

Montana Agriculture Development Council Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2020 1:00 to 3:00

Meeting Conducted via SKYPE

Call to Order - Amy Kellogg, Chair

Roll Call/Call for Proxies

Members in attendance:

Amy Kellogg, Chair, Kalispell

Lars Hanson, Vice Chair, Edgar

Ben Thomas, Director of Agriculture, Helena

Tara Rice, Director of Commerce, Helena (present through proxy to Tom Kaiserski)

Patricia Quisno, Fort Belknap

John Wicks, Ledger

Members Absent:

Tara Mastel, Red Lodge

Proxies:

Tara Rice provided her proxy to Tom Kaiserski

Tara Mastel provided her proxy to Lars Hansen

Staff in attendance:

Tom Kaiserski, Industry Development Manager, Montana Department of Commerce (General/Irrevocable Proxy for Director of Commerce Tara Rice)

Andy Fjeseth, Bureau Chief, Montana Department of Agriculture

Jim Auer, Grants Manager, Montana Department of Agriculture

Tina Bateman, Program Specialist, Montana Department of Agriculture

Dani Jones, Hail Program Specialist, Montana Department of Agriculture

Zack Coccoli, Deputy Legal Council, Montana Department of Agriculture

Christy Clark, Administrator, Montana Department of Agriculture

Public Comment

Chair Kellogg, called for public comments. No public comments were presented.

Review of February 4-5, 2020 Council Minutes

Motion: Motion to approve minutes as presented

By: Lars Hanson

Second: Tom Kaiserski

Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Amendment Requests from GTA Recipients - Tina Bateman, GTA Program Specialist

Dry Hills Distillery

Motion: Convert \$10,900 from loan to grant for purchase of hammer mill.

By: Tom Kaiserski
Second: Patty Quisno
Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Big Sandy Organics

Motion: Approve amendment as requested
By: Ben Thomas
Second: Lars Hanson
Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

SporeAttic

Motion: To accept the additional objective
By: Ben Thomas
Second: Tom Kaiserski
Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Motion: To deny request for additional funding
By: Patty Quisno
Second: Lars Hanson
Discussion: Recommend seeking COVID funding
Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Miriam’s Inspired Skin Care

Motion: Approve amendment as submitted
By: Tom Kaiserski
Second: Ben Thomas
Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

High Horizon Gardens

Motion: Approve amendment as submitted
By: Lars Hanson
Second: Ben Thomas
Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Request for Reconsideration - Jim Auer, Grants Manager

Mont Dulce

Motion: Lars – Moves to not reconsider
By: Lars Hanson
Second: Patty Quisno
Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Update on Mini-Grant Awards - Andy Fjeseth, Bureau Chief

Other Business

Student Loan Update – Tina Bateman
Cowboy Cricket – Jim Auer
Department of Agriculture update - Ben Thomas

Next Meeting

July 21, 2020

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

Motion: To adjourn

By: Ben Thomas

Second Tom Kaiserski

Action: The motion carried with no dissenting votes.