

# **MONTANA WHEAT AND BARLEY COMMITTEE**

## **Spring Board Meeting In-Person/Zoom Meeting Bozeman, Montana March 19, 2023**

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

### **DIRECTORS**

Terry Angvick, Chairman  
Denise Conover, Director  
Lee Dahlman, Director  
Keven Bradley, Director

Max Cederberg, Vice Chairman  
Brett Dailey, Director  
Charlie Bumgarner, Director

### **EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS**

Jake McFarlin, Mountain View Coop  
Christy Clark, Director of Department of Agriculture

### **STAFF**

Kent Kupfner, Executive Director  
Sam Anderson, Market Development Director  
Lori Wickett, Communication Director  
Kolleen Spurgin, Budget & Grants Coordinator  
Tammy Suek, Administrative Assistant

### **GUESTS**

Zach Coccoli, Deputy Director, Department of Ag  
Cort Jensen, Attorney, Department of Ag  
Brandee Johnston, MSU Foundation Seed  
Doug Holen, MSU Foundation Seed  
Alison Vergeront, Executive Director, MGGA  
Liz Edmundson, Executive Director, Pulse Committee  
Darrin Boss, MSU  
Mikal Wilkerson, Operations Director, Department of Agriculture  
Mark Black, Malteurop  
Boyd Heilig, MGGA & Producer  
Canon Bradley, MGGA & Producer

### **Tuesday, March 19, 2024:**

*Chairman Angvick called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Introductions. Adoption of Agenda. Call for public comment, heard none.*

### **Review of November 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Angvick presented the minutes of the November 27, 2023 Board Meeting.

Director Bumgarner moved, and Director Cederberg seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Department of Agriculture Update**

Director Clark noted the department has been very busy with federal grants, awarding and managing them. She went to Cuba for a trade mission and is going to Vietnam in April. Zach Coccoli mentioned they are starting the process for an assessment on oilseeds pending a vote from producers.

### **MSU**

Darrin Boss gave the update for the university. They are filling vacancies that have been open for a while. He gave a summary of each of the openings at the research centers. Darrin talked about the building projects happening at the university.

### **Foundation Seed Update**

Brandee Johnston is done with trade shows, she attended the Wheat Quality Council meeting in Kansas where she learned a lot. A question was asked about Dagmar seed being sold out, there is still lots of foundation seed available.

### **MGGA**

Alison Vergeront introduced the new office manager Shawna Severson. The convention is scheduled for December 3-5, 2024, at the fairgrounds in Great Falls. The golf tournament is June 7<sup>th</sup> with a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary theme. There is an opening for a policy director which can be remote and be the point person for policy.

Boyd Heilig has done some traveling lately as president of MGGA. He read the 4 policies that were approved by the national organization.

### **Industry Update**

Jake McFarlin gave his report stating the lack of export opportunities and producers holding on to grain. He mentioned China vessel cancellations. BNSF has become very slow in pickup of shuttles and having to wait 7 to 10 days for loaded cars to be taken away. He is seeing lots of barley sitting in the bins.

### **Director Reports**

Chairman Angvick – NCI & MAES Advisory Meeting– He has been participating over ZOOM, they had a financial short-fall of about \$300,000 and have had to layoff all their part-time employees & several full time positions were eliminated. They are working on recovering.

Director Conover - U.S. Wheat Associates, Barley Symposium, Wheat Foods Council – USWA will be getting more money for projects. WFC visited a cooking school. The Barley Symposium was short but informative.

Director Dahlman - U.S. Wheat Associates, KSU Milling Course, National Barley Improvement Committee – The milling course was very informative, and he learned a lot more about the process. The USWA meeting a learning experience. NBIC was all about the hill visits with breeders, industry and producers.

Director Bumgarner – National Barley Growers, US Grains Council, MSU Tech Fee Working Group – NBGA visited the hill talking about the farm bill. It was also discussed that Canada has been shipping barley to Mexico by rail through Montana for less than Montana can ship to Mexico. USGC in Guatemala was a disappointment as far as time was concerned. MSU Tech fee discussion started at the MGGA Convention and has been meeting with MSU and producers for sawfly research and taking full advantage of new varieties.

Director Cederberg – Organic Convention, Wheat Quality Council – The organic convention was held in Great Falls and was well attended. WQC was a good meeting with information from breeders. Dagmar was voted as a check for the western varieties.

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Director Dailey – Grower Concerns, Seed Availability – He was interested in finding information about seed varieties and Brandee let him know that it is available on USDA and Wheat & Barley’s websites.

Director Bradley – WMC Producer Tour – He enjoyed the trip and participated in lots of different tours.

## **Lunch**

### **Financial Update**

Kolleen Spurgin presented the financial update and addressed some refunder issues.

### **Communication Director Report**

Lori introduced the revised website and how she has made it more accessible. She showed the new variety guide that is available to growers and buyers. Lori went over our social media presence with LinkedIn being our most popular.

Lori asked the question about our mission around education. What should we do to reach those goals?

### **Market Development & Research Director Report**

Sam presented a PowerPoint with information about his activities this year, mostly GenTax. He talked about his trip to Guatemala, Wheat Quality Council and serving as Treasurer for HRS. He gave a research update and wanted to know about grant extensions and how many and for how long should they be.

Sam proposed a change in collection data and what to keep in and what to keep out. He showed the equipment that has been purchased through MWBC.

### **Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Kupfner discussed completed activities, quarterly activities, crop and seeding reports, and upcoming activities.

Sam asked for feedback about the March Madness event, maybe change some structure and scoring criteria. They definitely would like to do it again.

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

Director Dailey moved, and Director Bumgarner seconded the motion to approve the travel. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Upcoming Events**

Mar 20	KATQ Ladies Night Out - Plentywood
Mar. 28-29	Wheat Marketing Center Board Meeting – Portland, OR
Apr. 1	Japanese Consultant – Great Falls
Apr 1-30	Arizona Research Plots
May 3	Pasta MT Trade Team – Great Falls
May 7-9	Gallatin Farm Fair – Belgrade
May 11	MT Brewers Spring Rendezvous – Bozeman
May 13-16	Wheat Quality Council Hard Winter Wheat Tour - KS

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May 21-24	USW World Staff Conference – Malta
Jun 5-6	Wheat Food Council – Manhattan, KS
Jun 7	MGGA Golf Tournament – Great Falls
Jun 8-12	USWA Crop Quality Tour - Japan
Jun 10-14	NCI Summer Ag Academy – Fargo, ND
Jun 18-20	National Barley Growers Meeting – Minneapolis, MN
Jun 20	Field Day – Havre
Jun 25	NCI Ancient Grains Conference – Fargo, ND
Jun 26	Field Day – Moccasin
Jun 27	Field Day - Sidney
Jul 8-11	US Wheat Summer Meeting – Oklahoma City, OK
Jul 10	Field Day – Conrad
Jul 11	Field Day – Creston
Jul 15-16	NARC offsite plot tours
Jul 17	Post Farm - Bozeman
Jul 29-31	US Grains Council Meeting – Salt Lake City, UT
Aug 3	MT Brewers Summer Rendezvous - Helena

### **New Business**

Next board meeting – June 24, 2024 – in Red Lodge  
Communication Budget, should there be one?  
There was a discussion on GMO Wheat.  
There was a discussion regarding Denise’s replacement.

*Chairman Angvick asked for public comment and heard none. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.*

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Kent Kupfner, Executive Director

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Date