

Minutes

**Producer Committee
Conference Call Meeting**

September 26, 2016 9:00 a.m.
Milk Control Bureau Office
1225 8th Avenue, Helena, Montana

Conference Call Access:

Call-in Number: 1-866-740-1260
Access Number: 4445210#

Call to Order

Committee Chair David Miller called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Attendance

Committee Member	Present	Absent
Sam Hofer	X	
Tim Huls	X	
Nelson Kamerman		X
Mark Kleinsasser	X	
David Miller	X	
Andrew Wipf	X	
Ruben Wurz	X	

Montana Department of Livestock Staff:

Chad Lee, Bureau Chief, Milk Control Bureau
Mark Curtis, Dairy Accountant, Milk Control Bureau

Guests:

David Lewis, Big Creek Dairy

Approval of Minutes from August 29, 2016 Meeting

Tim Huls moved and Ruben Wurz seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2016 meeting as presented. The motion carried. All members present voted in favor.

New Business

Quota Transfer Request

Miller Colony requested approval of sale and transfer of 745 lbs/day of quota to Wilmer Amstutz, effective October 1, 2016.

Sam Hofer moved and Ruben Wurz seconded the motion to approve the transfer of quota as requested. The committee confirmed with bureau staff that a lien search had been performed. The motion carried. All members present voted in favor.

Report on Pool Production & Quota Utilization

The committee discussed the summary report prepared by the bureau and stated that the information provided met the request of the committee. Tim Huls stated that there was nothing in the report that he thought the committee would act on. Chad Lee discussed observations regarding seasonality in difference between outstanding quota and pool production; the number of dairies producing over and under quota; the relatively small number of dairies producing significantly over or under their quota; and that the dairies producing over quota generally had more consistent monthly production.

Other New Business

Tim Huls inquired about the progress of rules development pertaining to milk classes, surplus sales, and the Class III price formula. Chad Lee discussed progress made by the bureau on milk classification definitions and options for changes pertaining to surplus sales, some of which may involve changes to the price formulas. Mr. Lee estimated that draft rule options may be available for stakeholders to review in October or November. A meeting for a committee of stakeholders may be scheduled in those months.

Public Comment

Pertaining to the report on pool production and quota utilization, David Lewis commented that the Montana pool's monthly production was very consistent and that having quota helped keep production consistent.

David Lewis stated to the committee that it needs to know whether there are better options (higher prices) available for surplus sales of bulk milk.

Adjournment

Tim Huls moved and Andrew Wipf seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. All members present voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

 _____, Producer Committee Chair

Date: 3-10-2017