

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**AgroLiquid  
3055 West M-21  
St. Johns, MI 48879**

**and**

**Remote Technology via Microsoft Teams  
Dial: 1-248-509-0316; Conf. ID 876 711 260#**

**MEETING MINUTES  
November 10, 2021**

**PRESENT:**

Dru Montri, Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Charlie Meintz, Vice Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Patricia Bergdahl, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Andy Chae, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Gary McDowell, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Montri called the meeting of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to order at 9:00 a.m. on November 10, 2021. Commissioner Meintz called the roll with Commissioners Bergdahl, Chae, Meintz, and Montri, and Director McDowell present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING AGENDA AS AMENDED FOR NOVEMBER 10, 2021. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2021, MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2021, MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**PROPOSED 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE**

The Commissioners discussed the proposed dates for their 2022 meetings.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAE. MOTION CARRIED.**

The next scheduled meeting is January 26, 2022, to be held at Constitution Hall, 525 W. Allegan, Lansing, Michigan.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND TRAVEL**

Commissioners shared information relative to their farm operations, as well as agriculture in their respective areas. Concerns were expressed regarding the continuing increase in agriculture input costs, labor issues and, most significantly, supply chain and transportation challenges.

Commissioner Montri noted this is her last meeting with the Commission as her term ends on December 31, adding it has been a privilege to serve the state over the last eight years through work with the department and her fellow Commissioners.

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

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMISSIONERS' TRAVEL. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAE. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **COMMISSIONER ISSUES**

Commissioner Montri reviewed a retirement resolution before the Commission recognizing Robert Pigg.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED THE RESOLUTION FOR ROBERT PIGG BE ADOPTED WITH BEST WISHES FOR HIS LONG AND HEALTHY RETIREMENT. COMMISSIONER MEINTZ SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director McDowell thanked Commissioner Montri for her incredible service to the Commission, recognizing her enthusiasm and engagement in agriculture's many complex issues. He wished her the very best in her new role with Feeding America.

The Director introduced Tom Zimnicki, the new Environmental Policy Advisor for the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). Mr. Zimnicki summarized his background and advised he is looking forward to representing MDARD in the state's various environmental issues.

The Director also introduced Jen Bonsky who was recently named Deputy Division Director for MDARD's Food and Dairy Division. Ms. Bonsky shared information around her background and advised she looks forward to her continued role with MDARD.

The Director shared details of the numerous food and agriculture tours in which he recently participated, most of which included local legislators and media. Tours included Mastronardi, Potlach, Great Lakes Potato Chips, Grand Traverse Pie Company, Grand Traverse Distillery, Walters Gardens, Critter Barn, Hudsonville Ice Cream, Arauco, Kirtland Community College, and Austin Brothers Brewing Company. He advised it was nice to receive such a warm welcome by some of our most entrepreneurial stakeholders. He also participated in the Country Fresh 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event.

During the MDARD Employee Awards Ceremony, 61 staff were recognized for their years of service. Also honored was Mike Lally, Senior Food Inspector, who passed away unexpectedly and will be sorely missed.

MDARD is finalizing its plan to transition back to the office on December 6. Staff will continue with a hybrid schedule.

The department continues to work with our legislative partners on policy wording that will solidify implementation of resources for the Office of Rural Development within in the FY22 budget.

**USDA MICHIGAN STAFF UPDATE Brandon Fewins, Rural Development State Director for Michigan**

Mr. Fewins shared details around his background and noted he is excited to join the USDA Rural Development team and looks forward to opportunities for partnering with their friends from the state. The federal infrastructure program will bring funding for economic development in rural America, and he will be focused on internal capacity to ensure distribution of those funds.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

There was no public comment relative to agenda items.

**NURSERY INSPECTION FEES: Mike Philip, Division Director, Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division**

Mr. Philip introduced Steve Carlson, PPPMD Deputy Division Director Steve Carlson, who shared details around his background.

Mr. Philip advised PPPMD requests the Commission approve a proposed increase in its nursery and related inspection fees by an amount related to inflation, as authorized through P.A. 189 of 1931. Program costs are approximately \$3.2 million, with licensing and inspection fee revenue only totaling about \$965,000. He reviewed specifics of the requested increase, which totals \$15,000 in additional revenue. Organizations affected by the increase have received advance notification of the pending increase.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED INCREASE TO THE NURSERY AND RELATED INSPECTION FEES AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL. MOTION CARRIED.**

**PESTICIDE EXAMS: Mike Philip, Division Director, Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division**

Mr. Philip advised state law requires commercial pesticide applicators and anyone purchasing restricted use pesticides to demonstrate, by examination, a knowledge of safe pesticide use. He provided background of the administration of these examinations, timeline of changes necessary during the COVID pandemic, and the four ways applicators can become certified today. MDARD and PPPMD used and continues to use multiple legal avenues to allow pesticide applicators to become certified or renew their certification during the pandemic, saving over \$200,000 a year and improving the exam pass rate dramatically. The department realizes COVID-accelerated changes

have been difficult for some members of the industry, and PPPMD will continually strive to improve the exam program to provide better service without sacrificing exam security or human and environmental health.

**URBAN AGRICULTURE AND RIGHT TO FARM: Jim Johnson, Division Director,  
Environmental Stewardship Division**

Mr. Johnson provided a brief history of urban agriculture as it relates to Right to Farm (RTF). In 2011-2012, there was increased interest in backyard chickens. Some local units of government were not allowing chickens, while others were allowing in more urban settings, but with certain restrictions. The interesting fact is that the Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs) were built to address non-farm residents moving to livestock areas in the country, not the livestock moving to an urban setting.

The RTF challenge is that there is no requirement around zoning for application of RTF benefits in the RTF Act. The legal interpretation at the time was that RTF applies everywhere, regardless of zoning. This meant MDARD could be involved in solving neighbor disputes in urban and suburban situations, which would have been a huge challenge for the department.

As a result of invitation by the Detroit Planning Office, numerous stakeholder meetings ensued, culminating in the Commission approving a change to the GAAMPs Preface to create clarity around the application of GAAMPs in urban areas. Detroit completed an ordinance in 2013 for community gardens, but never came to an agreement on an animal agriculture ordinance.

The Site Selection GAAMP was amended in 2014 relative to animal agriculture. Mr. Johnson explained those changes around the evaluation of property for appropriateness for livestock, including language for Category 4 sites which states, "the possession and raising of animals may be authorized in such areas pursuant to a local ordinance desired for that purpose."

In addition, the Urban Livestock Workgroup was established in September 2014, having submitted its report on March 15, 2015. The report made five recommendations, most importantly, recommending introduction of an urban agriculture bill. That bill was never completed, evidencing the remaining challenges around the issues.

Today, fewer complaints around backyard livestock are received. Even though the limit is set at 50 animal units, MDARD rarely has requests that exceed even one animal unit and has never received a complaint for more than four animal units.

In response to question from Commissioner Chae, Mr. Johnson advised the City of Detroit does not currently have an ordinance governing livestock, therefore any requests would be evaluated according to the Site Selection GAAMP. Authority for protection under RTF would be provided by the courts.

Following discussion, Commissioner Chae advised he would be willing to reach out to the Detroit Planning Commission relative to the urban animal agriculture issue, as well

as the Urban Farm and Urban Garden Permits in Detroit. Mr. Johnson advised he would be more than willing to participate in those discussions.

### **RECESS AND RECONVENE**

Chairperson Montri recessed the meeting at 10:40 a.m. for a brief break. She reconvened the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

### **GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (GAAMPs) – PROPOSED 2022 GAAMPs: Jim Johnson, Division Director, Environmental Stewardship Division and GAAMP Task Force Chairs**

Mr. Johnson noted the RTF Act gives the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development responsibility for the GAAMPs which RTF staff use to determine compliance with the conditions necessary under the RTF Act. The Act dictates the GAAMPs be reviewed annually by the Commission and revised as considered necessary. The proposed 2022 GAAMPs were introduced in September and today, Commissioners can ask questions and ultimately decide about each of the eight GAAMPs as presented. He expressed appreciation and gratitude to the GAAMP Advisory Committees for the extensive amount of work they accomplished reviewing the documents to ensure these standards reflect the very best in managing appropriate farming practices that address nuisance conditions. Each chair will join the meeting today for review and discussion. Commissioner Montri added the Commission's appreciation to each of the GAAMP Chairs and their committees.

Mr. Ryan Coffey Hoag, Farm Markets GAAMP Committee Chair, reviewed the proposed changes for the 2022 Farm Market GAAMP. This year, changes were minor and for clarity purposes only.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2022 GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR FARM MARKETS WITH CHANGES AS PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED. COMMISSIONER MEINTZ SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Dr. Janice Swanson, Care of Farm Animals GAAMP Committee Chair, provided an overview of the recommended changes for each specific species chapter of the 2022 Care of Farm Animals GAAMP. Recommended revisions include minor text changes, formatting, and updates to references and research. Dr. Swanson advised other minor changes are recommended in each chapter to provide clarity and add new information, including a section related to depopulation of livestock in response to urgent circumstances.

More significant changes are recommended for the Beekeeping and Apiary Management chapter. Dr. Megan Milbrath explained the various recommended revisions to improve language around the practices.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2022 GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CARE OF FARM ANIMALS WITH CHANGES AS PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED. COMMISSIONER CHAE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Lyndon Kelly, Irrigation Water Use GAAMP Committee Interim-Chair, reviewed the recommended revisions to the 2022 Irrigation and Water Use GAAMP, which included several changes and additions to provide better clarity and consistency in the usage of the GAAMP.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2022 GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR IRRIGATION WATER USE WITH CHANGES AS PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED. COMMISSIONER MEINTZ SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Dr. Steve Safferman, Manure Management and Utilization GAAMP Chair, provided an overview of the proposed changes in the 2022 Manure GAAMP, which include several changes to provide consistency relative to runoff control and wastewater management, as well as fertilizer, stockpiling, odor management, and manure application recommendations. Tracking and consideration of future scientific data will continue as they review the 2023 GAAMP.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2022 GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR MANURE MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION WITH CHANGES AS PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED. COMMISSIONER CHAE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Dr. Tim Harrigan, Nutrient Utilization Management GAAMP Chair, reviewed the recommended revisions to the 2022 Nutrient Utilization Management GAAMP, noting the primary changes are relative to fully integrating the new Tri-State Fertilizer recommendations, and as a result, several explanatory areas were added. In response to inquiry from Commissioner Montri, Dr. Harrigan confirmed the use of “shall” and “should” will be addressed during future committee meetings for clarification in the future GAAMP.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2022 GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR NUTRIENT UTILIZATION WITH CHANGES AS PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED. COMMISSIONER MEINTZ SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Dr. John Wise, Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMP Chair, advised although the committee conducted a thorough review and consideration, there were no recommended revisions to the Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMP for 2022.

Dr. Tim Miles, Cranberry Production GAAMP Chair, advised the committee determined there would be no recommended changes for the Cranberry Production GAAMP for 2022. In the future, additional references will be researched and considered for revisions.

Mr. Johnson advised recommended revisions to the Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities GAAMP are formatting for clarification only.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2022 GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR PEST UTILIZATION AND PEST CONTROL, CRANBERRY PRODUCTION, AND SITE SELECTION AND ODOR CONTROL FOR NEW AND EXPANDING LIVESTOCK FACILITIES WITH CHANGES AS PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED. COMMISSIONER MEINTZ SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Commissioner Montri noted Tom Zimnicki, who is now with MDARD, is listed as a member on many of the GAAMP Committees. Mr. Johnson advised his role going forward will be discussed prior to the 2023 GAAMP committee discussions.

Commissioner Montri recommended the public comments received regarding the Care of Farm Animals and Site Selection GAAMPs warrant consideration by those respective GAAMP committees as they review those GAAMPs for 2023.

**AGRICULTURE PROCESSING RENAISSANCE ZONE REQUEST: Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Division Director, Agriculture Development Division**

Ms. Zmiko-Somers provided background information on the Agriculture Processing Renaissance Zone (APRZ) process, noting today's request represents the last APRZ currently available.

She reviewed details around the APRZ request for Request Foods, Inc., which is a national leader of frozen food and food service solutions headquartered in Holland Charter Township. The APRZ will give them the ability to expand at four locations to process ready-to-eat meals, responding to consumer demand and increasing the amount of Michigan-grown agricultural products they utilize.

Mr. Kurt Brauer, Partner with Warner Norcross and Judd, noted Request Food's performance on a previous APRZ greatly exceeded projections. This APRZ was the final piece providing for the company to locate its expansions in Michigan.

Ms. Menaka Abel, Chief Financial Officer for Request Foods, provided background on the company and details around the current multi-year project strategy. The \$205 million investment is expected to create 198 additional jobs, as well increase buying from Michigan-made suppliers. Request Foods will continue to focus on working with Michigan suppliers on projects to grow Michigan's future.

Director McDowell advised this is a perfect example of what MDARD is attempting to accomplish in agriculture growth and development for the state and expressed the department's appreciation of Request Foods' decision to expand in Michigan.

In response to inquiry from Commissioner Chae, Mr. Bauer reviewed various efforts employed to ensure sustainability and reduce energy consumption for their locations.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised Holland Charter Township, Ottawa County, and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation Michigan Strategic Funding Board have each approved the APRZ resolution. The next step is approval by this Commission.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGRICULTURE PROCESSING RENAISSANCE ZONE RESOLUTION FOR REQUEST FOODS AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER CHAE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND REQUEST: Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Division Director, Agriculture Development Division**

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised three Food and Agriculture Investment Program project requests are being presented for Commission consideration today. The first project is Maple Hardwoods, Inc., which is a second-generation timber company in Hessel, Michigan. Their over \$8.8 million sawmill expansion and modernization project will create 10 new jobs and increase their utilization of logs from the region, doubling their lumber output.

Mr. Andrew Jaroche, Vice President of Maple Hardwoods, provided additional background on the company. He also shared details around the project, including their sustainability and improved work environment efforts, as well as investment in the community.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised MDARD is recommending a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance based grant of \$90,000 for Maple Hardwoods.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE A FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND PERFORMANCE BASED GRANT OF \$90,000 FOR MAPLE HARDWOODS, INC. COMMISSIONER MEINTZ SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised the next request is for Sprinkles Donut Shop, an over \$1 million expansion project in Hudsonville, Michigan. To meet demand, Sprinkles must transition from a small retail bakery with five retail locations to an industrial kitchen to expand local retail and wholesale business, as well as produce and co-pack for a national restaurant chain.

Mr. Gary VanderStelt, Owner and President of Sprinkles Donut Shop, reviewed additional details around their background and the project, which initially will add 10 new jobs. They forecast increasing flour and sugar consumption from 20,000 pounds to more than 85,000 pounds per year, which is all locally purchased. He reviewed their goals, including their sustainability and energy efficiency efforts.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised MDARD is recommending a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance based grant of \$60,000 for Sprinkles Donut Shop.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO APPROVE A FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND PERFORMANCE BASED GRANT OF**



**\$60,000 FOR SPRINKLES DONUT SHOP. COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL  
SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised the final project presented today is West Michigan Beef, a family-owned wholesale beef packing plant that focuses on staff development, food safety, and humane animal handling. The over \$35 million project will double their capacity, allowing them to support most of the livestock markets in Michigan, as well as 4-H livestock sales. The building project will be LEED certified for energy efficiency.

Mr. Don VanderBoen, Managing Partner for West Michigan Beef, reviewed the history of their company, which began with his grandfather. Their main suppliers are the dairy industry, auctions, and livestock markets. They have also been a long-time partner with MDARD in the Bovine TB Eradication Program. This project will double their processing capability, providing a local option and adding an animal welfare perspective by helping to eliminate long-distance transport of animals.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised MDARD is recommending a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance based grant of \$150,000 for West Michigan Beef.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE A FOOD  
AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND PERFORMANCE BASED GRANT  
OF \$150,000 FOR WEST MICHIGAN BEEF. COMMISSIONER CHAE  
SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Ms. Zmitko-Somers provided an overview of the Food and Agriculture Investment Program process, which has recently been updated. Funding levels have been created based on the department's current allocation. In response to inquiry from Commissioner Chae, Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised funding is appropriated through general funds in the department's annual budget, with \$2.5 million for the various grant programs this year. Commissioner Montri recommended the Commission receive an annual fiscal year report of total dollars allocated and which projects received funding. Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised that will be provided to Commissioners in January. Commissioner Montri also recommended the Commission be given advanced notice of MDARD Executive Office approved projects that will be coming to the Commission for approval.

**MIDWEST CHEESE (MWC) UPDATE: Manish Paudel, MWC Interim Site Director, Glanbia  
Nutritionals; and Scott Corrin, Director of Operations and Business Development,  
Mideast Area, Dairy Farmers of America**

Mr. Paudel provided an update on MWC, explaining it is a joint venture whereby Dairy Farmers of America are responsible for milk supply and Glanbia is responsible for operations, marketing, and research and development. Michigan has nearly 1,200 dairy farm operations who care for more than 445,000 cows, with each animal producing 3,100 gallons of milk annually.

Glanbia Nutritionals has various U.S. and global plant locations, with MWC being one of the most advanced dairy facilities in the world. The \$470 million project provides for processing of 8,000,000 pounds of milk per day, which is converted into cheese and whey products.

MWC's various sustainability efforts were discussed, including state-of-the art water and wastewater treatment, capture of heat from pasteurization, air and energy efficiency, lighting and heating/cooling energy efficient units, energy saving motors, and reduction in transportation/trucking through processing Michigan milk locally. The skill sets provided by the people of Michigan have allowed this facility to bring an exceptional level of excellence to its production, which was accomplished during the middle of the pandemic.

Mr. Corrin advised the transportation factor of the project was a major game changer for the dairy industry. Because of COVID, the plant remains closed to tours. He advised the next best option is visiting their website at [www.MWCMichigan.com](http://www.MWCMichigan.com), under the "Our Business" tab, and viewing the nine-minute video of the facility. MWC looks forward to the potential of hosting the Commission and MDARD for a celebration tour in 2022.

### **BUDGET UPDATE: Sylvia Renteria, Director of Finance and Budget**

Ms. Renteria reviewed the fiscal year (FY) 2022 \$155.6 million MDARD budget by funding source, as well as specific program area. She emphasized the budget provides for maintaining the department's current programs and staffing levels. The FY 2022 budget is a significant 28 percent increase from the prior year, including \$36.1 million in one-time general fund dollars.

She reviewed details of the several important key investment general fund initiatives, including \$25 million for water quality improvements, \$175,000 for one full-time employee to establish the Office of Rural Development, \$3.2 million for a pilot Farm Innovation Grant Program, and \$3 million allocation to conservation districts. Other smaller one-time initiatives include the Agriculture Equine Industry Development Fund, county fairs, Fair Food Network, producer reimbursement, and farm stress efforts.

Budget development for FY 2023 has begun and the department will be working closely with divisions and the State Budget Office over the next several months.

In response to question from Commissioner Montri, Ms. Renteria advised the Farm Innovation Grant Program could potentially help leverage additional federal dollars for the Office of Rural Development.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Ashley Steffen, Director of Policy Development and Legislative Affairs**

Ms. Steffen referred to the MDARD Legislative Update provided to the Commissioners and reviewed current status and activity around bills of interest to the department. Senate Bill 494, which was the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program reauthorization legislation, was passed today by the Senate and will move to the House. House Bill 4801, relative to electric vehicle charging stations, is anticipated to be signed soon. House Bills 5058 and 5061 that deal with consumable hemp have been referred to the House Committee on Regulatory Reform and MDARD staff have been working extremely closely with them to craft legislation that avoids detrimental effects to the Food and Dairy Division or the Hemp Program.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment on non-agenda items was requested.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Meintz recognized Commissioner Montri for her outstanding contributions to the Commission, noting her ability to continually remain focused on industry issues. He thanked her for her service and emphasized she will be highly missed. Commissioner Chae added he will miss having another vegetable grower on the Commission and recognized her thoughtful questions around each topic presented. Commissioner Montri expressed her appreciation, noting it has been a real privilege to be in this space.

## **ADJOURN**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER CHAE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

### Attachments:

- A) *Agenda*
- B) *Agriculture and Rural Development Commission Meeting Minutes September 15, 2021*
- C) *Draft Proposed 2022 Meeting Schedule*
- D) *Retirement Resolution for Robert Pigg*
- E) *Director's Update*
- F) *Request for Approval to Increase Nursery and Related Inspection Fees*
- G) *State Treasurer Memo Re: Inspection Fee Inflation Adjustments*
- H) *Overview of Pesticide Applicator Certification Exams*
- I) *Brief History of Urban Agriculture and Right to Farm*
- J) *Urban Livestock Technical Workgroup Guidelines Report*
- K) *Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs) Public Input Meeting Report*
- L) *Summary of Changes to the 2021 GAAMPs for Approval and Use in 2022*
- M) *GAAMPs Public Comments*
- N) *2022 Draft GAAMPs*
- O) *Agriculture Processing Renaissance Zones (APRZ) Background*
- P) *Request for APRZ for Request Foods, Inc. and Resolution*
- Q) *Food and Agriculture Investment Fund Grant Request for Maple Hardwoods*
- R) *Food and Agriculture Investment Fund Grant Request for West Michigan Beef*
- S) *Food and Agriculture Investment Fund Grant Request for Sprinkles Donut Shop*
- T) *Food and Agriculture Investment Program Process Overview and Award Amount Funding Levels Summary*
- U) *MWC Overview Presentation*
- V) *MDARD Budget Update Presentation*
- W) *MDARD Summary of 2021-2022 Michigan Legislature – 11/1/21*