



BOARD OF LIVESTOCK MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 9 & 10, 2013

Bucking Horse Room, Sleep Inn
1006 S Haynes Ave
Miles City, MT

1:00 p.m. Monday Board Meet and Greet

2:00 p.m. Call to Order

Board Members Present

Jan French, Chair, cattle producer
John Lehfeldt, sheep producer
John Scully, cattle producer

Jeffery Lewis, dairy producer
Linda Nielsen, cattle producer
Ed Waldner, swine producer

Absent:

Brett DeBruycker, cattle producer

Staff Present

Christian Mackay, Executive Officer
John Phillips, Brands Enforcement
Travis Elings, Brands Enforcement
Todd LaRowe, Brands Enforcement

Dan Turcotte, Milk & Egg Bureau
Bill Blankenship, Brands Enforcement
Tyler Bond, Brand Enforcement

Public Present

Paul Ringling, MT Cattlemen's Assn.
Haylie Shipp, Northern Broadcasting
Hurley Hagen
John Jones
Viki Hamilton
Glenn Duff, MSU Dean of Agriculture

Mike Foster, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services
Keith Holmlund, Custer Co. Commissioner
Frank Hagen
Rob Fraser
Nicole Rolf, MT Farm Bureau Federation

Administrative Items

Roll call and Remarks from the Board:

- Linda Nielsen, Nashua
 - last week highest prices in the country
 - lots of rain/hail
 - finishing harvest
- Ed Waldner, Chester
 - real good crop
 - received a little hail
 - hog market is up
- John Lehfeldt, Lavina
 - sheep business is good
 - big run on wool
 - big sale in Miles City next week
 - lamb market will be down



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- John Scully, Ennis
 - spotty rain
 - still right in the middle of DSA issues
 - Jeff Lewis, Corvallis
 - very dry all summer
 - good September though
 - high feed/high milk prices
 - Brett DeBruycker (as reported by Jeff Lewis)
 - dry, dry, not enough grass to get through summer
 - calves are high
 - spotty showers now
 - Jan French, Hobson
 - sold calves a little early as prices are better now
 - been pretty dry with little rain the last 2 days
 - also had some dry hail, very unusual

Approval of Board of Livestock Minutes

Typo on page 7, field instead of filed.

John Scully moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Jeff Lewis seconded. The motion carried.

Approval of Chairperson Interim Authorizations and Activities

- Travel for Tess to Spokane for training
 - Quality Control Manager, Diagnostic Laboratory
 - expense was approved in lab travel budget

John Lehfeldt moved to approve the interim authorization. Linda Nielsen seconded. The motion carried.

Approval of Executive Officer Reports

- Board prefers the format used by the executive office as brief with focus on pertinent issues
- could designate significant issues coming down the road

Ed Waldner moved to approve the Executive Officer reports as presented. John Scully seconded. The motion carried.

John Scully moved to change division reports to the board to the format used by the executive officer and present all future reports in that format. Jeff Lewis seconded. The motion carried.

Division Reports



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Brands Enforcement, John Grainer skyping from Helena

- Horse Amnesty Act
 - Discussion of horse amnesty law
 - background from Bill Blankenship
 - recently a horse was surrendered
 - owner paid \$76, adoptee paid \$30
 - basically paid feed bill
 - caused him to think about procedures that are needed
 - suggests flexibility in procedure and fees
 - another horse was surrendered and adopted within a few days without any procedure
 - 81-10-104, MCA requires MDOL to:
 - set fees for surrender and adoption,
 - determine financial hardship,
 - set procedures for adoption,
 - and reimbursement to livestock markets for fees incurred
 - other concerns to consider
 - what about animals surrendered elsewhere than at a market
 - animal must be sold at public auction
 - may be a delay of up to 2 weeks waiting for market sale

John Scully moved to proceed with drafting an ARM rule proposal on horse amnesty.

Jeff Lewis seconded. The motion carried with John Lehfeldt voting nay.

The board charged John Grainger with working out fees prior to the next board meeting.

- Joint Ownership with right of survivorship
 - at the last meeting board approved a \$50 fee to simply remove a deceased owner from a brand designated joint ownership with right of survivorship
 - an issue has come up where some owners (all living) want to add the right of survivorship for the \$50 fee
 - however, it might not be fee commensurate with cost to complete it
 - for instance three owners and one party does not want to sign can cause increased expense and processing time for brand office
 - The board decided requests to add the designation for right of survivorship should remain a transfer issue and to retain the present transfer fee.
- Self-Inspection issue, ARM 32.18.206
 - Christian sent out a letter to all inspectors last week on this issue
 - Comments:
 - Les Graham called to comment: issue has come up in the past where the board agreed with the rule



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- one gentleman said he has done own inspection of cattle for 25 years, and asked what does the statute mean?
 - Board consensus is the rule does not address manager of a corporation or LLC
 - John Grainger to draft a rule regarding the LLC/manager issue
 - the rule is there to protect the producer
 - those who have been doing it for a long time are not in compliance with the law
 - Review of Position Descriptions and Pay analysis
 - Christian included his progress in his board reports
 - ready to designate a core group to continue review and analysis

Animal Health, Tahnee Szymanski

- Out-of-State Travel Request
 - USAHA, San Diego, CA
 - Liska 2 days, brucellosis committee
 - Tahnee 3 days - Tb & sheep & goats issues
 - Zaluski whole meeting
 - all covered by cooperative agreement funds

John Lehfeldt moved to authorize travel as requested. Linda Nielsen seconded. The motion carried.

Recess

Reconvene

USDA Wildlife Services, Mike Foster, District Supervisor, Eastern MT

- seeing increased grizzly activity in south central Montana
- will be hiring a trapper in McCone County
 - paid for by \$2 cattle petition

Producer Organization Updates

- Montana Farm Bureau, Nicole Rolf
 - annual meeting is in Billings Nov 10-13
- Glenn Duff, new MSU Dean of Agriculture
 - replacing Dr Geoff Jacobson
 - looks forward to working with MDOL
 - will maintain wool lab and work on MVDL issues
- Haley Shipp, Northern Ag Network



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- o invites producers to call in with issues for her to put on air

5:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Executive Session

Right to privacy exceeds public right to know

Tuesday, September 10, 2013

8:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Board Tabled issues

- o Pay raise for Executive Officer

Linda Nielsen moved for a \$1.00 per hour pay raise on the base pay for the Executive Officer. Jeff Lewis seconded. The motion carried.

- District Investigators - location of home
 - o rule says that district men must live in their district
 - considering adding: subject to approval of the administrator and executive officer
 - and reviewable by the board

John Lehfeltdt moved to approve the proposal as presented. Ed Waldner seconded. The motion carried.

- Out of State Travel Request
 - o to attend at 9th district Court of Appeals hearing regarding hazing bison when a date is set
 - o Seattle, Washington

Jeff Lewis moved to authorize travel as requested. John Scully seconded. The motion carried.

- Beef Council contract renewal
 - o beef council contract expires the end of the month
 - o processes seem to be working well



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- o originally BC personnel were renting 1/2 of a room from brand enforcement division
 - recently changed to renting the entire room

Ed Waldner moved to approve the Beef Council contract as proposed. John Lehfeldt seconded. The motion carried with Jeff Lewis abstaining.

Division Reports Continued

Centralized Services, George Harris

- Per Capita Fee - set 2014
 - o reviewed head counts
 - o projected income from setting the per capita at the same level or to maximum allowed

John Scully moved to increase the per capita fee to the maximum allowed. John Lehfeldt seconded. The motion carried with Jeff Lewis voting no.

- FY2014 budget status report/State Special Revenue Update
 - o reviewed budget status of each division

Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, Dr Bill Layton

- Lab Strategic Plan
 - o must proceed to draft a proposed new lab
 - o include risk assessment of staff health
 - o list of university co-projects

9:00 a.m. Recess

9:15 a.m. Reconvene

Public Comment

- Sheryl Shultz, secretary, Northland Grazing District Blaine County
 - o 84 members on BLM grazing lease
 - o 36,000 AUMS
 - o 8700 acres of private land
 - o opposed to free roaming buffalo, and to any additional buffalo on the Fort Belknap range
 - o Rich Stucker, former member, is now on the FWP Commission

Next Board Meeting November 12 & 13, 2013 (Tuesday & Wednesday)
Scott Hart Building



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301 N Roberts Room 319
Helena, MT

12:57 p.m.

Adjournment

Jan French, Chair