

Minutes

**Producer Committee
Conference Call Meeting**
June 26, 2019 9:00 a.m.
Milk Control Bureau Office
1404 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 9:01 a.m.

Attendance

Committee Member	Present	Absent
David Miller (Chair)	X	
Sam Hofer (Vice-Chair)	X	
Dan Daugherty		X
Tim Huls	X	
Nelson Kamerman		X
Mark Kleinsasser	X	
John Waldner		X

Montana Department of Livestock Staff:

Chad Lee, Bureau Chief, Milk Control Bureau

Guests: none

Approval of Minutes from May 1, 2019 Meeting

Tim Huls moved, and Sam Hofer seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2019 meeting as presented. The motion carried. All members present voted in favor.

New Business

Quota Transfer Requests:

Loren Dyk requested to transfer 1,000 lbs/day of milk quota to David Lewis, which will apply beginning July 1, 2019.

Tim Hofer moved, and Mark Kleinsasser seconded a motion to approve the transfer request. All members present voted in favor.

Quota Transfer Requests (continued):

Leep Dairy, LLC requested to transfer 2,000 lbs/day of milk quota to Bos Dairy, LLC, which will apply beginning July 1, 2019.

Sam Hofer moved, and Tim Huls seconded a motion to approve the transfer request. All members present voted in favor.

Other New Business

Mr. Lee informed the committee that Big Sky Cheese, LLC received a \$2.3 million bridge loan from the Great Falls Development Authority. Big Sky Cheese, LLC is currently seeking permits. Mr. Lee also noted that Big Sky Cheese, LLC has not been in contact with the Milk Control Bureau and that the information he provided is in the public domain.

Mr. Lee asked the committee for feedback on the concept of the Milk Control Bureau developing a dairy margin statistic (milk price over feed costs) to function as a barometer of the financial condition of Montana's dairy farms, to help the Board of Milk Control and distributors better understand producers' conditions. Mr. Lee asked if it might be possible to establish "typical" feed rations and milk yields. The committee indicated that they believe the concept could be useful and that it would be possible to develop such a statistic. Tim Huls noted that there would be disparities based on location for certain feeds costs because of freight costs, which he stated should be included in the feed cost. Sam Hofer noted that each dairy will be different but that it should be possible to develop representative figures. Mr. Miller indicated that producer participation may be variable, but that he was willing to participate and assist.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Tim Huls moved, and Sam Hofer seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. All members present voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m.

 _____, Producer Committee Chair

Date: 8-30-2019