**MBC Meeting Minutes – August 12, 2020**

Those Present:

District #1 Kevin Noffsinger, Treasurer

District #2

District #3 Greg Ackerman, Chairman

District #4

District #5 Allen Bischer

District #6 Ross Voelker

District #7 Jessica Rader

At Large Steve Ewald

Shipper Representative

Executive Secretary Joe Cramer

Those Absent:

District #1

District #2 Mark Reif

District #3

District #4 Clint Stoutenburg, Vice-Chairman

District #5

District #6

District #7

At Large

Shipper Representative Neil French

Others Present:

Scott Bales MSU Dry Bean Specialist

Heather Throne MDARD

Joel McCullough MDARD

Chairman Ackerman welcomed everyone, thanked Star of the West for hosting our group and called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** With no additions, a motion was made by Bischer to approve the agenda as presented. Rader supported the motion. ***Motion passed.***

**MBS UPDATE**

* Unforeseen circumstances prevented all of the MBS Trustees from attending for our annual MBC-MBS joint discussion however Shipper Representative Neil French submitted a few comments:
  + Shippers are communicating individual policies and procedures focused on harvest aids including the prohibited use of glyphosate and rules for Covid-19 protocols at each location
  + Shipments have not slowed down. Still moving inventory. Most processors are not out of beans but inventory is a low.
  + Minn–Dak beans are turning yellow as they approach maturity. Above average yields are expected on all varieties.
  + Most in Michigan agree that we have a good chance of a great crop but not it’s not in the bin yet. Good blossoms, good pod set coming on strong.
* The MBC-MBS joint discussion will take place in December.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was none.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**: Minutes from the June 24, 2020 Commission meeting were presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Voelker with support from Ewald to approve the minutes as presented. ***Motion passed.***

**FINANCIAL REPORT**: Cramer presented MBC YTD P&L reports including budget comparisons for September 2019 – July 2020. Cramer highlighted revenue and expense line items as compared to budget. A brief discussion followed. A motion was made by Ewald to accept the report as presented. Rader supported the motion. ***Motion passed.***

**FY 2019-2020 Budget** - Cramer presented a FY 20-21 budget with revenue based on 220,000 acres x 20 bags per acre. Total expenses exceed projected revenue by $23,628.13. Cramer expects interest revenue to be down and projects increases in USDBC dues, international promotion, etc. Management fees will be down slightly. Grant expenses are expected to exceed revenue by $11,500 in this fiscal year. Cramer also reviewed the PRAB budget adopted earlier in the day. Following a brief discussion, Noffsinger moved to accepted the budgets as presented. Bischer supported the motion. ***Motion passed.*** (See attached)

**MDARD UPDATE**

* SCBG applicants can expect to receive approval or rejection notification this month.
* The Value-Added grant application process placed on hold a few months ago is now moving forward. Total dollars have been reduced slightly but will hopefully be awarded yet this fall.
* Rural Development grant applications will be due this fall. Awards will be awarded in early January.
* CARES Act grant applications are being handled on a first come, first served basis. Applications should pertain to COVID related costs between June 1 and September 15, 2020. Awards cap at $50,000.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS –** Chairman Ackerman relinquished the chair to Cramer for the purpose of electing officers for FY 2020-212. Cramer opened the floor for nominations. Ewald nominated Ackerman for chair, Stoutenburg for vice-chair, Noffsinger for treasurer and Cramer for secretary. Cramer asked for any other nominations. Hearing none, Cramer closed nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the four positions. Cramer turned the chair back to Ackerman.

**ANNUAL APPROVALS**

* FY 20-21 Depositories – Voelker moved to name PNC Bank, Frankenmuth Credit Union, TCF Bank (formerly Chemical Bank) and Chemical Financial Advisors as depositories. Further, Voelker moved to remove his name from the signature cards on file if any and update the names on file at the various depositories with the names of the officers including Cramer. Noffsinger supported the motions. ***Motion passed.***

* Meeting Per Diem – Ackerman moved to set the meeting per diem for FY 20-21 at $75 per meeting. Ewald supported. ***Motion passed.***
* FY 20-21 Meeting Calendar – Cramer included a draft calendar for next year. Ackerman asked about the process/timetable for deciding to go forward with the 2021 Dry Bean Symposium or postponing for one year due to COVID-19. This is be an agenda item at the October meeting. Noffsinger moved to accept the calendar as presented. Ewald Supported the motion. ***Motion passed.*** See attached.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

* Cramer commented on the USDA Acreage and Production Report published at noon today. Acreage is set at 258,000 in Michigan. This is a significant increase from last year’s 185,000 acres. Cramer will share the full report later today.
* Dry Bean Insurance
  + The 2015 Navy Bean case is now in the appeals process
  + Cramer continues to work on the Price Discovery Process for Revenue Insurance
  + The comment period for the quality loss option closes on the 28th. The add on does not currently include dry beans but it should
* Cramer highlighted the potential CIVID-19 related changes to the in person 2020 Research Plot Tours. Cramer will manage any food service offered with appropriate COVID-19 precautions. Commissioners noted that these are at will events and attendees should determine their own level of comfort and safety before they choose to participate.
* Nominations for the District 2 and the At Large seats will take place at 9:00 am on August 26th via ZOOM.
* Cramer continues to work with Enagon to get the mill system built, installed and operational. Cramer may visit them next week.

**USDBC UPDATE**

* The IPC trade Team assignment worksheet is included in the board packet. There are slots that remain open.
* IPC will continue to use virtual meetings to stay in touch and share information. A virtual crop tour is being planned.
* The Innovation Committee has met with CIA resulting in the formation of a work group that includes expertise that will help keep the committee on the fast track.
* Planning continues for BeanCon21.

Chairman Ackerman thanked Star of the West for hosting the meeting. And, with no further business, adjourned the meeting at 2:25 PM.

Respectfully,

**Joe Cramer**

Joe Cramer, Executive Secretary