



Connecticut Milk Promotion Board

State of Connecticut
Department of Agriculture
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 18, 2023

1:00 PM

[Watch Recording Here](#)

Members Present: Commissioner Hurlburt, Seth Bahler, Kies Orr-LaVack, Jon Hermonot

Members Absent: Sandra Boardman, Arthur Speilman, Michael Puglisi

DoAg Staff: Ally Hughes

Guests: Heidi Harkopf, Michael DeAngelis, Kiley Cairns, Vanessa Alarcon, Wilson Camleo, Mercedes Sanchez, Amanda Aldred

1. Welcome and Call to Order by Chairman Bahler at 1:06 pm
2. Public Comment (3-minute limit per speaker)
 - (1) No public comments.
3. Review and approval of:
 - (1) Regular Meeting Minutes for July 19, 2023. Commissioner Hurlburt motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Jon Hermonot seconded. All in favor, motion accepted.
4. Unfinished Business
 - (1) New England Dairy provided its quarterly report for Farmer Engagement.
 - (2) New England Dairy provided its quarterly report for Consumer Nutrition and Education.
 - (3) Camelo provided its quarterly report for its media contract.
5. Financial Report/Budget Update
 - (1) Ally Hughes provided an update on the quarterly financial report for FY 2024. Discussion ensued. Kies Orr-LaVack motion to accept the financial report as presented. Seconded by Jon Hermonot. All in favor, financial report accepted.
6. New Business
 - (1) Kies Orr-LaVack motion to fund ad space in the 2024 CT Grown magazine for up to \$7,000. Seconded by Jon Hermonot. All in favor, motion carried.
 - (2) Jon Hermonot motioned to allow the Board Coordinator to fund items of \$200 or less. Seconded by Kies Orr-LaVack. All in favor, motion carried.
 - (3) Ally Hughes updated the Board that there was approximately \$22,000 from the last contract cycle that was not spent down for the Farmer Engagement Grant provided by New England Dairy. Possible funding opportunities were provided by Ally Hughes. Discussion ensued. At this time the Board did not wish to spend the funds and will revisit the conversation at the next meeting.
 - (4) Kies Orr-Lavack motion to approve the following meeting dates for 2024. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Hurlburt seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

- January 17, 1 pm
- April 17, 1 pm
- July 17, 1 pm
- October 16, 1 pm

(5) Commissioner Hurlburt motioned to nominate Fort Hill for the 2024 Innovative Dairy Farmer of the Year. Seconded by Jon Hermonot. All in favor, motion carried.

7. Jon Hermonot motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Kies Orr-LaVack. All in favor, the meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ally Hughes, AMIR I, on October 18, 2023.