



Montana Board of Livestock Conference Call Minutes

June 20, 2017

Montana Department of Livestock
Helena, Montana

Board Members Present

John Lehfeldt, Chairman (sheep producer)

Lila Taylor (cattle producer)

Brett DeBruycker (cattle producer)

John Scully, Vice-chair (cattle producer)

Nina Baucus (cattle producer)

Sue Brown (dairy and poultry)

Staff Present

Mike Honeycutt, EO

Donna Wilham, Adm. Assistant to EO

George Harris, Centralized Services Division

Public Present

None

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

8:31 AM

Chairman John Scully called the conference call to order at 8:31 AM

OLD BUSINESS

8:31 AM

Personnel Issues

Mike Honeycutt told the BOL he had called the conference call together to discuss the motion made by the BOL at the June 13, 2017 board meeting to do a reduction in force (RIF) in the Centralized Services Division (CSD) effective July 1, 2017:

- The RIF would do away with Mr. George Harris' position as Administrator of CSD
- In a June meeting with Mr. Harris, Mr. Honeycutt and legal counsel Rob Stutz, Mr. Harris indicated that he would prefer to pursue retirement as opposed to moving forward with RIF

- Mr. Harris submitted a retirement letter on June 16, 2017 to Mr. Honeycutt stating his retirement would be effective June 30, 2017
- Mr. Harris submitted a signed Release of Claim form on June 16, 2017, releasing the DOL of any future or further claims from him. He has until June 23, 2017 to revoke that claim
- The BOL agreed to pay Mr. Harris unused compensation time of approximately 100.5 hours at his current hourly wage of \$40.70/hr for a total of \$4090
- The BOL agreed to pay Mr. Harris a retirement payout of \$12,000
 - Loss of \$1628 of compensation in July until first retirement check arrives August 1, 2017; Loss of the retirement of \$7128, due to retiring in a month with two pay periods rather than three pay periods. Total request of \$8756 was increased to \$9000 by BOL
 - A \$2500 gap in health insurance was increased to \$3000 by the BOL

MOTION/VOTE

9:01 am

Brett DeBruycker moved to provide the funds of \$12,000 to George Harris for his retirement settlement. Sue Brown seconded. Motion passed. Motion passed with four members voting aye: John Scully, Nina Baucus, Sue Brown and Brett DeBruycker

MOTION/VOTE

9:02 am

John Scully moved that the funds of \$12,000 for George Harris' retirement settlement be paid for with estray funds. Nina Baucus seconded. Motion passed. Motion passed with four members voting aye: John Scully, Nina Baucus, Sue Brown and Brett DeBruycker

NEW BUSINESS


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

9:04 AM

No public present. No comments given

MEETING ADJOURNED

9:05 AM


John Lehfeldt, Chairman

