



Connecticut Milk Promotion Board

State of Connecticut
Department of Agriculture

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
November 19, 2020
2:00 PM

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Members Present: Chairman Paul Miller, Vice Chair Amanda Freund, Seth Bahler, Joe Greenbacker, Jon Hermonot, Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt

Members Absent: Jaime Foster

DoAg staff: Rebecca Eddy, Amanda King

Guests: James "Cricket" Jacquier of Laurelbrook Farm, Jenny Karl from New England Dairy

- 1. Welcome:** Chairman Miller calls meeting to order at 2:07.
- 2. Public Comment:** Cricket Jacquier and Jenny Karl state they have no formal comments and want to listen in on the meeting.
- 3. Financial Report:**
 - a. Review of financials:** Rebecca Eddy compiled a financial summary and distributed it to all Board members for review before the meeting. The financial summary was presented during the meeting to include a balance sheet for FY 20/21, financial assets and liabilities.
 - b. Current Status:** Rebecca Eddy informed the Board that there will be approximately \$400,000 in surplus funds in the CT dairy check off account for the upcoming year. The

Board agrees on the need to spend down the funds in a strategic way over a period of time that needs to be determined.

4. **Budget Planning:** Chairman Miller states the need to appoint a subcommittee to develop plans to spend down surplus funds in the CT dairy check off account consistent with the strategic vision plan goals. Discussion ensued with each board member providing input.

Joe Greenbacker made a motion to support the upcoming budgetary process by spending the account balance down over a 3 year time frame, and that future projects are based upon the Strategic Vision Planning (SVP) process that the Board has been developing. Seconded by Seth Bahler. All in favor, motion passes.

Chairman Miller asked Seth Bahler to chair the subcommittee related to budgeting the surplus in alignment with the SVP. Seth accepted. Amanda Freund and Joe Greenbacker also accepted appointments to the subcommittee.

The Board agrees that the next MPB meeting on January 20, 2021, will be for budget planning and continuing the SVP process. The Budget Planning Subcommittee appointed members, Seth Bathler, Joe Greenbacker and Amanda Freund will be prepared to present to the Board with recommendations on how much of the surplus funds to spend in conjunction with a timeline at the January meeting.

5. **Adjournment:** Seth Bahler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:12 pm. Joe Greenbacker seconded. All in favor, meeting adjourned.