergency will stop movement of noxious animals and people, something that will be coordinated with the DOT and Highway Patrol
- Under the simulation, calls, press releases, etc. will be to a "sim cell in Kansas and not to actual entities (Governor's Office, Highway Patrol, DOT, etc.)
- Dr. Linfield, USDA-APHIS, said that there are nationally, five different management teams that have been assigned to at least one state

- There is a possibility, that if there was an actual FMD emergency declaration, that the National Guard would be called out to truck needed items to areas and also to fly helicopters as needed

Dr. Linfield spoke about the focus of two informational brucellosis meetings held in Lovell and Worland, Wyoming the previous week:

- Information was given on the Brucella disease itself and on some of the diagnostic tests at the University of Wyoming lab
- Dr. Logan and Dr. Winslow spoke on their areas of concern regarding the disease and what they are doing about it and some producers in two counties of concern also spoke
- Some areas of concern primarily related to what is going on immediately north of the Bighorn Mountains and in Montana, livestock testing, elk surveillance
- Dr. Zaluski said that Wyoming has commenced their own collaring study on elk, especially with populations in Carbon County and south of Red Lodge because many of them move back to Wyoming during the late spring and summer after wintering in Montana

BRANDS ENFORCEMENT DIVISION REPORTS

2:01 PM

2:01 PM – Fort Supply Contract Renewal

Leslie Doely said that she had drafted one addendum to the current Fort Supply contract that is due to be renewed at the end of March:

- The Fort Supply contract covers the annual support hours to keep the system running
- The number of support hours, including both standard service and after-hours service, have been estimated to be around the same as last year's, for a cost of \$12,000-\$15,000, down from \$25,000 paid for those hours last year
- If the BOL does not make a decision to approve the contract by the end of March, an extension can be filed

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS/COMMENTS FROM PRODUCER ORGANIZATIONS

2:06 PM

Stuart Doggett, Montana Veterinarian Medical Association (MVMA) gave a quick update on activities at his association:

- Representatives from MVMA met with representatives from the DOL and also a conference call was held to establish ideas for a timeframe for doing a Montana veterinarian survey relative to the Lab

Max Kranz requested that the BOL allow him to reinstate his 2-4 brand he said was purchased and then registered at the DOL in 2007:

- Mr. Kranz said he mailed his check to re-register his brand in the 2010-2011 timeframe to the DOL, but he had never received any paperwork back saying his brand had been re-recorded and he said that his check had not cleared through the bank
- It was requested that Mr. Kranz look for the carbon copy of the check and also for his check register for the time period when he wrote the check. John Scully said the DOL would look into the situation as well and get back to him

SET DATE FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING

2:27 PM

There was no date set for the next BOL meeting, but Mr. Scully's request was that a date be decided upon before March 10, 2018

MEETING ADJOURNED

2:33 PM



John Scully, Vice-Chairman