

# **MONTANA WHEAT AND BARLEY COMMITTEE**

## **Fall Board Meeting In-Person/Zoom Meeting Great Falls, Montana October 25-26, 2022**

The following were present for either a portion of or the entire meeting.

### **DIRECTORS**

Mike O'Hara, Chairman  
Max Cederberg, Director  
Denise Conover, Vice Chairman  
Terry Angvick, Director

Charlie Bumgarner, Director  
Brett Dailey, Director  
Llew Jones, Director

### **EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS**

Christy Clark, Director of the Department of Agriculture  
Dr. Bajwa, Vice President of Agriculture, MSU

### **STAFF**

Jason Laird, Interim Executive Vice President  
Sam Anderson, Industry Analyst & Outreach Coordinator  
Kolleen Spurgin, Budget & Grants Coordinator  
Tammy Suek, Administrative Assistant

### **GUESTS**

Alison Vergeront, MGGA  
Cody Pearce, CFO, Department of Agriculture  
Cort Jensen, Staff Attorney, Department of Agriculture  
Lochiel Edwards, Montana Grains Foundation  
Brandee Johnston, MSU  
Barry Jacobsen, Consultant  
Andrea Berry, MSU  
Isabel Hicks, Bozeman Chronicle  
Roy Benjamin, Producer  
Kent Kupfner, Grain Industry  
John Romasko, Board of Investments  
Kirstin Haswell, Board of Investments

### **Tuesday, October 25, 2022:**

*Chairman O'Hara called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Introductions with crop reports.*

Director Dailey moved, and Director Bumgarner seconded the motion to accept the tentative agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman asked for public comment. Heard none.

### **Review of June 23 and September 13, 2022 Meetings Minutes**

Chairman O'Hara presented the minutes of the Board Meetings.

Director Bumgarner moved, and Director Cederberg seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the June 23 and September 13. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Update**

Cody Pearce showed the directors a new tool to help calculate available balances and projected cash available to grant out.

### **Board of Investments**

Kirsten Haswell had a slide show about the Board of Investments and the different choices available to the committee for long term investments. The board would need to vote on putting funds into higher interest accounts.

### **Financial Update**

Kolleen went through our current and last years budgets and explained a couple of payments and the refund list.

### **Department of Agriculture Update**

Director Clark talked about the hail insurance program, trade team are back in person and staff is back in person. The state has made certain positions available to work remotely from home for a few days a week.

The public hearing for the assessment increase is scheduled for October 27<sup>th</sup>. Public comments can also be emailed to Cort Jensen. Legislative session will not have a lot of things concerning Agriculture this year.

Agriculture and MABA are partnering up to bring inventors and investors together in a Shark Tank style competition at the convention on January 24<sup>th</sup>. details are still being worked out.

### **MT Grain Growers Update**

Alison updated the committee about the convention and the farm bill.

### **MSU Update**

Dr. Bajwa is looking for funding from the legislature for the Seed Lab, Wool Lab and obtaining a permit for making alcoholic beverages including grapes and barley. She talked about the Celebrate Ag weekend and the MAES Advisory meetings this past weekend.

### **Brandee Johnston**

Brandee talked about the work she is doing with foundation seed program and the name change to the MSU Foundation Seed Program. She is booked solid with trade shows and talks about the program.

### **Lunch**

### **US Wheat Association**

Director Conover and Interim Executive VP Laird attended the World Staff Meeting for USWA held in Hawaii. She talked about losing acres to corn and soy beans to supply new ethanol plants being built. It was a good meeting; Jason agreed and thought it was important to sit and talk in person.

Director Conover was asked to participate in a fly-in for the food aid program in Washington, DC on November 14-16, 2022. She will meet and talk to people connected to the Farm Bill to help with funding.

Lochiel asked her to check into the wheat shipments the US bought from another country, Director Conover was going to investigate it.

### **Membership Applications**

The directors discussed each of the applications and decided not to fund National Pasta Association and kept most of the others the same.

### **Assessment Discussion**

Director Bumgarner and Conover wanted to increase the assessment by another ½ a cent to 1 cent, but they are unsure of the process. Cort explained that they will need to go back to the Administration to defend the need for an increase.

### **Jason Laird Update**

Young Minds Inspired classroom material is complete and has been looked over and he will get it back to them and then it will go out to teachers. Website is completed and now we can add more to it. Trade teams were busy with three more scheduled.

He talked about who in the office can work remotely. Sam put together a buyers guide that has been very useful for trade teams.

### **Sam Anderson Update**

Sam talked to the committee about the upcoming meeting with Heineken, the governor will be doing a ceremonial signing with them. He is also working on royalty for MAES. He attended the US Grains meeting in Sacramento, CA.

### **Standard Applications**

The Soil Health Conference was a no. Banik was a RFP but Zach thinks we can go out for a limited solicitation instead. There will need to be a motion for Banik at the next meeting.

### **Research Applications**

Barry Jacobsen gave his opinion on all the research applications.

### **Approval of Staff and Director Travel**

Director Dailey has agreed to go to the US Wheat meeting in Salt Lake and Director Angvick will be attending the MAES Advisory meeting.

Director Bumgarner moved, and Director Angvick seconded the motion to approve the travel with additions. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Upcoming Events**

Nov. 2-3	Crop Outlook & International Durum Forum – Minot, ND
Nov. 6-9	US Wheat Association – Salt Lake City, UT
Nov. 6-9	ALIM – Lima, Peru
Nov. 8	Office Closed
Nov. 11	Office Closed
Nov. 14-16	USWA Food Aid – Washington, DC
Nov. 24	Office Closed
Nov. 29	MWBC Budget Board Meeting – Great Falls
Nov. 30-Dec. 2	MGGA Convention – Great Falls

Montana Wheat & Barley Committee Board Meeting  
Fall Board Meeting  
October 25-26, 2022  
4

Dec. 8-9	MT Organic Association Convention - Billings
Dec. 26	Office Closed
Jan. 9-17	USWA – Asia UES Meetings – Honolulu, HI
Jan. 17-20	Wheat Foods Council – Austin, TX
Jan. 30-Feb. 3	USWA Winter Board Meeting – Washington, DC
Feb. 13-15	USGC Board Meeting – Savannah, GA
Feb. 20-Mar. 3	USWA – South America, Mexico, SSA, MENA & EU Meetings – Lisbon, Portugal

### **New Business**

Next board meeting – November 28, 2022  
Election of officers – Chair – Denise Conover  
Vice Chair – Terry Angvick

Director Dailey moved, and Director Bumgarner seconded the motion to elect Denise Conover as Chairwoman and Terry Angvick as Vice Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairwoman Conover requested that Mike O'Hara continue chairing this meeting.

Chairman O'Hara called for public comment and heard none.

*Chairman O'Hara adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.*

### **Wednesday, October 26, 2022**

Call to order 8:10 – Chairman O'Hara

Research – Continued

There was discussion on sawfly. The directors will take this month to go over the applications more thoroughly for the next meeting on November 28, 2022. There was a talk about indirects.

Adjourned 12:00 – Chairman O'Hara

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Kent Kupfner, Executive Vice President

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Date