

**IDAHO BARLEY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 1, COEUR D'ALENE RESORT
COEUR D'ALENE, ID**

I. Roll Call – Chairman Ron Elkin called the IBC meeting to order at 6:40 a.m. on Tuesday, December 1, 2009, at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, ID. Attendees included:

Ron Elkin, Chairman
Dan Mader, District I Commissioner
Dwight Little, District III Commissioner
Clay Kaasa, Industry Representative **(by telephone)**
Kelly Olson, Administrator
Andi Woolf, Project Coordinator/Fiscal Officer

Guests included: Scott Brown, IGPA Vice President, Soda Springs; Clark Kauffman, IGPA Secretary-Treasurer, Filer; Joseph Anderson, IGPA EB member, Genesee; Dr. Juliet Windes, UI cereal agronomist/pathologist, Idaho Falls.

II. IBC Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the IBC's October 27, 2009 meeting were reviewed. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dan Mader, and seconded, to approve the minutes for the October 27, 2009 meeting as presented. The motion carried 4-0.**

III. IBC Budget Report

Monthly check-off receipts, balance sheet and income statements -- The Administrator reviewed budget reports as of November 30, 2009, showing check-off receipts at \$148,179.98, which is \$11,582.59 behind last year's pace. Current assets total \$598,869.17. Income to date is \$152,060.22, which is 38.2% of projected budget (does not include November interest earned); and expenditures are \$159,918.04, representing 36.7% of budget, leaving a net drawdown to date of \$7,857.82. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dan Mader, and seconded, to approve the IBC financial report as presented. The motion carried 4-0.**

IV. IBC Administration

IBC referendum on future Idaho barley assessment – The Administrator reviewed the results of the IBC assessment referendum conducted on Nov. 3-13 by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture: 491 ballots were judged to be valid, representing a 27% response rate. Yes votes tallied 258 or 54% and no votes 233 or 46%. A thorough discussion ensued on what steps should be taken based on these referendum results. Board members felt that while the vote was not an overwhelming majority in favor of a future assessment increase, the groundwork had been successfully laid to consider a future legislative change. In particular, they felt a compelling case could be made to producers that the IBC will need to step up and fund a larger share of both UI and ARS barley research in the future because public funding is becoming more constrained. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dan Mader, and seconded, to NOT request that IGPA pursue a change to the IBC statute in 2010 to allow for a flexible barley assessment, but to continue to closely evaluate Idaho barley production and funding trends during the next couple years. The motion carried 4-0.**

Commissioner Dan Mader also acknowledged the efforts of Commissioner Dwight Little, Industry Representative Clay Kaasa and the Administrator to improve grower communications and outreach in eastern Idaho.

Telephone Replacement – The Administrator reviewed options for replacing the current telephone system at the IWC building which lost voice mail capabilities in early October. There are two options under consideration: participating in a new Voice-Over-Internet proposal by State Administration to the IWC, or installing our own stand alone system that will include additional Qwest charges for voice mail. The first VoIP option involves considerable up-front capital cost (\$623.76 for two phones versus about \$100) but a savings of about \$29/month in monthly charges. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dwight Little, and seconded, to approve participation in the IWC's voice over internet telephone system. The motion carried 4-0.**

V. IBC Program Review – Market Development, Research, Grower Services

U.S. Grains Council (USGC) programs – Commissioner Dan Mader gave an excellent report on his participation in the US Grains Council's annual barley mission to Japan, which also included Taiwan on Oct. 31- Nov. 7. Dan noted that the team concluded there was both good news and bad news concerning the food market development efforts in Taiwan. The good news was that in a relatively short time there will be considerable demand for value-added food barleys with additional beta-glucan fiber. The bad news is that Australia will continue to be a formidable competitor given its significant freight advantages. U.S. suppliers will need to carefully evaluate any competitive advantages that might open this market to U.S. barley. Dan also noted that he led discussions with the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries concerning administrative changes that might lower the high cost mark up on imported barley, particularly the onerous testing requirements on container shipments. Dan feels that the USGC needs to continue pressing this issue with MAFF officials. He noted that domestic food barley manufacturers reported that domestic barley production continues to decline, which increases the need for imported barley, but that the market as a rice replacement is not growing as quickly as had been anticipated. Interest remains high in the U.S. barley health claim and new food barley varieties being grown in Washington and Idaho. Dan recommended that the IBC board meet with Portland based exporters on future strategies to expand barley sales to both Japan and Taiwan. This meeting will be scheduled Jan. 11-12, 2010.

Chairman Ron Elkin and the Administrator reported on the US Grains Council's Latin American Malt and Malting Barley Buyers Conference held Nov. 18-20 in the Dominican Republic. Ron noted that he felt more positive about this conference compared to the first one held two years ago in Panama City, primarily because we are developing closer working relationships with the major Latin American brewers which helps facilitate more candid discussions on future opportunities for both barley and malt sales from the U.S. Ron emphasized that Idaho encouraged these potential customers to consider contracting their malting barley production needs but not to bypass our traditional commercial maltsters, which would include Great Western Malting Co. We concluded that there would NOT likely be any savings by cutting out the U.S. maltster.

ARS food barley releases – The Administrator reviewed data on two new hullless food barleys from ARS Aberdeen that are scheduled for release in winter 2010. The first line – 03AH3054-51 – has better yields than the best Canadian line (CDC Alamo) at 67.4 bu/Ac and excellent beta-glucan content at 9.9%. The second line – 03AH6561-94 – has even better yield

at 80.8 bu/Ac but lower beta-glucan at 6.8%. Cargill has expressed interest in licensing one or more of these new ARS food barley releases, which will be monitored closely.

Teton Regional Land Trust Funding Proposal – Commissioner Dwight Little reviewed the \$15,000 funding request submitted by Dave Reinke, president of the Teton Regional Land Trust, to help acquire a conservation easement on 320 acres of grain fields along Fall River owned by Lloyd and Julie Griffel. After thorough discussion, **a motion was made by Commissioner Dwight Little, and seconded, to deny a funding request from the Teton Regional Land Trust for \$15,000 to acquire a conservation easement on 320 acres of farmland in Fremont County, because the request fell outside of the IBC’s current strategic initiatives. The motion carried 4-0.**

Commissioner Dwight Little also noted that he had been approached by Madison County growers about helping to fund the recent legal fight against the Madison County property tax increase. Dwight reported that he did not receive a specific funding request but indicated that the IBC might receive a request in the near future.

IGPA report – IGPA Vice President Scott Brown provided a report on current IGPA priorities, including:

- § Highlights of the 2009 Oregon-Idaho Grains Conference scheduled that week at the Coeur d’Alene Resort and input on the location for the 2010 convention.
- § IWC voted not to pursue a legislative change of the Idaho wheat assessment in 2010.
- § IGPA’s work with NBGA and NAWG on pending climate change legislation.
- § Support for passage of the Colombia Free Trade Agreement. Scott briefly summarized discussions held during a recent U.S. Wheat mission to Latin America, including Colombia and the potential loss of wheat markets because Canada is close to adopting a FTA with Colombia while the U.S. sits on its hands. The Administrator noted that the Ag Trade Coalition needs to put coordinated pressure on House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, rather than just talking to our congressional friends.
- § IGPA EB member Joseph Anderson appealed to the IBC to participate in a consolidated Idaho grain producer database. The Administrator explained that the IBC and IGPA routinely share their lists. She noted that the IBC list is much narrower than the IGPA list because it includes only Idaho barley growers who have sold barley commercially in the past two years. We maintain this list for purposes of mailing workshop brochures and our print newsletter. The IGPA list is much broader because it is used primarily for mailing the Idaho Grain Magazine and includes hundreds of non producers. We committed to continue working with IGPA and IWC on current databases that can be shared, if not consolidated.

ARS Aberdeen research funding request to support “Molecular Mapping of Malting Quality Traits in a Specific Barley Mapping Population “ - This funding proposal was presented to the IBC at its October 27 meeting by Drs. Don Obert and Eric Jackson. A funding decision was deferred until the IBC ‘s December meeting. After thorough discussion on the value of this research, **a motion was made by Commissioner Dan Mader, and seconded, to provide \$9,000 funding support for the ARS Aberdeen research proposal on “Molecular Mapping of Malting Quality Traits in a Specific Barley Mapping Population.” The motion carried 4-0.**

UI funding for the UI Tetonia Research and Extension Center – The IBC continued discussions from its October 27 meeting concerning a one-time private contribution to help maintain barley research operations at the UI Tetonia R&E Center in FY 2010. Commissioner Dwight Little argued strongly that it was important to eastern Idaho growers that operations be maintained at the Tetonia R&E Center until a comprehensive plan for reconfiguring and/or transitioning barley research and the spring barley foundation seed program to another UI

research location can be drawn up with the UI. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dwight Little, and seconded, to provide a \$15,000 one-time private contribution to the UI Tetonia Research and Extension Center that will allow both the UI and IBC the time required to address future needs of the spring barley foundation seed program. The motion carried 4-0.**

Grain Marketing / Risk Management Education Grant application in 2010 – The Administrator reported that IBC has an opportunity to submit another grant application (pre-proposal) to the Western Center for Risk Management Education at WSU to support our ongoing risk management education programs. Our last grant was funded in 2008 at \$20,000 and we recently completed all of our prescribed work with the last series of grain marketing workshops held November 3 in Rexburg and Ashton. The Administrator outlined some ideas she has, along with some proposals from Lewis County extension educator Ken Hart. The consensus was for the IBC to submit a pre-proposal for potential risk management education grant funding. Proposals are due on-line by December 15, 2009.

VI. Other / Election of Officers

Travel Authorizations – Two out-of-state travel requests were reviewed. **A motion was made by Commissioner Dwight Little, and seconded, to approve out-of-state travel as follows: all IBC members and the Administrator to visit with Portland based barley exporters on January 11-12, 2010; and two people to participate in Nontraditional Barley Breeding Research & Commercialization Conference scheduled April 14-15, 2010 in Banff, Alberta. The motion carried 4-0.**

Officer election – Commissioner Dan Mader cast a unanimous ballot to elect Dwight Little, District III Commissioner, as the new IBC chairman for 2010.

A final motion was made by Commissioner Dan Mader, and seconded, to approve all acts and transactions of the December 1, 2009 meeting. The motion carried 4-0.

With no other business, the IBC meeting was adjourned by Chairman Ron Elkin at 9:50 a.m.

Ron Elkin, Chairman

Date

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MOTIONS PASSED**

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2. A motion was made by Commissioner Dan Mader, and seconded, to approve the IBC financial report as presented. The motion carried 4-0.
3. A motion was made by Commissioner Dan Mader, and seconded, to NOT request that IGPA pursue a change to the IBC statute in 2010 to allow for a flexible barley assessment, but to continue to closely evaluate Idaho barley production and funding trends during the next couple years. The motion carried 4-0.
4. A motion was made by Commissioner Dwight Little, and seconded, to approve participation in the IWC's voice over internet telephone system. The motion carried 4-0.
5. A motion was made by Commissioner Dwight Little, and seconded, to deny a funding request from the Teton Regional Land Trust for \$15,000 to acquire a conservation easement on 320 acres of farmland in Fremont County, because the request fell outside of the IBC's current strategic initiatives. The motion carried 4-0.
6. A motion was made by Commissioner Dan Mader, and seconded, to provide \$9,000 funding support for the ARS Aberdeen research proposal on "Molecular Mapping of Malting Quality Traits in a Specific Barley Mapping Population." The motion carried 4-0.
7. A motion was made by Commissioner Dwight Little, and seconded, to provide a \$15,000 one-time private contribution to the UI Tetonia Research and Extension Center that will allow both the UI and IBC the time required to address future needs of the spring barley foundation seed program. The motion carried 4-0.
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