



# Connecticut Milk Promotion Board

State of Connecticut  
Department of Agriculture

## REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

January 20, 2021

1:00 PM

Microsoft Teams meeting

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

**Members Absent:** none

**DoAg staff:** Rebecca Eddy

**Guests:** Cricket Jacquier, Annalise Kieley, Amanda Aldred, Heidi Harkopf, Jenny Karl, Erin Wholey

1. Welcome: Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. Review and Approval of Special Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Hurlburt moved to accept Special Meeting Minutes of October 30, 2020. Amanda Freund seconded. All in favor, motion passes. Seth Bahler motioned to approve Special Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2020. Commissioner Hurlburt seconded. All in favor, motion passes.
3. Public Comment: Cricket Jacquier wished all a Happy New Year and commented on the work of the board.
4. Financial Report:
  - a. Finance subcommittee update: Rebecca Eddy presented a financial report. No questions. Commissioner Hurlburt motioned to accept as presented. Joe Greenbacker seconded. Request was made from the board to receive financial update in advance. All in favor, motion passes.
  - b. State budget update: Commissioner Hurlburt reported a project 10% state deficit; may have surplus in current fiscal year. Hiring freeze for all agencies. Discussion ensued on agency support to staff board. Commissioner reported that he doesn't anticipate need to withdraw support.
  - c. Surplus subcommittee update: Seth Bahler reported that the subcommittee met and discussed options. Recommend a spend down over the course of no less than three years and no more than five years in the amount of \$150,00 in excess of current annual budget. Jon Hermonot made a motion to accept the recommendation. Amanda Freund seconded. Discussion ensued. All in favor, motion passes. Chairman asked for a special meeting on how to utilize funds. Discussion ensued on the RFP/contracting process to encumber the funds. Discussion ensued on

responsibilities/requirements of board members. Chairman Miller asked Amanda Freund to chair a subcommittee to define roles. Amanda Freund accepted. Seth Bahler and Jon Hermonot asked and agreed to serve with Rebecca Eddy as board coordinator. Amanda Freund reported they would meet and produce a document to review before the next regular meeting.

5. Old Business

- a. Appointments: Commissioner Hurlburt asked members to send a statement of interest to Rebecca for agency to send recommendations to legislative leaders. Discussion ensued and request was made to provide guidance to members on timeline and templates. Chairman Miller reported the official resignation of Jaime Foster now that she is serving in state legislature. Recommendations to fill her seat were made, members are encouraged to send suggestions.
- b. Social Media & Outreach: Rebecca Eddy reported on social media and the creation of a Connecticut Dairy Instagram account. Discussion ensued on money to boost posts. Board members requested information on structure of posts, intended engagement and audience.
- c. Review and approval of Q4 and Final New England Dairy Activity Report: New England Dairy presented a topline overview. Board members asked questions on work performed for New England Dairy staff to respond. Commissioner Hurlburt made a motion to accept the Q4 report and payment. Jon Hermonot seconded. All in favor, motion passes. Commissioner Hurlburt made a motion to accept the final report and move final payment. Jon Hermonot seconded. All in favor, motion passes.

6. New Business: Amanda Freund requested clarification on the timeframe of proposal process and what needs to be done. Chairman Miller stated that a special meeting would be held before April regular meeting. Discussion ensued.

7. Commissioner Hurlburt motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Eddy, AMIR 2, January 22, 2021*

