

**Minutes**

**Producer Committee  
Conference Call Meeting**

September 1, 2015 9:00 a.m.  
Milk Control Bureau Office  
1225 8<sup>th</sup> 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**

| <b>Committee Member</b>          | <b>Present</b> | <b>Absent</b> |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| David Miller, Chair              | X              |               |
| Sam Hofer, Vice Chair            | X              |               |
| Andrew Wipf, Secretary/Treasurer | X              |               |
| William Cok                      | X              |               |
| Loren Dyk                        | X              |               |
| Michael J. Hofer                 | X              |               |
| Tim Huls                         | X              |               |
| Nelson Kamerman                  |                | X             |
| Larry Klompien                   | X              |               |
| Jeremy Leep                      | X              |               |
| Walter Wipf                      |                | X             |
| Ruben Wurz                       | X              |               |

**Montana Department of Livestock Staff:**

Chad Lee, Bureau Chief, Milk Control Bureau

**Guests:**

None

**Approval of Minutes from August 4, 2015**

William Cok moved and Loren Dyk seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2015 meeting, with corrections to the meeting date and marking of absent members. The motion carried. All members voted in favor.

## New Business

### Quota Transfer Requests

**Request:** Ronald Wandler requested approval of sale and transfer of 1,924 lbs/day of quota, effective September 1, 2015 to:

- Moiese Valley Ranch (1,500 lbs/day)
- David Lewis (424 lbs/day)

Ruben Wurz moved and Sam Hofer seconded the motion to approve the transfer of quota as requested by. The motion carried. All members voted in favor.

**Request:** Dean Noakes requested approval of sale and transfer of 935 lbs/day of quota, effective September 1, 2015 to Moiese Valley Ranch.

Tim Huls moved and William Cok seconded the motion to approve the transfer of quota as requested by. The motion carried. All members voted in favor.

## Other New Business

Chad Lee discussed joint rulemaking proposed by the Board of Milk Control and Board of Livestock to transfer the rule establishing the assessment rate for the assessment used to fund the Milk & Egg Bureau inspection and milk sampling function. Currently, the rule is within administrative rules under the jurisdiction of the Board of Milk Control, which does not have authority to set rates for the assessment. The proposal will transfer the rule to administrative rules under the jurisdiction of the Board of Livestock, which has statutory authority to set rates for the assessment.

Chad Lee discussed a potential rule change under consideration by the Board of Livestock that will subject plants to the assessment used to fund the Milk & Egg Bureau inspection and milk sampling function. Currently, only producers and producer-distributors are subject to the assessment. Mr. Lee discussed potential changes in the rate structure, including subjecting plants to the assessment and creation of two sets of minimum and maximum assessments, one for producers and one for plants. Mr. Lee emphasized that a rule change proposal has not been presented to the Board of Livestock for approval and that if approved, public comment period would follow prior to adoption of rule changes.

William Cok discussed the quota parking concept introduced in the August 4, 2015 Producer Committee meeting. Mr. Cok stated that a smaller dairy might be interested in scaling back or shutting down during the current period of low prices and then re-start after prices recovered. David Miller stated that the individual who originated the concept had determined since then that no advantage would be realized for that dairy. Chairman Miller stated that the topic of "quota-parking" would be on the agenda for the committee's next in-person meeting and recommended that committee members prepare for the meeting by identifying the pro's and con's of the concept and recalling historic context that led to the current rules.

The committee discussed scheduling an in-person meeting to correspond with the next Board of Milk Control meeting or to be scheduled for a date in October 2015, if the Board of Milk Control does not schedule a meeting before November.

**Public Comment**

None

**Adjournment**

William Cok moved and Andrew Wipf seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. All members voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.



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David Miller, Producer Committee Chairman

Date: 8-1-2016