

Main Street MT Food and Agriculture KIN Break Out Group
Meat Processing and Cattle Feed
Conference Call Minutes
April 13, 2015

KIN Members:

Jim Peterson, Co-Chair
Marilyn Vogele
Jim Fryer
Fred Wacker
Cole Mannix
Scott Hibbard

Staff:

John Rogers Jayson O'Neil
Michaela Wolfinger

Three (3) Action Items:

- A. Identify opportunities for more research collaboration and information sharing
- B. Meet with universities to identify needs and areas of support
- C. Identify best practices and research that is applicable to Montana and can enhance and add value to agriculture

Jim Peterson gave an update on One Montana and the pursuit of a regional meat processing plant.

Regional meat processing plant being pursued.

One Montana put in 25,000 request to Big Sky Trust Fund to continue study.

Stock growers association didn't give money for study, but endorsed it.

Jim Peterson and Fred Wacker raising funds to finish the study

Infrastructure

- How much infrastructure and size of meat processing plant could Montana support?
- No way a regional meat processing plant could go without water
- Feed requirement can be calculated
- Permitting processing, where to locate the plant, should that be researched in advance?
- Timeline?
- Have it in an area where it can draw from water from state land
- Look at water system for growing additional crops
- Transportation

Marilyn Vogele asked if plant manufacturers should be asked if they want to move to MT.

Jim Peterson-once the study is finalized, make info available

Use study to entice them

How do we differentiate our product?

- Use made in MT marketing
- Try to push name and branding, you lose that with other factories/plants

One Montana, needs \$50,000.

- Most all of it toward marketing, no budget for site selection and other business plan aspects.

We need the numbers from the study

Cole Mannix-trying to work on marketing piece. Meeting with Commerce on Thursday April 16th with MT Department of Commerce.

Two Goals:

One MT Feasibility Study on packing plant in MT

- Get numbers from DNRC (and water rights info) and permitting info from DEQ, seed and crop numbers from Department of Agriculture
- Marketing piece from Feasibility Study