



**BOARD OF LIVESTOCK
CONFERENCE CALL AGENDA
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2011
3:00 PM
Helena, MT**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jan French, Chair, cattle producer
Ed Waldner, swine producer
John Lefheldt, sheep producer
Linda Nielsen, Vice-chair, cattle producer

Brett DeBruycker, cattle producer
Jeffery Lewis, dairy producer
Stan Boone, cattle producer

STAFF PRESENT:

Christian Mackay, Executive Office
Steve Merritt, Public Information
Dr Zaluski, Animal Health

George Harris, CSD
Sherry Rust, executive assistant, minute taker

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Ann Miller, Montana Pork Producers

3:00 PM Call to Order

- Import Request (follow up from board meeting)
 - Dr Zaluski reported that response from Mr. Duzan indicated he had not had time enough to gather information

Stan Boone moved to wait until the November board meeting to take action allowing time for the requested information to be provided. John Lefheldt seconded. Voice vote: Stan Boone, yes; John Lefheldt, yes; Jeff Lewis, yes; Ed Waldner, yes; Linda Nielsen, yes; Brett DeBruycker, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

- Action Item -Budget discussion and per capita fee setting
 - George Harris attended the Pork Producers meeting in Great Falls last week
 - Their motion endorsed raising per capita fees for the next 2 years to maintain the integrity of the Department of Livestock
 - Christian Mackay received a letter from the Montana Milk Producers Association supporting raising per capita fees as deemed appropriate
 - Producer/Department meeting, Billings on October 13th
 - Department representatives included
 - Jan French, BOL chair
 - Stan Boone, BOL cattle representative
 - John Lefheldt, BOL sheep representative
 - Christian Mackay, Executive Officer
 - Producer Organization attendees included
 - John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
 - Jack McCray, Montana Woolgrowers Association
 - Mark Boone, Montana Cattlemen's Association
 - Wally Condon, Montana Stock growers Association
 - Les Graham, Montana Livestock Market Association



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- Christian reported that comments were positive and all organization representatives were supportive regarding department need to raise per capita
 - Dr Zaluski commented that the Alternative Livestock program staff expenses were covered at the current per capita
 - Ed Waldner said pork producers are now farrowing 3 times a year and are willing to pay their fair share should the department find a way to collect more than once a year

John Lehfeldt moved to increase per capita fee on all species to the maximum allowed for FY 2012 and 2013 with concerted effort from each division for a 5% budget reduction without eliminating services. Ed Waldner seconded. Voice vote: Linda Nielsen, yes; Ed Waldner, yes; Jeff Lewis, yes; Stan Boone, yes; John Lehfeldt, yes; Brett DeBruycker, yes. The motion carried unanimously.

Follow up comments:

The board requested Christian to draft a letter from the board thanking the producer organizations for their support on this important issue.

Christian also noted that keeping brands overtime down may involve closing brand offices on non-sale days (i.e. maintaining 40 hour work schedules)

- Public Comment
Ann Miller, Montana Pork Producers Assn, offered to forward any board communication to her members

3:35 pm Adjourned