

## 2009 DAIRY ADVISORY BOARD TELECONFERENCE MINUTES

These are the Minutes of the 2009 Dairy Advisory Board Teleconference Meeting on Thursday, January 29, 2009 held in Secretary Bill Northey's office. Present in Sec. office, Secretary Northey, Deputy Secretary Karey Claghorn, John Whipple, Margaret Thomson, Sheryl Goddard, Dustin VandeHoef, and Sam Beattie.

Margaret Thomson called the meeting to order at 10:35AM .

Sheryl Goddard, Administrative Assistant to the Dairy Bureau called role call. Twenty-Three people answered to the role.

Margaret Thomson introduced Secretary Northey whom presented some opening comments on the price of milk & changes to come.

John Whipple read the 2008 Board Minutes. 2008 Minutes were approved.

Secretary Northey opened up the agenda with additional discussion on the Price of milk.

Wayne Dykshorn, stated the milk checks for first ½ of January were \$12.60 and figured Feb & Mar. were going to be about the same, had grave concerns about the costs. Wanted to know if there was funding to help producer's, with ways to compost animals, rendering, ect.

Secretary Northey advised that there might be some funding to contact ISU – Extensions and referred the question to -  
Sam Beattie, ISU Ext. recommended ISU working on a web site that gave recommendations to Composting.

Eric Lyons, stated that the market is putting a large stress level on the producers, with the price of not only milk, but feed & supplies. Also asked if the board thought prices would bottom out in Mar. or April .09.

Secretary Northey generally asked what is being said out in the field.

Erin Vagts, Iowa Dairy Association, commented that producers want to continue with regulations but in the same token it makes it hard. Also need to export more of our products.

Kent Lehs, Midwest Dairy Association, we need to guide producers through their cost cutting measures. The herd's health is a concern when producers start to cut cost.

Kevin Stiles, Midwest Dairy Association, commented on elevation of export sales.

Secretary Northey asked for any further comments.

Wayne Dykshorn wanted to know if the price dropping close to stopping?

Kevin Stiles, stated seeing price's still falling.

Wayne Dykshorn suggested maybe the Media could help, even though milk prices are at a low,

quality products are still available to the consumer. That they are receiving a good by with the price at a low. A Good Value.

Kevin Stiles, agreed and even if prices rise, it is still good deal.

Sam Beattie, ISU working on program "Spend Smart-Eat Smart" it is a good resource to view. A Press release could definitely help.

Secretary Northey wanted input on to if there was to be Media release when?

Kevin Stiles, said they are ready anytime.

Secretary Northey turned this over to Dustin Vanehoef, IDALS communications specialist.

Dustin VaneHoef stated he will coordinate this by email.

Jerry Johnson, AMPI, with the price down, not only producer's are hurting, but processors are also.

Secretary Northey agreed and need to find ways for everyone involved to handle the cost effects. Stressed for everyone to communicate, their concerns with other state agencies also.

Wayne Dykshorn, thanked, Secretary Northey's and appreciated his concern.

Secretary Northey, made known the suggested budget cuts. Relayed how the Department of Ag was handling some of the cuts. As for 2010 not sure what exactly the cuts will be, but are aware there will some. Opened discussion about the departments Dairy Bureau. How are they doing, or do we need to do anything different.?

Mark Truesdell, wanted to make sure he heard the budget amounts correctly.

Secretary Northey repeated and yes that was correct.

Mark Truesdell –Kurt Rueber agreed that inspectors & inspections should be exempt from budget cuts, to continue this program as is, so that Iowa can comply to FDA standards and be able to ship milk across the border.

Secretary Northey also stated not only is Dairy a line item budget, but the department has to find an additional \$140,000.00 from the general funds to keep the Dairy Bureau running.

Mark Truesdell, would like to know ways to help.

Erin Vagts, stated she has already spoken to IDALS Legislative Liaison Susan Fenton about this issue.

Margaret Thomsen, remarked on the Cow Sharing, (RAW MILK). They are aware of a case & working on taking action against it. If you hear of any of this going on in Iowa, let the department know.

Sam Beattie, also stated if anyone hears about someone purchasing cull cows, that Illinois has an issue going on about Raw Milk, with people purchasing cull cows.

Mark Truesdell, simply stated Raw Milk – Cow Sharing is illegal . Thank you to the Department of Ag & Attorney General's office for the enforcement.

Secretary Northey, ask for a comments from Travis Knight, head of the department labs.

Travis Knight only wanted to remark about was that the number of samples coming through the lab was down 6%.

Secretary Northey requested any additional questions!

Margaret Thomson ask for a motion to adjourn.

Norm Dorstall motioned for adjournment

Wayne Dykshorn 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Board adjourned at 11:35.am.