

**Public Meeting - 12/15/2016**  
**Nevada Dairy Commission**

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STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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PUBLIC MEETING OF THE  
NEVADA DAIRY COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, December 15, 2016

Sparks, Nevada

REPORTED BY: MICHELLE BLAZER  
CCR #469 (NV) - CSR #3361 (CA)

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APPEARANCES

COMMISSIONERS:

Christopher Cook - Chairman

John Collier

Troy G. Crowther (Via Videoconference)

ALSO PRESENT:

Dennis Belcourt, Deputy Attorney General

Lynn Hettrick

Yong Inouye

Anna Vickrey

Al Trace

Isabel Isota (Via Videoconference)

Kimberly Whitfield (Via Videoconference)

Dave Coon (Via Videoconference)

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Public Meeting - 12/15/2016  
Nevada Dairy Commission

1 Sparks, Nevada, Thursday, February 18, 2016

2 9:00 o'clock, a.m.

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4 PURSUANT TO NOTICE, and on Thursday, the 15th  
5 day of December 2016, at the hour of 9:00 a.m. of said  
6 day, at the offices of State of Nevada Department of  
7 Agriculture, Sparks, Nevada, before Michelle Blazer, a  
8 Certified Court Reporter, the following proceedings were  
9 had:

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11 CHAIRMAN COOK: Well, it is now time to start  
12 the December meeting of the Nevada State Dairy Commission  
13 so, Mr. Hettrick --

14 MS. INOUYE: Wow.

15 CHAIRMAN COOK: Mr. Hettrick, would you open the  
16 proceedings, please?

17 MR. HETTRICK: Yes, sir.

18 Mr. Chairman, this is the time and place set for  
19 a regularly scheduled meeting of the Nevada State Dairy  
20 Commission for the month of December 2016.

21 This meeting has been scheduled and noticed in  
22 compliance with the pertinent statutes, including the  
23 Open Meeting Law.

24 A copy of the agenda has been handed to the  
25 court reporter with the request that it be a part of the

1 official transcript of these proceedings.

2 My name is Lynn Hettrick, Deputy Director for  
3 the Department of Agriculture.

4 Present today are Mr. Christopher Cook,  
5 Chairman. Mr. Troy Crowther, member of the Commission,  
6 and Mr. John Collier, member of the Commission.

7 Those who present statements or evidence to the  
8 commission during this meeting are requested to first be  
9 acknowledged by the chairman and to identify themselves  
10 for the record.

11 CHAIRMAN COOK: Thank you. Would you proceed on  
12 your first agenda item?

13 MR. HETTRICK: First item on the agenda, Mr.  
14 Chairman, public comment and discussion.

15 CHAIRMAN COOK: All right. I am going to take  
16 this opportunity to jump in and congratulate Dave for  
17 being appointed to the Agricultural Board.

18 MR. HETTRICK: It's great to see you there, and  
19 we are pleased to have you on the board.

20 I have to say, Mr. Chairman, that that was a  
21 good thing. We have two new members on the board. One  
22 of the members is, of course, Dave from Anderson Dairy in  
23 Las Vegas, and he represents the dairy industry on the  
24 Board of Agriculture.

25 The other, and I want to, even though she is not

1 here and won't know I ever did this, I want to recognize  
2 a young lady who has also been appointed to the board and  
3 her name is Heather Lackey and she is on for pesticides  
4 and the pesticide companies.

5 And the reason I want to mention her just so you  
6 folks are aware of it, and Dave on the -- on the board  
7 will be appreciative of this, she has shown up, as Dave  
8 does, at two meetings we have had in regard to pesticides  
9 and spent the time and effort to actually be fully up to  
10 speed and participate in the meetings as part of trying  
11 to do what needs to be done to regulate pesticides  
12 appropriately. They were really working hard to clean up  
13 some of our stuff.

14 So it is really nice to have board members show  
15 up at things like this and to the pesticide meetings.  
16 And we appreciate that. So I just wanted to mention that  
17 in passing.

18 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Well, thank you.

19 And thanks for your upcoming service, Dave.

20 MR. COON: Well, Mr. Chairman, thank you very  
21 much, and I -- I would like to make some comments, but I  
22 will wait until later in the meeting after you've  
23 completed your business. But I do have some things that  
24 I would like to say, if that will be all right.

25 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. All right. I've got

1 another segment for that later on, and it looks like we  
2 will probably get to that fairly quickly.

3 MR. HETTRICK: All right. Mr. Chairman. Item  
4 Number 2 for possible action is a license application.  
5 It's a peddler distributor license for Fresh & Ready  
6 Foods on West Mayflower Avenue in Las Vegas, Nevada.

7 The contact is Art Sezgin. The applicant seeks  
8 a license to distribute yogurt in the Southern Nevada  
9 marketing area. The prices and costs have been reviewed  
10 by the members of the dairy commission staff. They are  
11 in compliance with the agency's laws and regulations and  
12 the applicant will be responsible for the assessments.

13 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Do we have anybody  
14 representing this applicant present? Does not appear --  
15 sorry. Is there anything that the staff can add to this?

16 MR. HETTRICK: Pretty straightforward. I looked  
17 at the application. Staff's done all the work, but I did  
18 a -- took a quick glance. They are just going to be  
19 marketing yogurt in Southern Nevada. They are a big  
20 company, but all they are going to do is market yogurt.  
21 So pretty simple, straightforward.

22 MS. INOUYE: They are -- they have been sold by  
23 a previous company, and they are just taking over. So  
24 they already have a license in our file.

25 CHAIRMAN COOK: Formality, then?

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Nevada Dairy Commission

1 MS. INOUYE: Yes.

2 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Well, since we love  
3 yogurt.

4 MR. HETTRICK: Pays the bills.

5 CHAIRMAN COOK: Pays the bills. I will  
6 entertain a motion on approval for this application.

7 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: Mr. Chairman, I move that  
8 we accept the peddler and distributor application for a  
9 Fresh & Ready Foods LLC, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

10 This applicant seeks a license to distribute  
11 yogurt in the southern marketing area.

12 COMMISSIONER CROWTHER: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN COOK: Motion and a second. No  
14 dissenting votes. Motion carries and the application is  
15 granted.

16 MR. HETTRICK: All right, Mr. Chairman. Next on  
17 the agenda is approval of the minutes. There was one  
18 minor change. Just a typo correction. And so an  
19 appropriate motion would be to approve the minutes with  
20 the noted correction.

21 COMMISSIONER CROWTHER: I will make a motion  
22 that we approve the minutes with the indicated  
23 corrections, the minutes of the November 17th, 2016 Dairy  
24 Commission meeting with the corrections.

25 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: I will second that, Mr.

1 Chairman.

2 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Having a motion and a  
3 second on adoption of the minutes from the previous  
4 meeting, the motion is -- no dissenting votes, motion is  
5 carried and minutes are approved.

6 MR. HETTRICK: Next on the agenda, Mr. Chairman,  
7 is a motion -- or for possible action is adoption of the  
8 meeting schedule for 2017. And you have in your packet a  
9 list of the meeting dates. It's been set up on the same  
10 schedule that we have been operating after our discussion  
11 last time. I would make the suggestion that we -- that  
12 you folks consider scheduling all the meetings for -- in  
13 this office and at 9:00 a.m. in the morning. I think  
14 that suits members better.

15 And then I would also suggest that you do it on  
16 the basis that at call of the chair, we could go to  
17 Fallon. And then we may do that toward the end of the --  
18 or after the session, or something like that next year,  
19 in 2017.

20 CHAIRMAN COOK: Do we have to put a time limit  
21 on that call of the chair with all the notifications,  
22 and --

23 MR. HETTRICK: No. You just have to -- it will  
24 be a call of the chair in time for us to notice the  
25 meeting, the open meeting law, legally and appropriately,

1 and that's three days.

2 CHAIRMAN COOK: Three days?

3 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah. So you can do that very  
4 simply at any time at the call of the chair.

5 So I would suggest --

6 CHAIRMAN COOK: An action item that requires  
7 a --

8 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah. I think we should adopt  
9 it, and that way we can put it out in the minutes and  
10 everybody would see it and they will know about it in  
11 advance. So we are certainly not going to make it that  
12 anybody doesn't know that we have changed the date and  
13 the -- and the meeting place. I mean the time and the  
14 meeting place. I'm sorry.

15 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay.

16 MR. HETTRICK: So I would think a motion would  
17 be to adopt the agenda with the dates listed, changing  
18 the time to 9:00 a.m. and the location to Sparks for each  
19 of the meetings listed.

20 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: Mr. Chairman, I would  
21 like to move that we accept the 2017 commission meeting  
22 schedule with the meetings being changed to 9:00 a.m.  
23 here in the Sparks office of the Department of  
24 Agriculture. And if there is any changes to that, you  
25 will be notified as the chairman.

1 COMMISSIONER CROWTHER: Second.

2 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. We have the motion and  
3 the second. And hearing no dissenting votes, that motion  
4 is carried and adopted. A new meeting schedule.

5 MR. HETTRICK: Next, Mr. Chairman, number five  
6 for possible action is approval of the Starlicide  
7 program.

8 And as you recall, you approved the Starlicide  
9 program last time so you probably wonder why we put it  
10 back on here. And the reason we did is obviously all  
11 three of you commissioners expressed an interest in  
12 making sure this program was robust enough to actually  
13 cover the dairies that might like to participate.

14 And also in your packet is a list of dairies who  
15 have indicated to staff here that they are, indeed,  
16 proceeding. And, in fact, we actually have bills from  
17 two applications thus far.

18 So after your -- the -- when we saw the list  
19 expanding, and also given your interest in expanding the  
20 program, I went back to our fiscal staff, the lady, Debra  
21 Crowley, who runs fiscal operation for the Department of  
22 Agriculture, and asked her what we needed to do and she  
23 said it is not a problem if you want to do this. You  
24 just need to take a vote and the commission needs to vote  
25 and you can expand the program.

1           So we have put it on here to have you folks  
2 first be aware of that, that we can expand the program,  
3 and she put in a work program to add an additional  
4 \$10,000 to the -- to the fund to reimburse the dairies  
5 for Starlicide applications.

6           CHAIRMAN COOK: Is there a cutoff on when they  
7 can indicate an indication of interest in this? Or --

8           MR. HETTRICK: No.

9           CHAIRMAN COOK: So this list may grow.

10          MR. HETTRICK: It may grow. And, in fact, it  
11 seems now it's gotten cold very quickly as you all know,  
12 and the weather has turned pretty well south.

13          And Chad Turner, who was at the last meeting,  
14 has already done applications. And he felt, you know,  
15 the birds were already in there enough that it was worth  
16 it. And he moved forward and did applications.

17          And so the list is growing. And I think it will  
18 continue to grow.

19          CHAIRMAN COOK: And our maximum per applicant  
20 was 2000?

21          MR. HETTRICK: \$2,000. But there is no limit on  
22 the ability, if there is money left, for them to come  
23 back and bill us a second time. It's simply --

24          CHAIRMAN COOK: Right.

25          MR. HETTRICK: -- to try to make it fair to

1 everybody and give them all a shot, the first go around  
2 limit is 80 percent of the \$2,500 bill. 2000 bucks.

3 CHAIRMAN COOK: But what I am getting at is if  
4 every one of these dairies on the list applied, we'd go  
5 through 20,000.

6 MR. HETTRICK: If they all used \$2,000, yes.

7 CHAIRMAN COOK: Right.

8 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah. We are not sure how big  
9 all the applications will be. And the fact that they are  
10 indicating that they want to do it, they may or may not  
11 actually do it.

12 And nothing will prohibit us -- and that was  
13 where we were kind of last time. Nothing will prohibit  
14 us for going back and asking for even more money. But we  
15 don't want to -- again, the authority issue is still out  
16 there so we want to keep it within reason. I'd love to  
17 see the 10,000 that we originally approved, you  
18 originally approved, spent and then -- and going to the  
19 second 10,000. And then we can consider doing something  
20 more.

21 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. So do we need a --

22 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah. We need to have you vote  
23 to approve an additional \$10,000 for the Starlicide  
24 program.

25 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. I will entertain a motion

1 from one of my fellow commissioners.

2 COMMISSIONER CROWTHER: All right. Mr.  
3 Chairman, I will make a motion to approve the additional,  
4 an additional \$10,000 in funding for the Starlicide  
5 program.

6 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: Mr. Chairman, I second  
7 that.

8 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Having a motion and a  
9 second to increase a requested additional 10,000 for the  
10 Starlicide program and no dissenting votes, the motion  
11 carries. See if we can get them some more money.

12 MR. HETTRICK: All right. Mr. Chairman, next on  
13 the agenda, it's just informational, is a discussion of  
14 AB 33. And in your packet you have a copy of AB 33. I  
15 called and spoke to each of you commissioners  
16 individually about the -- the impact of AB 33.

17 About six, eight months ago the governor's  
18 office came to every state agency and said have you got  
19 any boards, commissions, whatever, anything that -- that  
20 could be done as an administrative task rather than  
21 having it be a separate board and commission with the  
22 paperwork and the commissioners and the employee issues,  
23 and everything else that goes with it. Have you got any  
24 of those things that can be eliminated and function in an  
25 equivalent manner within your agency?

1           We submitted the Alfalfa Seed and the Onion  
2   Garlic Board and the Dairy Commission and one other,  
3   Organics, and there may be one other, I think, that were  
4   possible to be done as administrative tasks.

5           And the governor's office went through and  
6   reviewed those for every state agency and chose the ones  
7   that they felt could be done administratively and have  
8   put them in a bill which they submitted.

9           And you can see at the top of the bill it says,  
10   "on behalf of the Office of the Governor".

11          And they are requesting that those boards and  
12   commissions, including the Dairy Commission, will be  
13   eliminated if the legislature approves the bill.

14          So we put it on here so you can have some  
15   discussion about it.

16          One of the reasons that we are excited about  
17   having Dave on the board is that the way this would  
18   function now is, as you know, typically we have no one  
19   appear. We have very, very few incidents where we have a  
20   company that may want a hearing or may want to present  
21   something to the board or the Dairy Commission. Those  
22   would now go directly -- any of those instances would go  
23   directly to the Board of Agriculture and would be heard  
24   by the entire Board of Agriculture.

25          Beyond that, all of the functions will become

1 administrative functions very similar to what is done for  
2 virtually every other division in this department.

3 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Well, I personally don't  
4 think that this is a surprise to anybody. That sooner or  
5 later we knew the Dairy Commission was going to fade into  
6 the sunset. Times change, things change, and certainly  
7 no reason to continue to operate the way we did in 1955  
8 when this thing was created.

9 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah.

10 CHAIRMAN COOK: Personally, not surprised. But,  
11 you know, it's been an interesting -- how long I have  
12 been doing this, 10 years? 12 years?

13 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah.

14 CHAIRMAN COOK: And I have learned a lot. But,  
15 you know, I have no objections to this.

16 MR. HETTRICK: Well, I do want to say, and I  
17 think, you know, important, I think you guys actually  
18 should be quite proud of what you have accomplished  
19 because in a funny way you have worked yourself out of a  
20 job. This has become very streamlined. It's become  
21 pretty straightforward.

22 The industry has changed, obviously, doing  
23 essentially 100 percent of its marketing through one  
24 company and their own co-op.

25 We don't set prices anymore. You know, the law

1 won't change in terms of what is required for people  
2 marketing here to protect the public.

3 Certainly, public safety is not going to change  
4 in any way. All of that is going on, as you well know.

5 But between tax reductions, which you have done  
6 over and over again, and the changes we have made in the  
7 statutes over the last five, six years, as I say, you  
8 have done a good job and worked yourself out of one. So,  
9 it's --

10 CHAIRMAN COOK: Always a good thing when  
11 government's involved.

12 MR. HETTRICK: I agree. When government gets  
13 smaller, I think it's a good thing.

14 So anyway, we will -- when it comes, it will be  
15 pre-filed in the legislative session. We certainly  
16 welcome everybody who wants to attend to come and testify  
17 in any way they like.

18 It will be our job on behalf of the governor's  
19 office to get up and tell them how we will function, you  
20 know, complete the functions and the tasks that go on  
21 now. We will do that.

22 You know, I'm sure the legislature will -- I am  
23 99.9 percent certain it will pass and that it will move  
24 forward.

25 MR. TRACE: Al Trace, Dairy Farmers of America.

1 Lynn, let me -- if they act on it in the -- in February,  
2 it will go into effect, then, in 2018? Or when?

3 MR. HETTRICK: This, bill -- let me look at the  
4 back page of this bill.

5 MR. BELCOURT: July 1st.

6 MR. TRACE: Is it on July 1?

7 MR. HETTRICK: July 1st.

8 MR. TRACE: July 1 of '17?

9 MR. HETTRICK: Of '17. Yeah. So in the bill it  
10 says July 1st of '17. That will be effective date.

11 CHAIRMAN COOK: Troy, any comments? Thoughts?

12 COMMISSIONER CROWTHER: No. I am like you, I am  
13 not surprised.

14 I don't want to -- I don't want to at this point  
15 eulogize the Dairy Commission right now, but I do think  
16 we need to make sure that our -- our members, our  
17 producers, our processors and everybody are well aware of  
18 this and are well aware of the fact that it -- you know,  
19 any -- whatever changes, if any, will impact them, and --  
20 or not. And we just need to make sure they are all fully  
21 aware of this and have an opportunity to weigh in in the  
22 next few months.

23 CHAIRMAN COOK: John?

24 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: I have none. It's -- I  
25 think any time that the government can reduce the expense

1 of functions, I think that's a very positive thing. It's  
2 been a real pleasure for me to serve on the board, and I  
3 have learned, like you and Troy, I have learned a great  
4 deal about the dairy industry and it's been a real  
5 privilege for me to represent the dairy industry and  
6 various things that I have attended.

7 And I agree with Troy that I think it's very  
8 important that we notify everybody that this is happening  
9 that would be concerned about it. Particularly, the  
10 people who are paying the tab, which are the producers.  
11 I mean the processors. Because it's not -- the board is  
12 not so much oriented, from what I understand and see of  
13 it now, to the producers. Although we do programs for  
14 the actual milk farms, but I think it's very important  
15 that everybody know that this is not going to be around  
16 after next July.

17 So if -- if -- if the Department of Agriculture  
18 can accomplish that, that would be wonderful. So --

19 MR. HETTRICK: They will all be receiving  
20 mailings from us, they -- and, of course, they all  
21 receive the agenda every month.

22 We'd probably just go ahead and put it on the  
23 agenda at least one more time, give them an opportunity  
24 in case there is some talk now, that between them, if  
25 they are worried about it in any way they are welcome to

1 come in and talk to us, you know.

2 And I agree with you in terms of the processors.  
3 But I will say, just as you voted recently to eliminate  
4 the tax on fluid milk, the -- as we lower costs, all this  
5 is going to do ultimately is lower taxes even more for  
6 processors.

7 So as long as they have the opportunity and  
8 the -- and the access to -- to air any concerns they have  
9 or to -- to, you know, redress any -- any issues that  
10 will arise, and they will, I think that they will  
11 understand what we are doing is trying to reduce costs  
12 and be more efficient and move forward.

13 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. So this is just a --

14 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah. Just informational.

15 CHAIRMAN COOK: -- information only, and no  
16 action on this?

17 MR. HETTRICK: No action is required.

18 It's obviously, it's a bill that was put in by  
19 the governor's office.

20 I would say that we will -- and Yong is sitting  
21 right there, so we will just say we will go ahead and put  
22 it on the agenda again as an informational item and open  
23 for discussion at, you know, the next meeting just so  
24 everybody has an opportunity, if they want to address it.

25 And we will certainly welcome them, everybody,

1 coming to the legislature when this is -- is going to be  
2 heard and commenting to the -- to the legislature. It  
3 won't be only about the Dairy Commission. There is three  
4 or four boards and various commissions in this bill.

5 But you are certainly welcome to come and  
6 testify and make whatever comments you want at that -- at  
7 that time if you would like to do so.

8 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. All right.

9 MR. HETTRICK: So that's all we have there.

10 CHAIRMAN COOK: Let's move on to the next.

11 MR. HETTRICK: Staff report.

12 You have got some milk pricing in there. Again,  
13 it's generally kind of informational as in general, it's  
14 not the exact price that's paid to the dairies here, but  
15 it is informational if you care to look at that.

16 Got north and south both listed, and prices  
17 haven't changed significantly.

18 And then unless you have questions about that, I  
19 want to kind of defer to Anna to let her tell you about  
20 what went on here in the last couple of days with our  
21 food safety lab that's part of the Dairy Commission.

22 MS. VICKREY: Yes. We had our Federal  
23 Laboratory Evaluation Officer here to do our triennial  
24 evaluation on the -- on the lab. We did very well. This  
25 is big for us because the last time they were here we had

1 just barely started.

2 So they -- they do a thorough record review and  
3 evaluate each of the analysts on all of their procedures,  
4 and we did pass. So we are very happy about that. We  
5 had a few minor incidents that we have to make some  
6 comments on, but it went very well.

7 And then David, our microbiologist, is also  
8 certified now as our laboratory evaluation officer  
9 in-state. So he will be going out and doing all the  
10 laboratory evaluations on our industry laboratories.

11 So we are very excited.

12 CHAIRMAN COOK: That would be at the processor?

13 MS. VICKREY: Yes. Anybody that receives raw  
14 milk has to screen for the antibiotic residues and so  
15 that's also a large part of the program for the lab.

16 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay.

17 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: Very good.

18 Congratulations.

19 CHAIRMAN COOK: Great news.

20 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah, exactly. And Anna's being  
21 very modest. They have done a great job back there.

22 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: That's why she is the ops  
23 manager.

24 MR. HETTRICK: Yes. And I can tell you, she  
25 came in yesterday afternoon and with a big sigh of relief

1 and said oh, it's awesome. We did it. So she was very  
2 excited about it and we are excited about it.

3 And the lab's doing a great job back there, and,  
4 you know, we are really pleased with what's happening,  
5 where we have gone.

6 MS. VICKREY: And I do have to say one thing.  
7 One, one really great thing about having our laboratory  
8 services is the services that we can provide to the  
9 industry that we didn't have before when we contracted  
10 out the services is we have a couple dairymen that they  
11 came out -- down with some animal health issues, and we  
12 were able to run 300 milk samples back there just to test  
13 to see which animals were sick.

14 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: Wow.

15 MS. VICKREY: So instead of just waiting for him  
16 to fail and then degrading him and not allowing his milk  
17 to be sold, we were able to help him identify which  
18 animals in his herd were ill.

19 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: That's wonderful.

20 MS. VICKREY: And we were also able to help out  
21 one of the small processors who was having sanitation  
22 issues. So we are able to go out there, swab his  
23 equipment, find out where his cleaning issues were and,  
24 you know, kind of same thing, keep him in business.

25 And that's something we were never really able

1 to do before. So I think it's great. We really love  
2 working with our dairies.

3 And we are not -- we just don't want to be the  
4 regulator. We also want to, you know -- you know, we are  
5 also friends with them. I mean, we have been -- Lisa and  
6 I in particular, we have been in this business 17 years  
7 now. Same dairymen, pretty much. A few new ones.

8 MR. TRACE: They do very much appreciate it.

9 Going back to AB --

10 MR. HETTRICK: 33.

11 MR. TRACE: -- whatever the number is, I think  
12 to your point, it's really important to let the producer  
13 community know that things like what you are just talking  
14 about will not be impacted because that will be a major  
15 concern to them.

16 MR. HETTRICK: Yes. And given that, Al, that's  
17 one of the things, frankly, we'd like to have you do.  
18 When we moved the lab over to here and Anna became in  
19 charge of running our lab within our facility and we are  
20 able to provide all these extra services and do things we  
21 never could do before, when -- UNR was our -- was our  
22 contract provider, previously. They didn't want to give  
23 up that business. And they -- they made a presentation  
24 to the governor to not give up that business. And we  
25 were able to convince the governor's office at that time

1 that we could do a better job and provide better services  
2 for less money. Price hasn't gone down because the price  
3 was never up. We are at about the lowest cost dairy  
4 regulating system in the -- in this country. The average  
5 dairyman pays about 150 to \$250 a year for all the  
6 services that we provide and that hasn't changed for  
7 years.

8 So we are very cost effective and do a good job.

9 We know right now that UNR is out surveying the  
10 dairies asking whether or not we are doing -- providing  
11 the services. We really would appreciate their  
12 responding to that survey however they feel is  
13 appropriate. We are quite confident what that will be,  
14 but we would like that response to be given so we don't  
15 have to fight the battle again to maintain this lab and  
16 the kind of services that we can provide right now.

17 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: May I ask a question?  
18 Doesn't the Department of Agriculture still have a PI  
19 officer?

20 MR. HETTRICK: Yes.

21 MS. VICKREY: Yes.

22 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: Why can't they do a news  
23 release on this to send it out? Or a newsletter to go  
24 into Al's newsletter to publicize these kind of things?  
25 Because that's a very significant thing.

1 MS. VICKREY: Well, first all, the producers are  
2 not going to be getting the survey. The survey is only  
3 going to be going out to the plants with the  
4 laboratories.

5 MR. HETTRICK: I thought it was producer.

6 MS. VICKREY: That's the UNR survey. So the  
7 dairymen won't actually get that. And that's where --  
8 they are not -- nobody is going to really know the extras  
9 that we do because they are the ones that are not being  
10 asked, they are not being surveyed. So --

11 MR. HETTRICK: I misunderstood who it went to.

12 MS. VICKREY: Yeah.

13 MR. HETTRICK: It's good to know. So --

14 MS. VICKREY: Just the processors.

15 MR. HETTRICK: Okay.

16 MR. TRACE: To your point earlier, or maybe the  
17 producer community will still be notified about AB 33;  
18 right?

19 MR. HETTRICK: 33.

20 MS. VICKREY: Yes.

21 MR. TRACE: Yeah. Because I think there  
22 initially will be, I think, some concern until they  
23 understand that it's going to be okay, you know.

24 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah. Yeah.

25 MR. TRACE: We are still trying to grow the

1 dairy industry and have a plan, and so they would look at  
2 it like what's going on? We are trying to grow and now  
3 we're eliminating the milk commission?

4 So I think as long as it's -- and we will do --  
5 I guess we certainly want to take the lead and we also  
6 don't want to stick our nose into where it doesn't  
7 belong. We certainly want to do what we can to  
8 support --

9 MR. HETTRICK: And we will be happy to  
10 participate in any kind of meeting or function they would  
11 like to have and come out and explain to them that this  
12 is not going to change the activities in any way at all.

13 It's simply trying to streamline the process.  
14 Reduce costs.

15 MR. TRACE: Sure.

16 MR. HETTRICK: And -- and given the fact that  
17 the legislature in 2013 merged all of this, it's now  
18 become so blended.

19 In fact, we had an all-staff meeting yesterday  
20 and the discussion was used to be, you know, we had Food  
21 and Nutrition Division, they were all separate, and we  
22 had Dairy Commission, and we had -- and it's all just  
23 become the Department of Agriculture.

24 MR. TRACE: Yeah. Yeah.

25 MR. HETTRICK: It's just blended together, and

1 it's become one function. And that's really what this is  
2 about.

3 MR. TRACE: Sure.

4 MR. HETTRICK: It has nothing to do with the  
5 services or the ongoing, you know, capabilities or  
6 anything like that.

7 MR. TRACE: I think the producer community will  
8 be fine as long as it's presented to them in such a way  
9 as you just described. They are all about saving money,  
10 so --

11 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah. Yeah. They understand,  
12 they are in business. They are trying to make a living  
13 everyday and that's the way we are trying to run this  
14 operation as well, is efficiently and effectively.

15 COMMISSIONER COLLIER: Right.

16 MS. VICKREY: Al, if there is a meeting coming  
17 up for DFA relatively soon I can come on out and speak.

18 MR. TRACE: Sure. Okay. Okay.

19 MR. HETTRICK: Happy to address it anyway you  
20 like.

21 All right. Mr. Chairman, unless there is more  
22 on that, I don't have anything else.

23 CHAIRMAN COOK: Proceed to the next one.

24 MR. HETTRICK: Number eight on the agenda is  
25 consideration of other matters relating to the dairy

1 industry.

2 CHAIRMAN COOK: I guess this or the next one  
3 would be Dave's chance to --

4 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah. Either one.

5 And the final one, and they are kind of one in  
6 the same, is public comment and discussion. So --

7 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Dave, the floor is yours.

8 MR. COON: Mr. Chairman, members of the  
9 commission, staff, thank you very much. I appreciate  
10 being here and appreciated being at these meetings for  
11 many years now.

12 And might I say that as a member of the  
13 industry, Anderson Dairy is very grateful to have been a  
14 part of this industry. We have been very proud to be a  
15 member of the dairy industry in the State of Nevada for  
16 over a hundred years.

17 And speaking on behalf of everyone past and  
18 present, we wish to express our appreciation for the  
19 oversight that the commission has provided for your  
20 interest in all members of the industry, as well as the  
21 consumers, the concern and the fairness that you have  
22 shown, and for your effectiveness.

23 I think that as we travel around the country,  
24 different markets and different areas, people have been  
25 aware, within our industry, of the purpose and what the

1 Nevada State Dairy Commission has accomplished.

2 We know that there is need for regulation and we  
3 have always been grateful for that oversight and for  
4 those regulations and laws that allow us all to compete  
5 fairly, and to do all we can to make our businesses  
6 successful.

7 We are grateful to those that have served.  
8 Those that have sacrificed time, taking time out of their  
9 schedules with their jobs, with their businesses, to come  
10 and serve us and the state within the industry.

11 Commissioner Cook -- Chairman Cook, Commissioner  
12 Collier, and Commissioner Crowther, and all those that  
13 have supported you, thank you for your concern and for  
14 your personal sacrifices.

15 I want to say that we have great respect for  
16 what you have accomplished. And we are looking forward  
17 to continuing to work with the Department of Agriculture,  
18 Lynn, Anna, Kimberly, and all the others that have  
19 provided leadership within the Commission.

20 So with that, again, our utmost gratitude and  
21 appreciation, and we hope that everyone will feel good  
22 about what they have done and what they have achieved.

23 So again, thank you very much.

24 CHAIRMAN COOK: You are most welcome. Thank you  
25 for the support you have shown for us over the years.

1 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah. I think that's true. I  
2 think that's a good comment. Dave has been one who's  
3 always been there and has always come when we have done  
4 things. We did an ag day at the legislature, Anderson  
5 Dairy sent people up from Las Vegas and put up a booth  
6 and for the ag display. It was very well received.  
7 Dave's always been very supportive of agriculture in  
8 general and, obviously, of the dairy industry in the  
9 state.

10 So we are really pleased to have him on the  
11 board and look forward to his continued participation in  
12 the Department of Agriculture as we go forward.

13 CHAIRMAN COOK: Yeah. I think we are fortunate  
14 to have him serve in that capacity.

15 MR. HETTRICK: I agree.

16 COMMISSIONER CROWTHER: I appreciate it also.  
17 It's not just showing up, but helping to educate us. I  
18 guess that's -- that's what I have appreciated.

19 I do have one question, back on the -- what we  
20 were talking about earlier, the new legislation. And  
21 this may seem trivial compared to the overall thing, but  
22 are we still getting our Moolisa down here?

23 MR. HETTRICK: Yes, you are. Moolisa is in the  
24 budget. And the trailer.

25 COMMISSIONER CROWTHER: Don't take Moolisa from

1 us.

2 MR. HETTRICK: No, no. There is no reduction in  
3 the budget, for the budget request in any way. Actually,  
4 the change in the -- as far as the Dairy Commission Board  
5 goes, isn't in the budget at all. We did the budget  
6 fully anticipating that there was going to be a Dairy  
7 Commission and then the bill draft came as requested by  
8 the governor's office.

9 And again, that's not certainly -- I want to  
10 make a point. That's not singling out the Department of  
11 Agriculture or the Dairy Commission in any way. That was  
12 a general request to all state agencies, tell us if you  
13 have a board or commission that can be done  
14 administratively and save any money.

15 And that's -- you know, we did that in the same  
16 vein as other agencies have done. So --

17 CHAIRMAN COOK: Yes, Dave?

18 MR. COON: Mr. Chairman, can I make just one  
19 more remark? And it's in reference to something that  
20 Anna had to say about relationships.

21 Our interaction with the commission has always  
22 been very professional. The commission has always been  
23 very straightforward and clear on expectations and so  
24 forth, but we also feel like we have developed some valid  
25 associations that will carry on, too.

1 So, thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN COOK: Yeah. Well, it's -- from the  
3 day I took over as chairman, it was my objective to try  
4 to make this a more business-friendly organization and  
5 not let the regulations get in the way of growing the  
6 business.

7 So I guess I could -- I could claim -- we --  
8 because I put a lot of the responsibility on for what we  
9 have accomplished on Lynn's shoulders, he's really been  
10 the guiding light behind it. And so I think we can -- we  
11 can say job well done. We've done what we set out to do.

12 MR. HETTRICK: Yeah.

13 MR. COON: We agree.

14 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Anybody else? Staff?  
15 Members of the audience? Anybody want to throw anything  
16 out on the table to go in the record?

17 MS. INOUYE: Question. So the next board  
18 meeting in January, are we still going to be at  
19 1:00 o'clock or are we going to change?

20 MR. HETTRICK: 9:00.

21 MS. VICKREY: Everything is 9:00 in here.

22 MR. HETTRICK: 9:00 in here. But we have left  
23 it open to the call of the chair to put it in Fallon if  
24 we wish to, before, you know --

25 CHAIRMAN COOK: If we have enough interest shown

1 by the producers to move the meeting out there we'd be  
2 more than happy to do that.

3 MR. TRACE: Silly, maybe I am not understanding,  
4 but after July that all could be a moot point anyhow?

5 MR. HETTRICK: Correct. There won't be  
6 commission meetings, per se.

7 What will happen is the producers or processors  
8 will simply address the -- probably to Anna, as the ops  
9 manager for the Food and Safety Lab, which is the primary  
10 function of what the Dairy Commission is doing, and say  
11 "I have a concern" or "I have an interest" or "could I  
12 make a presentation", "I'd like to bring some issue to  
13 the board", "I thought you treated me unfairly" or,  
14 whatever. Any of those things will come into Anna.

15 They would go immediately on to the full Board  
16 of Agriculture agenda, and they will be heard just as if  
17 they were heard here. They will have every opportunity  
18 to express concern or ideas or whatever they want.

19 MR. TRACE: Sure.

20 MR. HETTRICK: And nothing is going to change in  
21 terms of their ability to address this board and get some  
22 kind of redress for whatever it is that they have  
23 concerns with.

24 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Anything else?

25 Well, there being nothing else for the good of

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1 the industry or this commission, then we will adjourn.

2 MR. HETTRICK: Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN COOK: Hold your ears.

4 (Meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.)

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2 ) ss.  
3 COUNTY OF WASHOE )  
4

5 I, MICHELLE BLAZER, a Certified Court Reporter  
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CHAIRMAN CHRISTOPHER COOK

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COMMISSIONER JOHN COLLIER

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COMMISSIONER TROY G. CROWTHER