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PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
NEVADA DAIRY COMMISSION
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Sparks, NV

Reported By: SUSAN E. BELINGHERI, CCR #655

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APPEARANCES

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Christopher Cook - Chairman
John Collier
Troy G. Crowther - Via Videoconference

Tom Orzech - Operations Manager
Anna Vickrey
Kathy Easley - AA3
Kimberly Whitfield - Via Videoconference

Flint Wright
Chad Turner
David DeMars
Nanette Merbach
Dave Coon - Via Videoconference

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1 SPARKS, NEVADA; WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2014; 9:00 A.M.

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4 CHAIRMAN COOK: Let's go ahead and convene
5 this hearing for the Dairy Commission on the proposed
6 changes in -- what are they, regs?

7 MR. ORZECH: In the regulations.

8 CHAIRMAN COOK: Rules? Interpretations?

9 MS. VICKREY: Codes.

10 CHAIRMAN COOK: Codes?

11 MR. ORZECH: Yes, it's the regulations --

12 CHAIRMAN COOK: Whatever. I'll leave it to
13 you bureaucrats to sort it out.

14 MR. ORZECH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 Good morning, and welcome to the hearing on
16 the proposed regulation changes to the Nevada
17 Administrative Code, Section 584 of the Nevada Dairy
18 Commission.

19 The purpose of this hearing is to solicit
20 comments from the public on the changes to the
21 regulations. The proposed changes to the regulations
22 were mailed to each licensee and organization on our
23 mailing list. The changes are also available on our
24 website.

25 I'll read one section of the, the guidance

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1 on this as far as the purpose of the hearing.

2 At the time and place set for the hearing on
3 a proposed regulation, the Agency must afford all
4 interested parties a reasonable opportunity to submit
5 data, views or arguments on the proposed regulations.
6 The Agency will set a time and place for an oral public
7 hearing. Ultimately, parties may submit their views in
8 writing. Both oral and written submissions regarding
9 the proposed regulations must be considered fully.

10 We will now open the floor to any questions
11 or comments.

12 CHAIRMAN COOK: And I'm assuming we've got
13 nothing in writing from anybody.

14 MS. VICKREY: That's correct.

15 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Please proceed.

16 MR. ORZECH: Well, according to the agenda,
17 the first agenda item is public comments and discussion.
18 We'll go through the agenda.

19 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Press on.

20 MR. ORZECH: Item two was to solicit public
21 comments on the proposed regulations. Again, nothing.

22 Item three is the public comment discussion
23 again. So I guess there's, there is none.

24 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. So we don't act on
25 this until the next meeting, though?

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1 MR. ORZECH: No. This was just to solicit
2 and discuss any comments that were received.

3 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Well, since there are
4 none, we can close the, the hearing and proceed with our
5 normal commission meeting.

6 MR. ORZECH: Actually, we have to wait on
7 that until 9:30.

8 CHAIRMAN COOK: Oh, okay. Well, we've all
9 got 27 minutes of time to kill.

10 (An off the record discussion was held at this time.)

11 CHAIRMAN COOK: In light of the changes, or
12 the questions that Commissioner Collier is asking, let
13 us reconvene the hearing so that he can ask his
14 questions on the record and that Anna can answer them on
15 the record. So we're now back on the record.

16 MR. COLLIER: Anna, if you would be so kind
17 to tell me what's the difference between what we're
18 doing now and what is proposed here in these amendments?

19 MS. VICKREY: The current regulations are
20 that the somatic cell count limit is 750,000. We're
21 reducing it to 400,000. The reason we're doing that is
22 because the new powdered plant wants to be able to sell
23 internationally, and the international requirements are
24 less than 400,000 for somatic cell count.

25 So this really makes it a little bit easier

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1 on our dairymen. They won't, they don't all have to
2 apply with USDA and have additional milk testing done as
3 long as the State has reduced those counts.

4 CHAIRMAN COOK: Who is providing the testing
5 at the reduced level, are we going to be doing that
6 here, or is it still going to be the USDA?

7 MS. VICKREY: We'll continue just doing the
8 same testing we've always done. We've always pulled
9 samples, but our limits have just been 750,000. And now
10 the limits will be 400,000.

11 And part of the process, we looked at, back
12 four years on the records, and even at 750,000 we never
13 had to de-grade anybody. And at 400,000 we would have
14 never had to de-grade anybody. Our somatic cell counts
15 are extremely low. In fact, Chad here was just telling
16 me that his are 90,000 right now. He's got very healthy
17 cows.

18 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay.

19 MS. VICKREY: Okay.

20 MR. COLLIER: Thank you very much.

21 MS. VICKREY: You're very welcome.

22 CHAIRMAN COOK: Got that all clarified,
23 John?

24 MR. COLLIER: Very much so.

25 CHAIRMAN COOK: Okay. Should we close the

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1 hearing again?

2 (Hearing concludes at 9:08 a.m.)

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1 STATE OF NEVADA)
2 COUNTY OF WASHOE) ss.

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4 I, SUSAN E. BELINGHERI, a Certified Court
5 Reporter and Notary Public for the County of Washoe,
6 State of Nevada, do hereby certify that on Wednesday,
7 the 15th day of January, 2014, I reported the Nevada
8 Dairy Commission meeting;

9 That the foregoing transcript is a true and
10 correct transcript of the stenographic notes of
11 testimony taken by me in the above-captioned matter to
12 the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

13

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Susan E. Belingheri, CCR #655

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