**AG Advisory Board Meeting**

**June 2, 2020**

**Minutes**

**This meeting was held via Google Hangouts with 90% of members attending via video/call in.**

**Attendees**:

Logan Wilde, Commissioner (in person)

Kelly Pehrson, Deputy Commissioner (in person)

Dana Hardy, UDAF (in person)

Wade Garrett (for Ron Gibbons - UFB) (Phone)

Cliff Lillywhite, Egg Industry ( via phone ½ time)

Alison Fiscus, Pork Producers

Sierra Nelson, Utah Wool Growers

Allen Henrie, UACD

Dr. Kerry Rood, DVM

Luke Peterson, Urban and Small Farms

Robert McMullin, Fruit Growers

Kris Falco, Fur Breeders

Dr Ken White, USU

Bob Barry

Cody James, UDAF Mandy Taft, UDAF

RJ Spencer, UDAF Mellissa Ure, UDAF

Leann Hunting, UDAF Amanda Petersen, UDAF

Linda Gilmore, UDAF (in person) Weston Judd, UDAF

Nicole Hanna, Attorney General’s Office

Amy Wengren, UDAF Jay Olson, UDAF

Roberta Valdez, UDAF

Travis Waller, UDAF

Brandon Forsyth, UDAF

**Via Phone:** see above note

Deputy Commissioner Pehrson welcomed everyone.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the Jan, 2020 and April 2020 minutes in next meeting based on No Quorum .

**Legislative Update – Logan Wilde- none**

**Discussion on SB3006- RJ Spencer**

There have been 1500 applications since opened process. We have extended the deadline until December 30 2020.

One of the major problems with the applications we are receiving that is resulting in kick back is not enough detail in loss. These applications are receiving a 2 page follow up letter explaining what is needed to move forward in process. Gives very defined descriptions. Majority of emails/letters will go out this week.

SB3006 states “continuation of food/fiber chain”…applicants must show actual loss not a potential for loss and the loss must be legally defensible.

There are applications with loss dates after March 31st and they have been approved.

At the end of this week we expect the first 50 grant agreements to go out. Grants will start to be funded

All of the applications/grants are based on UCC approval.

We cannot assure a payment up to 40K. It is up to UCC. There are applications that will be denied by UCC and those that will be at reduced rate.

Q and A:

Kerry : Are applications time stamped and given to first come first served?

A: An application is not considered complete until we receive ALL details from applicant. Then it is time stamped complete.

Luke: Do I understand that not everyone who has applied has gotten a response?

A: Correct. Reason is the addendum to request info to make defensible. But, them direction changed. The next email/letter will be all inclusive.

Kelly: Talk about PPP.

A: Anyone who received PPP monies can only receive 20K regardless of how much PPP money they received. Additionally, if they applied for PPP and where approved but never accepted, they still only will receive 20K at this time.

Luke: Is there any pattern to where applications that where defensible came from?

A: No, it’s just been individual farmers and how the paperwork has been completed. I will say dates have been a big factor. (on or after March 1) Lamb, beef, wool…the letter will clarify what will allow for defensible award.

Luke: So everyone who applied will get a letter?

A: basically, yes.

Luke: I know a few people who had not gotten responses…

A: I cannot push anyone to front of line because they call. It is be patient we will get to them. It is a process.

Sierra: I have so many people calling me saying I have no idea if they have gotten my application….

A: Once we get everything out we will send out an email saying if you have not heard from us please contact us…

We have worked very hard to get to this point. It’s been a labor of love for the team.

**Round table:**

Allison Fiscus:

Pork industry is doing well, no need to euthanize. Had letter stating Utah pork industry being in dire straits retracted. Farmers are surviving

Kerry Rood:

Vets have been effected (staff etc)… appreciate that Vets where deemed essential.

Allen Henrie:

Conservation has been impacted by not happening!!! Budget cuts have made people hold back. Still involved with farmers/ranchers.

Dr. White:

College is hanging in there ..planning in face to face courses in Fall. Extension is working on getting back open. Virtual extension programs have worked well. Waiting to see what happen is session on 18th.

Luke Peterson:

Seen a lot of interesting things in small farms. People are holding back on consumer side. Farmers markets being canceled. Planting have been better because people want to buy local. Better direct sales market (buy ahead boxes etc). Greenhouses have had great sales for gardens and family interest.

Chris Falco:

Waiting for auction to move goods. Market still bad.

Sierra Nelson:

Industry still in upheaval and market still in toilet. Sheepherders still stuck in countries.

Robert McMullen:

Cherries 20% sweet…70% tart. Michigan had damage so that may help. Peaches 50-60%. Good Utah market. Apples look good. Still having H2A labor challenges.

Wade Garrett:

Some cattle strength happening. Farmers Feeding Utah had great success. H2A reach out to congressional offices.

**Next AG Advisory Meeting**- July 14th- 1pm via Google Hangout.

Meeting Adjourned