



Colorado Agricultural Value-Added Development Board

Board of Directors

Mel Rettig (Chairman)
Grand Junction, CO

Brian Neufeld
Hooper, CO

Randy Wilks
Burlington, CO

Robert Bray
Redvale, CO

John P. Cure
Idalia, CO

Ben Rainbolt
Denver, CO

Tom Wingfield
Golden, CO

Don Brown (Ex Officio)
Commissioner of Agriculture

Tom Lipetzky (Secretary)
Colorado Department of
Agriculture

Lillie Collins
(Assistant Secretary)
Colorado Department of
Agriculture

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Meeting Minutes Teleconference

April 23, 2015 @ 8:35 a.m.

Present: Mel Rettig, Brian Neufeld, Robert Bray, Ben Rainbolt, Tom Wingfield; Tom Lipetzky, Shaina Knight and Lillie Collins from CDA.

1. Shaina started with a recap of the AgEnrich Grant Program. There were forty-one (41) applications last year, for \$500,000. This year there were thirty (30) applications, totaling \$372,784 and they were better quality. There is \$100,000 available this year for funding these grants.

Current review of last year projects:

Triple M Bar Ranch – opted out because of medical reasons

Soup 4 Supper – contract terminated because of non-communication

Montrose Dev Authority – feasibility project is progressing and they have submitted for reimbursement

Weld County District 6 – doing well on their project, will be finished prior to June

Shaina then presented the new proposals and recommendations from the internal review team. The board discussed the proposals, agreeing on projects to be funded.

Motion: To authorize Shaina to proceed along lines of discussion.

Ben Rainbolt moved that funding be granted for projects with the exception of bottom three projects (noted above) and to make adjustment to Garden Sweet, Infinite Monkey Theorem and Four Corners RMFU. Tom Wingfield seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Below are the 2015 declared awarded projects:

Feasibility studies

- Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project
- Brink Inc.
- Kettlelson Family Farms

Marketing

- Southwest Farm Fresh Cooperative
- Community Agriculture Alliance
- Two Brothers Organics Inc.
- The Infinite Monkey Theorem, Inc.
- Four Corners Chapter, Rocky Mtn. Farmers Union
- Garden Sweet

2. Tom Lipetzky gave an update on legislative bill in the House. Representative Young and Arndt were sponsors of bill HB-1320. This would be a grant to support innovation in Agriculture. It has passed out of the House Agriculture Committee. The bill asks for \$500k yearly for grants to support proof of concept and feasibility studies, early-stage capital and business expansions, and reimbursement of market development and market expenses. This bill gives an opportunity to offer more funding for similar projects to Enrich Ag program. The bill is not part of the long bill, but house and senate have each been allocated other money, so these dollars would be carved out from that amount. It is now headed to a hearing in the Appropriations Committee. There has been no major opposition in committee.
3. Meeting ended at 9:32 a.m.