



Montana Association of Counties

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MACO AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Annual Conference, Holiday Inn Downtown, Missoula, MT: September 17, 2018

Commissioner Hendrickson, Chair, opened the meeting at 12:30 p.m. by welcoming participants to the meeting.

- 1. Roll Call & Introductions:** Roll call was conducted, and everyone present introduced themselves. There were approximately 40 people attending the meeting.

Members:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Hendrickson, Chair, Liberty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Jackson, Beaverhead	<input type="checkbox"/> Rod Schaffer, Powder River
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Rice, Vice Chair, Beaverhead	<input type="checkbox"/> Gary Kartevold, Dawson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dale Seifert, Pondera
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Blain, Carbon	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Kuka, Pondera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rodney Tauck, Carter
<input type="checkbox"/> Bruce Christofferson, Phillips	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Larson, Cascade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis Teske, Prairie
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Keith Clawson, Sheridan	<input type="checkbox"/> John Lewis, Golden Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Herb Townsend, Meagher
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerry Collins, Garfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mikel Lund, Daniels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maureen Wicks, Liberty
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maureen Davey, Stillwater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Moore, Judith Basin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Janet Wolff, McCone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna Giacometto, Powder River	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Peterson, Hill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandy Youngbauer, Fergus
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Keith Holmlund, Custer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roy Rost, Fallon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Adler, MWCA, Rosebud

Guests: Lesley Robinson, Congressman Gianforte State Director; Tayla Snapp, Congressman Gianforte Eastern Montana Field Representative; Casey Collins, Congressman Gianforte Eastern Montana Field Representative; Robin Baker, Senator Daines Field Representative; Tory Kolkhorst, Senator Daines Field Representative; Cort Jensen, Montana Department of Agriculture; and Kelsey Jencso, Associate Professor of Hydrology, Montana State Climatologist

- 2. Appoint Temporary Secretary for Duration of Meeting:** Commissioner Wolff was appointed as the temporary secretary for the duration of the meeting.
- 3. Approval of Minutes (2018 Midwinter Conference):** The minutes of the February 12, 2018 Midwinter Conference meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Holmlund seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- 4. Speakers/Presentations:**
 - Mark Peterson discussed a cell telephone tower project and the Sage Grouse Oversight Committee recommendation of \$1.8 million mitigation. Mark asked the Ag Committee members to contact the Sage Grouse Oversight Committee members with the committee's concerns about the proposed mitigation fees.
 - Montana Mesonet: The beginnings of a drought early warning system and precision agriculture network across Montana, Kelsey Jencso, Associate Professor of Hydrology, Montana State Climatologist, Franke College of Forestry & Conservation

- Beginnings of Precision Agriculture; Montana Mesonet is a densely spaced network that serves landowners and managers with local soil moisture and weather information required for daily to seasonal decisions.
5. **Review Assigned Resolutions:** The committee had two resolutions assigned for review and recommendation to the membership:
 - Noxious Weed Management Funding, Agriculture Committee
Maureen Wicks made a motion to recommend to "Do Pass" and Maureen Davey seconded. Motion passed.
 - Revise Definition of Wild Buffalo & Wild Bison, Garfield County
Jerry Collins made a motion to recommend to "Do Pass" with amendments to assure that nothing is changed in the present laws but to revise the Wild Buffalo and Wild Bison definition to include buffalo and bison that have never been subject to livestock tax. Keith Holmlund seconded the motion. Motion passed.
 6. **Committee Policy Statement Review:** There were no changes recommended by the Ag Committee.
 7. **Montana Weed Control Association Update, Amy Adler, MWCA Representative:** Amy Adler gave an MWCA update. There will be a Commissioner Weed Board Training in Glasgow on October 25.
 8. **Ag Updates from Members:** The Ag Committee members gave updates concerning agricultural issues in their respective areas of the state.
 9. **Adjourn:** Maureen Davey made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Maureen Wicks seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.