

MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**GreenStone Farm Credit Services
Corporate Offices, Training Room
3515 West Road
East Lansing, MI 48823**

MEETING MINUTES March 30, 2016

PRESENT:

Fred Walcott, Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Dru Montri, Vice Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Diane Hanson, Past Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Jamie Clover Adams, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

ABSENT (EXCUSED):

Bob Kennedy, Secretary, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Trevor Meachum, Past Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairperson Walcott called the meeting of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to order at 9:01 a.m. on March 30, 2016. Commissioner Montri called the roll with Commissioners Hanson, Montri, and Walcott, and Director Clover Adams present. Commissioners Kennedy and Meachum were excused from the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: COMMISSIONER MONTRI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING AGENDA FOR MARCH 30, 2016. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANSON. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 24, 2016, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: COMMISSIONER HANSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 24, 2016, MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MONTRI. MOTION CARRIED.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18, at Baker College, 6667 Main Street, Cass City, Michigan.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND TRAVEL

Commissioner Hanson reported weather is warm in the Upper Peninsula (UP) and the snow is gone. Planting will begin later in the spring.

On March 8, she participated in the Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference held at Bay de Noc Community College in Escanaba, which was very well attended and included numerous informative breakout sessions. On March 15-17, she attended the U.S. Potato Board meeting in Colorado Springs. The organization is changing its name to Potatoes USA to establish a better fit with social media. Last week, she conducted a Michigan State University (MSU) telephone interview with a candidate for the Agriculture Educator for Delta County, a position that has been vacant for two years.

Commissioner Montri advised the conference and convention season has come to end and focus can turn to spring planting. She participated in several excellent meetings this winter with the Michigan Meat Association and Michigan Farmers Market Association. She also attended the recent Commodity Executives meeting and Ag Day at the Capitol, which was well attended and provided for a good exchange between organizations and policy makers. She will be traveling the end of April to Washington, D.C., for a strategic planning session with the National Farmers Market Coalition.

On the farm, it has been a beautiful spring and planting for spring is complete. The primary spring harvest will begin in two weeks, just as they begin planting summer crops.

Commissioner Walcott reported his operation is looking forward to spring. He was glad to have been able to attend the Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) conference held in Hillman, Michigan, which was well attended. The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) continues to do an outstanding job addressing industry concerns. Some solutions lie in fencing and new technology; however, the disease obviously needs to be eradicated from the deer herd in order to adequately protect the bovine industry. Dr. Averill and his partners at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) are doing an excellent job working toward that goal.

Commissioners Hanson, Walcott, and Montri traveled to attend today's meeting. There was no other travel submitted for approval.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER MONTRI MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMISSIONERS' TRAVEL. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANSON. MOTION CARRIED.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Clover Adams reported the initial Rural Development Fund Board meeting was held March 17 in Mackinaw City, which includes members from various areas of the rural economy. They had the opportunity to discuss current economic and business development with Dennis West from Northern Initiatives and concluded the meeting with general discussion on their specific charge within the statute. The next meeting will be held in June at the same location. The authorization is part of the Governor's budget for Fiscal Year 2017 and approximately \$1.5 million is anticipated to be available for the parameters established by the board.

She attended a National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) sponsored Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) meeting in Orlando last week. It was

an excellent meeting, during which agriculture and public health departments from all fifty states discussed the Produce Safety Rule. NASDA has spent considerable time and resources developing an operational guide for producers. The meeting was very informative regarding what will be involved on both the grower and government sides to truly implement the rule in a way that does not harm growers and benefits consumers. Contrary to what some people may believe, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not have unlimited funds to implement this rule.

The Pure Michigan Agriculture Summit was also held last week and Chief Deputy Director Wenk represented the MDARD Executive Office at the event. Participation was exciting, with over 400 attendees, including 30 buyers and over 260 suppliers.

Relative to Mission Flint, the department has stood down the Incident Management Team in the Food and Dairy Division and is continuing activities under general operations. Inspectors will be re-inspecting food establishments under MDARD's jurisdiction to ensure they continue proper procedures until such a time the water is deemed safe to use. The local health department has resumed working with restaurants in the area. MDARD continues to discuss nutrition and various means of providing healthy foods to Flint residents to help not only with lead, but long-term good nutrition.

In response to question from Commissioner Walcott, the Director confirmed the Rural Development Fund Board is newly instituted and the statute designates funds be used for infrastructure improvements to assist land-based industries in rural areas. The funds are generated from the Severance Tax on non-ferrous metals.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

John Stears, Vicksburg, noted he lives in the rural area of Brady Township that was formerly zoned agriculture, but he can no longer practice commercial agriculture on his property because of actions by his township, which have taken away his agriculture use by right. He also submitted a siting application to MDARD for livestock and was advised he must reapply for determination of suitability and category determination.

Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB) advised they were agreeing to disagree with the township to take away his agricultural use by right. This involves 280 parcels in the township that are being stripped of their right to farm in rural areas. MFB further advised the township is well within their rights. MDARD met with the township and the decision was that everyone with five acres or less would no longer have agriculture rights and the rest would retain their zoning. However, this was not adopted by the township and they are back to removing those rights from all 280 parcels.

He simply wants someone to speak to this situation to save the ability to farm for his grandchildren. There seems to be no desire to approach the Legislature to prevent townships from taking this type of action.

GRANTS PROGRAM INTRODUCTION: Peter Anastor, Division Director, Agriculture Development Division

Mr. Anastor advised today, two projects that have benefited from MDARD's grant programs will discuss results, outcomes, and impacts of those grant programs. As

reference, he shared copies of the profiles for those two grantees – Great Lakes Pork and Uptown Reinvestment Corporation. He also provided an overview of the grant programs.

Three different grant programs are administered by the Agriculture Development Division (AgD). One is the Specialty Crop Block Grant (SCBG) Program, which is administered on behalf of the federal government. This program coordinates about \$1.8 million each year in funding that is passed through to grantees. The second is the Value Added/Regional Food System Grant Program, which is funded by the State of Michigan. Current year funding is approximately \$1.2 million. The third is the Strategic Growth Initiative (SGI) Program, which was funded by the Legislature in Fiscal Years 2014-2015. Although there will be no new SGI grant funds, staff continue to administer previous projects to ensure completion.

The current active overall grant portfolio is 109 projects, which includes 75 SCBG projects, 13 Value-Added projects, 19 SGI projects, and two other projects. There also are one-time grants administered by the division. For example, the \$3 million awarded for a Biofuels Infrastructure Partnership grant is being administered in partnership with the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan to install more ethanol and blender pumps at fuel stations throughout Michigan.

To ensure the division was operating efficiently and reaching the desired grant outcomes, the division conducted a lean process review of the grant programs. It was completed early this year and steps are being taken to implement some of the recommendations. One of the main goals is to ensure that grants requesting funding for disbursements are handled in a timely manner.

To ensure the desired impacts and outcomes were being realized, MDARD hired Public Policy Associates, Inc., to provide an analytical review of the grant programs. They reviewed \$5.4 million of grant funding for the 2013-2014 Value-Added and 2014 SGI grants. A copy of their report was shared with the Commission. The grant impact analysis findings indicated grantees were highly successful in reaching their planned goals. It also demonstrated projects were designed to address particular needs in Michigan food production, processing, and distribution. Grantees indicated they were able to form more collaborative partnerships, increase competitiveness, enhance marketing, and improve their ability to generate other grant or private funding as a result of these grants. Grants leveraged match expenditures equal to 86 percent of total award expenditures, and improved capacity building, created new jobs, and generated additional revenue of over \$31 million.

Recommendations from the grant impact analysis included the review process should (1) assess plans for measuring and documenting impacts, (2) should establish reporting requirements with program evaluation in mind, (3) should identify meaningful benchmarks for projects with long horizons for economic effects, and (4) should consider a two-year follow-up study.

We have with us today two grant recipients. One was given to Great Lakes Pork, and Earnie Meily from Clemens Food Group will talk about some of the results of the

feasibility study that was initiated through grant funding. The second is Uptown Reinvestment Corporation and Flint Food Works, which is part of the Flint Farmers Market that has been a great success in the City of Flint. Sean Gartland from Flint Food Works will talk about that project.

GREAT LAKES PORK AND CLEMENS FOOD GROUP: Commissioner Fred Walcott; and Earnest A. Meily, Jr., Vice President of Human Resources, Clemens Good Group

Commissioner Walcott advised in late 2012, he was conversing with Harley Sietsema, one of the partners in Great Lakes Pork, regarding how the pork industry in Michigan was economically crippled due to the lack of a good packing plant in the state. This led them into a “what if” conversation and the forming of a group of producers to lay the groundwork. They applied for and received a grant through Great Lakes Pork to conduct a feasibility study to allow those producers to determine if a packing plant of a certain size would be viable in Michigan. It was a very eye-opening experience for most of the producers in the group and it provided the vital information needed. They quickly realized they would need a strong partner with a farmer-based background – one that would work closely with them and bring a label that could provide retail access. The Clemens Food Group (CFG) has a unique partner relationship with the producers in Pennsylvania – precisely what the group desired. Clemens has obviously been a good choice for Michigan. The trickle-down benefits shown in the feasibility study are huge – everything from corn and soybean growers to contract finishing to the major job influx that will be created – the project will provide considerable positive economic impact for the State of Michigan.

Mr. Meily advised the Clemens family corporation was founded in 1895, and today, the sixth generation organization includes 272 family owners and 28 family employees. Their mission, “We aspire to operate in a way that honors the Lord Jesus Christ as demonstrated through ethics, integrity, and stewardship” is core to the corporation’s existence. Those core values are the basis of every business decision made and include a stewardship commitment to team members, the environment, animal care, products, customers, and the community. They are privileged to be in Michigan, and with that comes the responsibility of being a good neighbor and giving back to the community.

CFG is based in Hatfield, Pennsylvania. Family-balanced leadership across senior management, the board of directors, and the owners advisory committee has produced a shared success with over 2,400 dedicated team members processing approximately 10,000 hogs per day.

Clemens is a leader in customer solutions, serving customers across retail, food service, exports to other countries, and business-to-business. Their portfolio of brands, including Hatfield, Farm Promise, and Premium Reserve Pork, features high quality fresh and value-added pork. Their servant leadership model begins with customers at the top and executive support at the bottom, because at the end of the day, their job is to remove the obstacles for all of the rest to be successful.

The CFG facility in Coldwater is part of their plan in building for the future. Need for the facility and its ultimate location were driven by the facts that pork demand is strong,

Southwest Michigan is an ideal location, the raw product is here, and Michigan has a strong commitment to the pork industry. The right producers are within the tristate area and Coldwater provides a central location for the needed workforce. The facility in Michigan will also process 10,000 hogs and ship 2.3 million pounds of fresh pork product per day.

Producer partners include a group of family-owned pork producers who share Clemens' commitment to integrity and quality. They all have long-standing history in production across Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana. Public partners include the State of Michigan Office of the Governor, MDARD, and Michigan Economic Development Corporation, as well as the City of Coldwater, Coldwater Township, Michigan Works, Kellogg Community College, and Branch County Intermediate School District (ISD). It has been a great collaborative effort.

Clemen's over \$275 million investment in the project will provide a 640,000 square-foot manufacturing facility and over 800 jobs. With the July 2015 groundbreaking, they plan to open in the fall of 2017. Construction details by the numbers were reviewed, which demonstrated the magnitude of the project.

CFG has conducted various activities to increase connectedness to the Coldwater community and the greater Michigan area. The workforce needed will be hired from the 40-mile radius around Coldwater.

Job opportunities for 2017 will include 46 managerial, 37 professional, 11 technical, 7 sales, 11 clerical, 12 craftsmen, 585 operators, and 41 laborers. To maintain its culture, the executive management will remain in Pennsylvania. Michigan Works! Association (MWA) training is underway, as well as a job awareness campaign to meet the timeline for hiring employees. Community information sessions will be held with MWA assistance from November 2016 through startup. Workforce development activities include college career fairs, connecting with employees from closing companies, interviewing local residents, building relationships with surrounding communities, participating with various philanthropic groups in the area, and continuing to build a database of potential team members. There have been over 4,000 visitors to the Coldwater website in just six months, with 979 Facebook followers and over 600 individuals enrolled to receive employment update emails. They can be reached at www.CGFColdwater.com and www.Facebook.com/CFGColdwater, and those sites are being continually updated.

The Coldwater project has been a great marriage between Clemens and the Michigan producer group. He thanked the Commission and the department for all of their efforts in bringing the project to fruition and for their continued support.

Commissioner Montri noted there is considerable promise in this type of project going forward for future generations. She asked Commissioner Walcott how the Coldwater project will change business for Michigan's pork producers. Commissioner Walcott advised currently, they are delivering to a processing plant in Kentucky and this will allow their farms to deliver in a much more acceptable time manner, offering a big opportunity. The majority of Michigan's producers will sever their ties with Kentucky processors and

move everything to Coldwater. In response to question from Commissioner Hanson, Commissioner Walcott advised they will eventually be producing more animals to meet anticipated market demands.

**UPTOWN REINVESTMENT AND FLINT FOOD WORKS/FLINT FARMERS MARKET:
Commissioner Dru Montri; and Sean Gartland, Culinary Director, Flint Food Works/Flint
Farmers Market**

Commissioner Montri advised she has worked with the Michigan farmers market community for nearly ten years and one of the best parts of her job is being able to brag about the great work being accomplished in that community.

Advances seen in the industry over the last ten years include the tremendous growth, with the number of farmers markets having doubled to about 300 today. Farmers markets are also expanding in terms of hours open or days of the week operating, and about 50 operate year around. This has been supported by farmers extending their growing season, particularly through hoopouses. Farmers markets are also growing through offering exciting, innovative programs. Each is different and reflects the community in which it operates. While tied to providing high quality fruits and vegetables, product diversity is growing considerably at farmers markets. She is constantly amazed by the creativity of the food and agriculture businesses as they are trying new products, some of that supported by the Cottage Food Law, and reaching other community goals. For example, the farmers market in Bath focuses on providing an active public space in the community, and this is the case for numerous farmers markets across the state – providing that community gathering space. Programing from nutrition education to cooking demonstrations to children’s activities to working with local artists and musicians are also provided.

In addition, there is growing interest in increasing access to fresh produce at farmers markets through federal and state food assistance programs to ensure whatever form of payment people have can be used at farmers markets. This is drawing attention to why farmers markets are vibrant retail spaces. There also is a strong trend in increasing partnerships to help markets and vendors to scale up by having access to commercial kitchen space and merging into wholesale markets. The Flint Farmers Market is a prime example of that, particularly in its new building, which is open three days a week with about 50 vendors. The work they do to incubate businesses is a model for other markets.

Mr. Gartland thanked Commissioner Montri for the support she has given Flint Food Works and the Flint Farmers Market. Since opening in June of 2014, the market has served over 1.53 million people and it has been an amazing transformation from the old market space in terms of the hub of activity that has been created. They were recently honored by the distinction of being named one of America’s Great Public Spaces by the American Planning Association.

They have been able to strike some amazing relationships with area hospitals, and the Hurley Hospital located its children’s clinic to the market’s second-floor retail space. Their physicians write prescriptions for the children to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at the market.

There are about 50 small businesses incubating in the Flint Farmers Market. Many of those long-standing in the area have taken the opportunity to expand in the new space and make connections with other area businesses.

The market has become the hub of activity for other events in the community, such as the Michigan Food, Beer, and Wine Festival, various health fairs, weddings, graduations, anniversaries, and the antique tractor show. Being able to move into this new facility has created this amazing space within the city.

Flint Food Work's commercial kitchen facility has become a wonderful place for market vendors to create value-added products and for new businesses to get their start. Two distinct kitchen spaces offer a different variety of kitchen equipment that fits various specialty food businesses and is available 24 hours a day. This allows someone to start their business while still continuing their current full-time job or taking care of their family. Having access to the market floor and vendors creates both retail and wholesale opportunities.

Considerable educational programming has been possible through the kitchen space, which is tied into the demonstration kitchen space within the market. Michigan State University (MSU) Extension conducts a weekly "Cooking Matters" program to educate adults on healthy food techniques. Programs involving teens, as well as middle school children, have also been sponsored. The kitchen space provides a unique opportunity to impact the community. Flint Food Works collaborates with numerous partner organizations to fill the needs of their kitchen users and businesses.

This is in a broad sense what the grant has helped them to achieve over the last 18 months. Although sometimes overwhelming, having been received so warmly in the community has been enjoyable.

In response to questions from Commissioners Walcott and Hanson, Mr. Gartland advised the 30,000 square foot building is owned by Uptown Reinvestment Corporation and he is a contract employee through them. Cost to rent is \$1.80 per square foot for a normal booth, and each vendor is responsible for their electricity, a marketing surcharge, and a gas/water surcharge. A single eight by nine foot booth would cost about \$200 per month. On Tuesday and Thursday during the winter, about 1,500-2,000 people visit the market each day, and in the summer, that increases to 2,000-3,500 during the week and 5,000-8,000 on Saturdays. Seasonal booths are also available outdoors.

In response to question from the Director, Commissioner Montri advised farmers markets have created electronic systems that make the payment type indiscernible to others. In addition, many communities are hosting activities demanded by the public to meet people where they are to create an atmosphere where families can feel comfortable. MSU Extension began the Michigan Fresh Tour Program to help people feel comfortable in a farmers market. The Farmers Market Association just received funding from the Michigan Fitness Foundation to pilot a program where community food navigators help individuals through specific healthcare systems. These types of efforts will be ongoing to help our communities make farmers market spaces accessible to

everyone. Mr. Gartland added their new location places them across the street from the bus station, creating transportation access for anyone in the county.

In response to question from Commissioner Hanson, Mr. Gartland advised because they are located in a food desert area, they do not have much competition or receive complaints from outlying grocery stores. A recent MSU study demonstrated a direct impact of moving the market closer to the bus station to an increased access to healthy foods for lower income families in the area. The Director shared the definition of a food desert for Flint residents is having a grocery store within one mile of their home. There are 12 full-service independent grocery stores in the City of Flint, and all are on the bus line. Mr. Gartland advised Flint Food Works is currently working on a mobile market program to better serve outlying communities of Flint. Commissioner Montrí noted transportation is an issue for many communities and mobile markets are a nice compliment to what already exists.

RECESS AND RECONVENE

Chairperson Walcott recessed the meeting at 10:34 a.m. for a brief break. He reconvened the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

ROAD AND TRUCKING CONCERNS: Bill Shreck, Community Outreach Program Manager, and Rebecca Curtis, Bridge Management Engineer, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

Mr. Shreck noted there were concerns expressed at the last Commission meeting relative to roads and trucking and they are here today to review how the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) handles local bridges.

Ms. Curtis advised one of her responsibilities is serving as a technical expert for local agencies and the Transportation Asset Management Bridge Committee. In response to inquiry from the Director, Ms. Curtis advised local agencies are townships, cities, and counties.

She provided a local bridge asset management overview, which included details on bridge inventory, inspection, load rating, funding, and preservation. Michigan has approximately 11,000 highway bridges and the local agencies own over 6,500 of those, of which 85.6 percent are in good or fair condition. Over 1,000 bridges are currently posted and carry less than the normal legal load of traffic.

Michigan uses the National Bridge Inventory (NBI) condition ratings that indicate 9-7 as being excellent to good and requiring only routine maintenance; 6-5 as satisfactory or fair and may need preventive maintenance or minor rehabilitation; 4 as poor condition, where the structure is likely to need major rehabilitation and may be posted for reduced loads; 3-2 as serious or critical condition, which are high priorities for rehabilitation and likely to be posted for reduced loads; and 1-0 as imminent failure or failed condition and the bridge is closed to traffic.

Load rating is the engineering process undertaken to determine the safe carrying capacity of a bridge, or what size truck can safely cross that structure. MDOT has a Bridge Analysis Guide dedicated to that process, as well as a number of other guides

and advisories published for use by local agencies. An engineer will perform an analysis for each bridge.

Michigan is unique because it has a number of grandfathered legal loads. There are 25 identified legal loads for rating, whereas nationally, most other states analyze for only three loads that are significantly smaller. As compared to other states, Michigan starts with a significantly higher load that is allowed to cross on a routine basis.

Bridge funding options include federal funds, the Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF), and the Local Bridge Fund (LBF). The LBF is comprised of Regional Bridge Councils who select bridges based on regional needs. Those funds originate from MTF, i.e., transportation tax dollars.

The backlog of projects is evident. In 2015, there were 338 bridge applications competing for a total of \$260 million in funding. Only 89 projects were selected by the Regional Bridge Councils, which is just 26 percent of total project applications. Additionally, there is a five percent local agency match required to move forward on these projects. In response to inquiry from the Director, Ms. Curtis advised the bridge funding will not be impacted by the recent transportation funding legislation.

Because there are more needs than funding available, MDOT is a big proponent of bridge preservation, which combines rehabilitation with preventive maintenance of cyclical and condition-based activities. The Transportation Asset Management Council has been advocating for bridge preservation among their local agencies. Since its inception in 2004, there has been an increase in the amount of preservation completed that correlates directly to a decline in bridge deterioration over that time.

The council has also produced an Asset Management Guide for local agency bridges in Michigan, which can be used by owners to walk through all of the technical concepts they need to understand in order to properly manage their assets and make the best possible decisions. MDOT also provides bridge asset management training, which is available for public agencies and private companies.

In response to question from Commissioner Montri, Ms. Curtis advised the grandfathered legal loads consist of a mixture of manufacturing and agricultural needs. Most states use a maximum vehicle weight, while Michigan considers a combination of axle weight distribution, which is often twice the gross vehicle weights of another state.

In response to inquiry from Commissioners Walcott and Montri and the Director, Ms. Curtis advised the local bridge owners develop the rules and establish project criteria based on the condition of a bridge that will give a base number of points. Safety and traffic categories are considered and preventive maintenance is also an important category. Therefore, management of all assets could be a determining factor by the Regional Bridge Council in deciding if a particular bridge project is worthwhile. Local agencies need to determine how funds should be allocated to all road and bridge projects in their area. Historically, the majority of funding spent on local agency bridges in Michigan has been from the LBF. Every bridge that is open will be safe to travel, and once a bridge deteriorates to the point temporary measures will not bring it to a point of

maintaining traffic, it will be closed. Mr. Shreck noted because there has been no money beyond federal, MST, and local millage funds, roads and bridges are deteriorating faster than they have funds coming in, and most must make difficult budget choices. Local agencies are involved in asset management and there is a statewide Asset Management Council, as well as metropolitan planning organizations and rural task forces setting priorities. If farmers are impacted by a load-reduced bridge, Ms. Curtis advised they should begin the process to bring that bridge back to capacity with the local bridge owner, or the planning organization involved. MDOT can provide information regarding the bridge owner and the Transportation Management Council maintains a mapping dashboard on the internet. A bridge owner would be looking for the economic impact involved with a specific bridge. Information regarding current overall impact to the farming community would be case-by-case or county-by-county.

TOWNSHIP ZONING: Jim Johnson, Division Director, Environmental Stewardship Division; Ryan Hunter, H & H Farms; Rob Richardson, Richardson Farms; and Scott Oswalt, Oswalt Family Farms

Mr. Johnson thanked the Commission for the opportunity to discuss in more detail the Brady Township zoning issue and the direct impact to the farming community within the area. Brady Township played a central role in the siting amendment to the Right to Farm (RTF) Act in the late 1990s, in that it resolved a long-standing issue with a livestock operation and brought to a head the need for siting within the RTF Act, resulting in the 1999 amendment. Around this time, Brady Township also rezoned all or parts of approximately nine sections of the township to rural residential. This zoning allowed for agriculture as a use by right, but added residential zoning. In their minds, this essentially created a buffer between Indian Lake and the agriculturally zoned areas in the south and southeast portion of that township.

The change to the Site Selection Generally Accepted Agriculture and Management Practices (GAAMP) that established the category determination process was seen by Brady Township officials as a direct threat to their buffer area, which is the yellow area depicted on the map. Last summer, MFB requested the department assist with a subcommittee of the Brady Township Zoning Commission, chaired by Mike Henerson, to consider what options they might have to address their perception that category determinations opened the door to livestock production facilities (those with more than 50 animal units) within that buffered area. MDARD staff spent significant time developing maps that considered applying all of the setbacks and land use restrictions that exist within the siting process to determine where within that yellow area livestock production systems could actually be placed. In the end, MDARD identified nine locations where livestock in numbers greater than 50 animal units might be possible; but, also indicated to the Brady Township Zoning Commission Subcommittee these would be highly unlikely locations for a number of different reasons. Locations were too small to house animals, animal feed, animal waste, and space required for equipment. From Brady Township's perspective, rezoning that area to rural residential was the reason there had not been any larger scale livestock operations placed in the buffered area. From MDARD's perspective, it most likely was due to the Site Selection GAAMP – farmers and their consultants reviewing siting criteria realized that type of operation would not work in that particular area of the township.

Despite all of that effort, in February, the Brady Township Board did change the buffer area to exclusively residential zoning, making all existing agriculture within the area legal non-conforming use. Obviously, this has significantly impacted current farming operations within this area. With him today are three farmers with property within that area, Scott Oswalt of Oswalt Family Farms, who was on the Planning Commission, Rob Richardson of Richardson Farms, and Ryan Hunter of H & H farms.

Mr. Oswalt thanked Jim Johnson and Michelle Crook of the department who were very helpful in educating the board members during the two meetings held at the township. MFB has also been a great help with resources and assisting the process. One of the problems in Brady Township is that agriculture is not fairly represented on any of the boards and he is the only farmer on their Planning Commission. The farmers consider the Rural Residential Zone as agriculture, everyone else considers it as strictly residential, even though there are large agricultural properties in the area. The farmer group did offer various alternatives during the very time-consuming and overall frustrating review process. The zoning has changed farming in the area from legal to legally non-conforming which affects future planning for those producers. Some grandfathered clauses were included; however, the township can completely control the area with the zoning mechanism. Public support was in favor of the agriculture community, with many questioning the action. However, their supervisor and attorney perceived a threat exists. Farmers in the area are now considering how different opportunities might be created.

In response to questions from Commissioner Montri and the Director, Mr. Oswalt confirmed they have an elected, paid supervisor with two trustees who serve on the Brady Township Board. The greenish-yellow portion of their map is the area affected and the intent was to protect the homes around Indian Lake from a potential CAFO (concentrated animal feeding operation) locating near them. The Site Selection GAAMP has worked just fine in that regard for over 15 years. Mr. Johnson confirmed the rezoning affects any type of commercial agriculture activity and an over 749 animal unit facility could not be sited anywhere within that specific area. Because PA 116 does not depend upon zoning, this would not be an issue. The only part of agriculture that requires zoning under the law is for agriculture with greater than 50 animal units. There are questions as to whether Brady Township will be able to enforce anything through these restrictions within this particular area because the RTF Act states zoning or rules implemented at the local level that somehow impact RTF or GAAMPs cannot be implemented. Zoning is a consideration within the Site Selection GAAMP.

Mr. Hunter expressed concern their sited facility might be hampered in the future because of its proximity to the Rural Residential Zone. In his five years of operation, he has received no complaints from any of his over fifty neighbors. He feels the GAAMPs are effective and the system works. He is concerned about the next potential step in township processes across the state, which potentially could prevent siting of any new livestock facilities. The Brady Township situation is bad, but it is just the tip of the iceberg on an extremely long process that could unfold in Michigan. This is a fight that agriculture cannot stand to lose. In response to question from Commissioner Montri and the Director, Mr. Hunter advised a new commercial fruit and vegetable operation in that Rural Residential Zone would come under the Special Use Category that would require

approval by the Planning Commission. An existing operation of that type would currently be grandfathered and could expand. Future, everyday planning for farming operations is adversely affected.

Mr. Richardson referred to Brady Township minutes that state, "...removing agriculture as a permitted use in the Rural Residential Zoning." He reviewed several pictures from the township platbook depicting total and tillable acres within various parcels to demonstrate producers are growing crops in an area where now agriculture is not a permitted use. He referred to one example where two 2,500-head wean-to-finish pork barns were sited in 2013 and from which his operation manages the manure. There have been no complaints to MDARD, yet today they could not build those barns due to Brady Township Ordinance 135 and a portion of the Site Selection GAAMP. He referred to additional references, noting most of the land is enrolled in PA 116 and/or is part of their sesquicentennial farm founded in 1850. Brady Township is very clear they do not want livestock facilities sited anywhere near the privately owned Indian Lake. The Site Selection GAAMP is effective, it works. His suggestion would be to remove any language specific to local zoning as noted in #3 on page 11 of the Site Selection GAAMP. Further, if land is in PA 116, or is 40 acres or larger, it should be agriculture for zoning purposes. He thanked the Commission for the opportunity to speak today and GreenStone for hosting the meeting.

In response to questions from Commissioners Walcott and Montri, Mr. Richardson confirmed the supervisor does live on Indian Lake, as do the other board members. Mr. Johnson advised the department is considering various alternatives to the zoning language in the Site Selection GAAMP. Mr. Oswalt advised the specific area remains zoned rural residential, with agriculture removed as a permitted use. The end goal is to return that zoning to a more reasonable solution, bringing agriculture back as a permitted use.

Commissioner Hanson agreed this situation could be experienced in other townships. A Delta County township is currently working with its attorneys to address the wind turbine issues there. Mr. Hunter added the township attorney has a vested interest and if successful, can then sell that to other townships. Mr. Oswalt remarked it is scary how easily the process can be flipped to this type of end result. He thanked the Commission for the opportunity to speak today.

OPERATIONAL SERVICES AND CENTRAL LICENSING DIVISION OVERVIEW: David Bruce, Division Director, Operational Service and Central Licensing Division

Mr. Bruce reported as a service component of the department, the Operational Services and Central Licensing (OSCL) Division touches every internal employee, as well as externally approximately 134,00 licensees per year. They also touch every person who conducts a financial transaction with MDARD, either a vendor or a grantee, and those callers who contact the department continuously each day – last year, about 70,500 total calls. Of that, 43,800 calls came to the 800 line with random service requests.

On a macro level, the activities accomplished by OSCL include business review and technology, process improvement, grants, purchasing, facility management, fleet (state vehicle) management, travel arrangements, licensing, customer service contact, mail

operations, warehousing, inventory management, and coordination of all the department printing and forms management. In addition, OSCL has oversight for the Accounting Service Center located in MDOT. He also serves as the Audit Liaison for both internal audits and external Auditor General audit services. Every two years, OSCL presents the Director with a large package of internal control documents to attest to the Governor that MDARD is meeting its responsibilities.

Two overarching goals of the division are to provide good financial stewardship and consistency of practice, and to integrate financial management through all of the program areas, giving timely, reliable service.

Effectiveness of OSCL programs is measured through established metrics. One of those is for licensing. The Food Law of 2000 dictates the specific timeframe of 120 days for processing license renewals for food establishments and 90 days for new licenses. Another metric is the federal indirect rate – MDARD is required to give a portion of federal dollars that flow through the agency back to the state to use for administrative overhead. That is calculated by taking administrative costs as a percentage of total costs. The rate currently being used is 8.12 percent, which is low compared to that of other agencies.

Two areas for which OSCL has oversight are Information Technology and Accounting Services. Both of these functions were centralized through Executive Orders to make those functions more effective statewide.

The Central Licensing Unit (CLU) is on the threshold of its tenth year in consolidated licensing. Ten years ago, MDARD redesigned its licensing process from specific licensing operations located within each division to a centralized process. It was estimated that a savings of \$700,000 per year could be realized, or 15,000 annual staff hours. Other goals included standardization and improvement in timeliness, customer service, and communication, as well as implementation of a state-of-the-art electronic licensing system. The new unit has grown incrementally each year with licenses having been added to the point they are covering 98 percent of all MDARD licensing. The Director can attest to the efficiencies realized through the effort.

The Customer Service Unit (CSU) was created by another breakthrough process improvement effort in 2010. Goals included development of a core standardized process to answer all incoming calls. The department previously had a very complex, frustrating phone tree system and the goal was instead to answer calls immediately. CSU staff now answer 98 percent of all calls to MDARD's 800 number after two-three rings. The other two percent receive a voicemail with a guarantee to call back within 24 hours. In 2011, staff were integrated from the various divisions into one unit where all call service agents now also are available as backup to the CLU staff to perform administrative tasks. CLU staff in turn serve as backup for receiving calls. Through combining the two units, processing times for licenses has been improved from three weeks to one-seven business days and less than 30 days for those requiring an inspection, which equates to a 35 percent increase and significant impact for the customer. Each licensing desk now has standardized protocol which provides for ease

in training new staff. Prior to consolidation, 13 staff processed licenses; there currently are only nine, which has provided a 45 percent decrease in staff costs.

OSCL also coordinates online Pesticide Applicator exam scheduling. Staff can assist customers with the website when needed. Contacts by customers has decreased over time, indicating consumer education has been effective. This process has greatly assisted the Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division.

The inspection time for Food Handler licenses has been decreased by about 50 percent over the last year for new licenses with the introduction of what is called a Pending Report, which created better communication between CLU staff and the divisions. Approximately 54,000 Food Service licenses are handled in tandem between CLU staff and the local Public Health Departments. The process was improved through early notification and identification of any problem areas.

OSCL alone receives an average of 167 incoming calls daily. When specific departmental issues arise, incoming calls can increase to as many as 850 calls per day and those have still been handled within a 96 percent effectiveness of answering within two-three rings.

OSCL staff receives an average of 17.5 food related complaints each week. Handling of this detail allows the Food and Dairy Division to more effectively deal with the food safety issues behind each complaint.

Other special projects are facilitated as well. Currently, OSCL is coordinating a pilot study for the State of Michigan involving GPS units in state vehicles. Of the 120 cars in the pilot study, 30 are MDARD vehicles. Four vendors are conducting the pilot at no cost. Employees are aware monitoring is being conducted on mileage, speed, underutilization, idle time, odd hour activity, and overall how effectively vehicles are being used. Information is provided to the divisions as a coaching opportunity with employees to help them improve those behaviors.

Last year, the division also processed 541 purchase orders, each with no errors. All department grants are also processed by the unit.

In response to question from Commissioner Walcott, Mr. Bruce confirmed the number of restaurant licenses coordinated with the local Public Health Departments is 54,000 which includes temporary licenses.

ACCELA PROJECT UPDATE: Thomas Benner, Systems Manager, Operational Services and Central Licensing Division

Mr. Benner advised he is the agency Project Manager for the Accela Project. MDARD license consolidation efforts began in June of 2006, the CLU was created in October 2006, and work with the statewide Michigan Business One Stop began in July 2008, for which MDARD was one of the leaders. One Stop was discontinued in 2014 due to various problems with the system, which in the meantime had placed MDARD's licensing project on hold.

In 2012, MDARD began the process of considering its inspection systems as a consolidated project to determine if one electronic system could centralize data and create automated workflow to create efficiencies. That was combined with the licensing system project in 2013. The department has completed two very robust process improvements where staff from the various divisions walked through various aspects of their specific licensing/inspection functions to determine if a common method could be developed to provide for system consolidation.

Since Accela had already been selected by the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), it allowed MDARD to expedite its contracting process, and on February 2, the department was able to go live with its three largest license programs in Phase 1 of the project. Phase 2 planning began this year, including incorporation of agile methodology, instead of waterfall, to help expedite work on the next license types. Adjustments to the contract are being negotiated in order to accommodate that change in methodology.

Phase 1 encompassed six license types issued by the department and includes over 17,000 food establishment, over 35,000 permanent food service, 15,000 temporary food service, more than 5,500 nursery, over 4,800 retail motor fuel, more than 1,100 bottled water, and over 675 water dispensing machine licenses. Phase 1 inspections included food establishment, nursery, and retail motor fuel, as well as complaints. Numerous customer service and technological improvements have been realized through Accela.

To date, MDARD staff has dedicated a total of 22,608 hours to the project, with nearly half of that already in 2016. The staff should all be congratulated for making the commitment that brought this to fruition and certainly, department leadership has led the way. The Director added that those staff hours equate to approximately 14 full-time employees.

Mr. Benner advised through efforts of department management, MDARD was able to secure funds from the Information Technology Investment Fund (ITIF) for the project. To date, \$2,994,024 has been spent and the remaining ITIF budget is \$4,689,036. This funding support was a tremendous benefit for the Accela Project, which fits perfectly into the Governor's information technology goals for the state.

The Accela citizen access system online provides a user-friendly format for individuals to use when applying for or renewing a license. MDARD is still discovering just how much information will be available in Accela that will help the department be more efficient.

Each division conducted training workshops and created training resources that were shared through the intranet SharePoint site. The documents are easily updated as new functionality is identified. Scott Davidson, in CLU, took the initiative to create several screenshot videos to assist users in visualizing how to navigate the various screens.

As an example of how well the new system is functioning, an applicant for a food license paid for their application online at 1:39 p.m. on Thursday, February 18, and was inspected and licensed through the Accela system by the inspector at 8:15 a.m. on Friday, February 19 – the entire process was complete in less than 24 hours. This is a

considerable difference from the prior system where a customer would mail a manually completed application with their check to Lansing. The Accounting Service Center would process payment and forward to CLU for manual entry into the License 2000 system that produced a document sent to the inspector. The inspector would then conduct the inspection and issue a temporary license. Finally, the inspection report would be sent to CLU for issuance of the actual license. Accela eliminates all of those extra manual steps in the process.

Accela metrics are being tracked daily. In the first 32 days since the go-live date of February 2, 2016, a total of 238 licenses were issued through the system, 485 applications were submitted, and 1,721 inspections were completed.

Over 17,000 food renewals with online renewal instructions are to be delivered about March 31. An agile methodology pilot for agricultural pesticide dealer licenses and Christmas tree certification is planned for May and June. This pilot will help MDARD, Accela, and DTMB staff to learn to work together using agile methodology and provide a means for accessing how best to plan in the future.

In response to inquiry from Commissioner Montri, Mr. Benner confirmed the public is currently able to check for a specific business license. Even though the new system contains a myriad of information, not all of that will be available to the public.

MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE MONTH: Jennifer Holton, Director of Communications

Ms. Holton shared copies of the new *Michigan's Food and Agriculture Industry* brochure and reported a new tri-fold brochure will also be available soon. Cheri Ayers or Heather Throne can be contacted whenever additional copies are needed. The new *Michigan Agriculture* magazine will be released soon and each Commissioner will receive a supply of that publication.

She noted Governor Snyder proclaimed March as Food and Agriculture Month in Michigan, which provided an opportunity to celebrate our food and agriculture diversity, engage consumers, highlight economic successes and opportunities, and recognize partnerships. Communications is developing ways to engage consumers in a different way, to communicate with them about all of the things happening in the food and agriculture sector.

For example, MDARD was able to partner with McDonald's of Michigan to highlight all of the products they purchase from Michigan farmers. A "Celebrating Michigan Food and Agriculture Month" tray liner is being used in all McDonald's stores in the state to help customers understand the depth and breadth of the partnerships our farmers and commodity groups have with establishments visited every day. The tray liner was launched on digital media on March 15 for National Agriculture Day, and turned into an infographic pushed out on MDARD sites, as well as those of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). It also gave an opportunity for more people to join the conversation using MDARD's hashtag "#MIAgMonth." Social media is all about creating that conversational engagement on a different platform.

Activities around National Pi Day were coordinated with another partner, Grand Traverse Pie Company (GTPC). GTPC conducted a video contest to say the most digits of PI and offered a free slice of pie with any purchase. It provided another opportunity to talk about food and agriculture, demonstrating that an entrepreneur does not have to come from an agriculture background to find a career in agriculture. The Director added GTPC buys 98 percent of what they use from Michigan businesses, not just food ingredients, but everything involved in their business from furniture to napkins.

MDARD launched its use of live Facebook videos during the recent Agriculture Summit. Attendees were interviewed about why the summit mattered to them. It received over 2,200 views of just one video and more than 7,000 people were reached. Many complimentary posts were received as well, and these are coming from the people investing their time in food and agriculture and networking those opportunities.

MDARD's Instagram account was revived in mid-March, which is a photo-sharing platform gaining in popularity. It is completely visual and offers an opportunity for people to share posts, along with their pictures, highlighting Michigan agriculture facts. The site has grown from 13 to 190 followers. This will also be a great platform to utilize should a disease outbreak arise.

The new blueberry graphic is MDARD's most engaging post on Facebook and the most engaging tweet. In the two weeks posted, over 100,000 people were reached and people loved the design – it is shaped like Michigan, it feels like home. Other number-one commodities for Michigan were featured using that format as well. This gives us another avenue to continue marketing our story. It has had about 5,000 likes and over 3,500 shares – people are creating those two-way conversations.

The Pure Michigan blog article talking about various things around Agriculture Month was the most engaging post, which speaks to connection people are trying to make to food and agriculture and the opportunity we have to help showcase all of the great things happening.

She reviewed MDARD's tag board that essentially gives a quick snapshot of the various things we have been posting and talking about on social media over the past month. Agriculture and Natural Resources Week has been highlighted and MDARD collaborated with MSU, MFB, GTPC, McDonalds, commodity groups, MEDC to demonstrate the connection to our partners. TV 10 recently posted a story talking about the opportunities for jobs in food and agriculture. It is an exciting time to be engaged in this process.

She reviewed various links to MDARD's social media platforms, which include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. There have not been many opportunities recently for traditional media coverage; therefore, most communication outreach has been accomplished through social media. Upcoming will be more videos, podcasts, and other different means of sharing our message. Before any new social media platform is considered, close investigation of the target audience and demographics are considered. Mr. Andorfer added reporters seeing our message on social media subsequently contact the department for additional information to produce their traditional coverage. Ms.

Holton noted that a good marriage of traditional and social media is the department's overall goal.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Matt Blakely, Director of Policy Development and Legislative Affairs

Mr. Blakely reported the Legislature is currently on their spring in-district work period, will return for a short time to work on budgets, leave for their summer in-district work period, return for a short time before fall campaign season, and finish the year in lame duck. Everything will begin moving quickly and introduced or not, is up for debate. He is attempting to be a part of those conversations and help direct them where the department needs to go.

Senate Bill 147, the Large Carnivore Act, is receiving more conversations. The department will be monitoring the upcoming anticipated changes.

Senate Bill 671 concerns changes to the Grape and Wine Industry Council and a similar bill has been introduced in the House. As introduced, it adds two additional seats to the council. Included in those paying into this restricted fund are the craft breweries and distilleries; however, they do not currently have representation on the council. MDARD supports the change. However, it represents a small fund and the argument is two additional groups being added would place a strain on its capabilities. Future funding conversations would be appropriate if the Legislature does approve the council expansion.

Aquaculture was a topic of discussion during the last Commission meeting. In follow-up to that, included in the meeting packets is the Synthesis Report Regarding Net-pen Aquaculture in the Great Lakes that is a follow-up to the scientific panel initiated by the QOL agencies. QOL agency recommendations are at the conclusion of that report, which in no way creates a stated position on any pending legislation; it simply represents thoughts of the directors. MDARD continues working with its industry partners to develop a viable future for them. There currently are four aquaculture bills under consideration in each chamber – the conversation will continue regarding aquaculture and net-pens.

House Bills 5189-91 address PA 116 funding. The department's partners at MFB were very helpful in developing these recommendations, including long-term strategic funding. The community has expressed value in that program and current funding is a backwards method that has created an overall funding shortfall.

The bill dealing with hoop house construction did receive a hearing. Discussion was positive and good questions were presented. In response to inquiry from Commissioner Montri, Mr. Blakely confirmed the bill addresses a building permit issue and there currently are different interpretations relative to placement of structures and zoning.

Commissioner Montri inquired regarding Representative Cole's legislation concerning wild foraged morel mushrooms. Mr. Blakely advised he and the representative have had good conversations regarding the bill, one of which included Commissioner Montri. He has since asked MDARD's toxicologist to gather reports addressing the scientific

background on effects of falsely identified morels. Obviously, the toxicity level varies not only in different false morels, but also in different individuals. MDARD is developing its comments around a consumer protection and food safety aspect. Representative Cole is attempting to focus only on morels, which are important to the economy in his district, and feels they should not be regulated. Commissioner Montri reported mycologists advise that every person could also react differently to the toxicity in false morels. Mr. Blakely noted the average consumer believes mushrooms are morels if they are labeled as such, and that is where the danger lies. MDARD wants to ensure truth in advertising and the best way to accomplish that is to require a certification process.

Commissioner Montri reported Senator Hune mentioned working toward introduction of the Urban Agriculture bill soon. Mr. Blakely advised he has seen some draft copies, Jim Johnson has been working with the Senator's office on that legislation, and they anticipate it will be introduced in the near future.

COMMISSIONER ISSUES

There were no issues brought forward by the Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Thelen, President, Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (MAFE), reported he was elected in January and distributed copies of their *2016 Michigan Fairs and Events* brochure, encouraging Commissioners to visit the fairs in their region. As a fair association, they educate people about agriculture, and through 4-H, Future Farmers of America, and community-based programs, they are providing youth leadership development. They also provide a forum for non-profit organizations to raise funds. Leaders raised often go on to be local, state, or federal officials – Director Clover Adams being one of their best examples.

MAFE support the efforts of MDARD and he testified at both the House and Senate Appropriation Subcommittee meetings in support of the budget for the overall department. They also asked that funding be restored for the fair enhancement grant program. MAFE appreciates the support received from the administration and both the Director and Chief Deputy Director have attended their annual conventions and assisted with some statewide award presentations. He looks forward to future opportunities to include them, as well as Commission members in their activities.

MAFE also enjoys a strong relationship with a number of MDARD divisions. The Budget Office helps oversee fairs and racing programs, the Food Inspection Program helps ensure everyone's safety at the fairs, and the Animal Industry Division collaborates with their Animal Health Committee to protect various fair programs for the youth and participants involved. A great example was one fair's decision last year to provide an off-site collection of their birds, have them processed, bring them in a freezer truck to the fair, and allow auction winners to take their birds home immediately following the auction. The number of fairs that created opportunities for youth to still be able to show last year demonstrated the resiliency of the industry and they received great support from the department in those efforts.

He offered if Commissioners have questions at any time, to please feel free to contact him or MAFE directly.

John Stears, Vicksburg, advised with due respect to Mr. Johnson and his guests, the first thing they stated was the issue affects the farmers here today. However, it actually affects much more and he feels that not being mentioned is very important, and thinks the current situation represents a state compromise with the township. He is questioning what is really going on and cannot imagine there being no reaction to the township removing agriculture rights from parcels with five acres or less. Those smaller 280 producers in that township are the backbone of budding agriculture in these zones, and yet they are not grandfathered – his grandchildren are not grandfathered. He is not able to plant a seed in his ground and cannot sell at the farmers market. And how are his grandchildren going to be able to sell at farmers markets when current vendors are grandfathered and there is a waiting list. Agriculture use is everything to him – what does he do now? There is a township map that depicts the rural residential sections going even further out – at what point will this matter.

ADJOURN

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MONTRI MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.
COMMISSIONER HANSON SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Attachments:

- A) *Agenda*
- B) *Agriculture and Rural Development Commission Meeting Minutes February 24, 2016*
- C) *Director Jamie Clover Adams – Issues of Interest Report*
- D) *Grant Projects Presentation*
- E) *MDARD Grant Impact Report*
- F) *Grantee Profile – Great Lakes Pork*
- G) *Grantee Profile – Uptown Reinvestment*
- H) *Clemens Food Group Presentation*
- I) *MDOT Local Bridge Asset Management Presentation*
- J) *Brady Township Parcels Map*
- K) *R. Richardson Farms Brady Township Information*
- L) *Accela Project Update Presentation*
- M) *Ag Month Presentation*
- N) *Michigan’s Food & Agriculture Industry Brochure*
- O) *Legislative Status – March 2016*
- P) *Synthesis Report Regarding Net-Pen Aquaculture in the Great Lakes*
- Q) *MAFE Fairs Brochure*