

## Minutes

**Producer Committee  
Conference Call Meeting  
August 31, 2021, 9:00 a.m.  
Milk Control Bureau Office  
1225 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Helena, Montana**

### Conference Call / Zoom Access:

Meeting ID: 834 2891 8747

Dial by Telephone

+1 646 558 8656 or +1 406 444 9999

### Call to Order

Committee Chair David Miller (Chair) 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
Nelson Kamerman		X
Mark Kleinsasser		X
Shane Leep		X
John Waldner	X	

### Montana Department of Livestock Staff:

Darryl Ford, Bureau Chief, Milk Control Bureau

**Guests:** none

### Introduction and Roll Call

Welcome to the Milk Control Bureau Chief: Darryl Ford

Roll Call was performed and documented.

### Approval of Minutes from March 31, 2021, Meeting

Sam Hofer moved, and John Waldner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2021, meeting as presented. The motion carried. All members present voted in favor.

### New Business

#### Quota Transfer Request:

The Producer Committee failed to reach a quorum to approve the Quota Transfer Requests. Chair David Miller stated that Darryl Ford would have to perform a phone poll approving the Quota Transfer Requests.

Pleasant Valley Colony requests to transfer 1,178 lbs./day of milk quota to New Rockport Colony, which would apply beginning September 1, 2021.

Kingsbury Colony requests to transfer 2,600 lbs./day of milk quota to Big Sky Colony, which would apply beginning September 1, 2021.

Darryl Ford performed a lien search prior to the meeting and did not identify any liens on quota owned by Pleasant Valley Colony.

Darryl Ford performed a lien search prior to the meeting and did not identify any liens on quota owned by Kingsbury Colony.

Sam Hofer moved, and John Waldner seconded a motion to approve the transfer requests. All members present voted in favor. A phone poll by Milk Control Bureau Chief Darryl Ford was performed after the meeting with all absent Producer Committee members. The quota transfers were voted in favor by all members.

#### **Other New Business**

##### **Milk Control Bureau Announcements**

Chair David Miller asked Darryl Ford if there were any announcements that have come up since assuming position. Darryl noted the following:

Darryl Ford stated that a Milk Control Board meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place prior to the end of the year. A tentative date is still in the scheduling stage but would more than likely take place prior to November.

Darryl Ford made an announcement for Peil Dairy owner, David Peil. David Peil is getting out of the dairy business and wanted to announce that he is looking for a producer willing to obtain his quota.

Chair David Miller asked Darryl Ford what the current membership of the Milk Control Board was comprised. Darryl Ford stated that Ken Bryan was the Chair of the Milk Control Board. The members from prior years were Brian C. Beerman and W. Scott Mitchell. New members to the Milk Control Bureau were Staci Ketchum and Travis Stroh.

### Dairy Producer Gathering

John Waldner expressed concern regarding dairy equipment supplier availability for the producers in Montana. David Miller agreed and added that as dairy producers go out of business in Montana the business environment for equipment purchases and other aspects of the dairy producer's business will be made more difficult. Sam Hofer asked David Miller where he typically gets dairy equipment and parts. David Miller stated that he typically observes purchases from Idaho and Utah which is expensive. Mountain West and NorthStar Systems are the two vendors that he is aware of in his experience.

David Miller asked Darryl Ford about the current number of dairy producers in Montana. Darryl Ford stated that there were currently 43 producers with David Peil currently looking to leave the business. The numbers lost over the past 2 years would be eight with David Peil.

Sam Hofer mentioned the Milk Control Board's Milk Study that was performed in 2018. Darryl Ford stated that he had a copy of the 2018 Milk Study and had read the contents.

David Miller proposed that perhaps a regular dairy producer gathering could take place. The goal of the producer gathering would be to come up with consensus or ideas to enhance the dairy industry in Montana. All members that were present were agreeable to have a future producer meeting and would coordinate with their dairy entities to hold the meeting. Darryl Ford stated that the Milk Control Bureau would assist with the producer meeting as required.

### **Public Comment**

None.

**Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Producer Committee Chair

Date: 11-2-2021