

MSCA Begins Exec Search

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The MSCA Executive Committee has issued a "request for proposals" to provide contract management services for the organization. Anyone interested in submitting for consideration should visit the MSCA website www.mnsca.org to download a copy of the position description and RFP form. The general schedule is listed below, with a goal that a recommended candidate may be identified to allow for a recommendation to the full MSCA Board of Director at the July 12th meeting in Morris, MN.

June 7-25	Receive & Correlate Proposal Packages
June 25	Review & Rank Packages, Determine Candidates that merit an Interview
June 28	Arrange Interview Dates/Locations
July 1-8	Complete Interviews, Contact Finalist and MSCA Executive Committee develop recommendation for MSCA Board of Directors July 12 MSCA Executive Committee present recommendation for approval to MSCA BOD at MSCA BOD Quarterly Meeting July 12, 2010
July 12	MSCA makes a determination on the recommendation.
TBD	Selectee assumes MSCA contract management services

Steve May will coordinate the collection of proposals and will provide them to the executive committee for review. All the materials necessary for a submission can be found on the MSCA website. Digital submissions via email are encouraged. Steve's contact info is: Email: maysteve@comcast.net, Phone (612) 850-5027, Fax: (952) 920-9512. Mailing address is; 3901 Joppa Ave. South, St. Louis Park, MN 55416.

Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association Sponsored Educational Scholarships

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association is pleased to announce applications are being taken for the 2010 MSCA Educational Scholarship Programs. If you are working towards a Degree in Animal Science or Agronomy MSCA may be able to help defer some of your educational expenses.

Dennis Bottem Memorial Scholarship

A \$500 educational scholarship is available through the Dennis Bottem Memorial Scholarship Foundation for a deserving student majoring in animal science or agronomy.

Reid Mason Memorial Scholarship

A \$500 educational scholarship is available from the Reid Mason Memorial Scholarship Foundation for a deserving student majoring in animal science with an emphasis on beef cattle.

Scholarships will be presented at the MSCA Annual Convention Banquet Dinner on Saturday evening December 4, 2010. For more info email MSCA Exec at: maysteve@comcast.net or call (952) 920-9512.

Applications are available on the MSCA website: mnsca.org or the MSCA Office, 3901 Joppa Ave. South, St. Louis Park, MN 55416. Applications are due in the MSCA Office no later than Nov. 12, 2010.

TB Hits Colorado

Last week a press release from the Colorado Department of Agriculture announced confirmatory tests show that 4 cows in a Colorado dairy herd have tested positive for bovine tuberculosis (TB). The investigation by the Colorado Ag Officials and USDA began back in March 2010.

A cull dairy cow was discovered to have internal lesions and determined to TB positive after follow-on testing. Inspectors at the slaughter facility noted the suspicious lesions and took the appropriate action.

The index cow (initial positive animal) is believed to have originated from dairy facility in Southern Colorado. Subsequent tracing has led to the discovery of the additional TB positive cattle.

TB is spread primarily by respiratory aerosols being exhaled by infected animals and can then be inhaled by animals or humans. Meat from the infected animals did not enter the food chain; commercially sold milk is pasteurized, killing bacteria with heat, so there is no public health concern when consuming pasteurized dairy products.

Producers with questions about TB should visit the Minnesota Board of Animal Health website at: www.bah.state.mn.us or may call 651-296-2942.

Ireland Battles Brucellosis

Northern Ireland is struggling with an intentional introduction of brucellosis to the area. Earlier this year a calf fetus infected with brucellosis was dumped in a field near Lislea, in County Armagh. Armagh is one of four counties that make up the Northern Ireland Providence of Ulster.

The fetus was found in a pasture near feed buckets. The fetus did not come from the herd in the pasture. It appeared to have been still born and had been opened up and cattle feed placed inside and on the fetus.

Since the incident this past winter eight cases of the disease have been discovered. Six infected herds have been confirmed and in the past three weeks another three herds have been identified with multiple reactors.

So far the outbreak has caused the depopulation of 300 plus cattle in the area. Officials are investigating the obvious criminal action, but to date no one has been charged with the act.

A variety of theories exist as to the motivation for the act. They range from a local attempt to infect herds in the area as a means to gain government compensation from the depopulation of herds to concern that the act was carried out from actors outside the area in order to cripple Northern Ireland's livestock industry.

Bid To Stop EPA Overreach Defeated

In December 2009, EPA Director Lisa Jackson announced that six greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, were a danger to public health and that the Agency would use the Clean Air Act as authority to regulate those gases. Following the EPA endangerment finding U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, introduced a resolution of disapproval. Resolution 26 if passed would have prevented the EPA from using the Clean Air Act to regulate carbon dioxide emissions. Under the Congressional Review Act of 1996, Congress has the opportunity to veto regulations developed by federal agencies.

The US Senate recently allowed an up or down vote on Murkowski's resolution, it failed. The defeat of the Resolution 26 of another major roadblock to the EPA's move forward to aggressively regulate greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, regardless of whether the US Congress decides to pass a form of Cap & Trade or other pending legislation is ever passed by in Congress. Apparently the Administration feels it doesn't need the consent of Congress to move forward in this area and Minnesota's Senators appear to support that approach.

The resolution went down on a 53 to 47 vote that saw all Republicans supporting the resolution joined by 6 Democratic Senators that also view EPA's recent actions on this issue as a threat to their states agriculture and energy based economies.

Both of Minnesota's Senators Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken cast their votes against the resolution, both siding with EPA Director Jackson and the administration on this issue.

Minnesota's key agriculture legislators are split on this issue. Senator Klobuchar and Franken's enthusiastic support of the Administration and EPA Secretary Jackson on this issue has most recently having carried the day. Minnesotan's involved in agriculture are at a loss as to why Minnesota's two senator's would vote in direct opposition to positions held by Minnesota's most experienced and knowledge agriculture committee members in the House of Representative, Representative's Collin Peterson and Tim Walz.

In February of this year Representative Peterson and Ike Skelton (both democrats) introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives that was essentially identical to the resolution 26 which Klobuchar and Franken's votes helped to defeat in the US Senate. During that same period Representative Walz signed on as cosponsor to fellow democrat Rep. Nick Rahall's bill to at least delay the EPA from taking any action in some area of greenhouse gas regulation for at least 2 years. That bill was sponsored by 11 house democrats that were concerned for the consequences of EPA's action on rural economies.

Congressman Peterson (D-MN), the Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee has been exceedingly out spoken in his opposition to EPA's effort. Speaking about his and Rep. Skelton's effort to rein in the EPA Peterson said, *"Today's bill is intended to stop the EPA's regulatory actions. We all agree that elected officials — not bureaucrats at the EPA — should be making the decisions about how to address our country's energy problems. The Clean Air Act was never meant to allow the EPA to regulate greenhouse gas emissions, but that's what they're trying to do. The bottom line is that Congress needs to act — we need to stop the EPA in its tracks on this and prevent them from imposing these unwarranted regulations on all of us."*

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) worked hard to get Resolution 26 passed and as deeply disappointed went it was defeated last week. NCBA released the following comments after the vote. As EPA moves forward with its efforts to regulate greenhouse gases (GHG) under the Clean Air Act, we'll see significant negative economic impacts not only on agriculture, but on the entire U.S. economy. Title V operating permits alone would cost farmers over \$866 million-in addition to increased costs for feed, fuel and other inputs necessary for running agriculture operations. These increased costs will be a direct result of GHG regulations on the energy and other economic sectors.

NCBA will continue to fight against EPA GHG regulatory efforts, and we thank the forty-seven members of the Senate who stood up for U.S. agriculture and jobs by voting in favor of Resolution 26. The resolution received the support of every Republican Senator as well as six Democrats-Blanche Lincoln (Ark.), Mary Landrieu (La.), Ben Nelson (Neb.), Jay Rockefeller (W. Va.), Mark Pryor (Ark.), and Evan Bayh (Ind.).

MSCA has opposed expanding EPA regulations to cover GHG and made that view known to Minnesota's federal legislators through personal visits last fall during NCBA's Cattlemen's Legislative Conference in Washington DC. Despite this recent set back, MSCA will continue to work aggressively to protect Minnesota's livestock industry from the unwarranted and unfair regulations that hurt our ability to compete in a world market. Our competition, farmers and ranchers in other nations are not burdened with costly regulations on a gas that is naturally occurring in the environment.

Breed Associations

Affiliated with the

Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association

The following Breed Associations are members of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association.

MN Angus Association

Contact: Jim Scharpe (507) 964-5756

MN Gelbvieh Association

Contact: Justin Phillips (218) 281-2351

MN Hereford Breeders

Contact: Bob Werk (320) 246-3220

MN Limousin Association

Contact: Allen & Anna Lyon (320) 387-2794

MN Red Angus Association

Contact: Rich Leiseth (320) 564-4035

MN Shorthorn Association

Contact: Glenn Dicks (507) 840-1075

MN Simmental Association

Contact: Beth Andersland (507) 279-5986

North-American South Devon Association

Contact: Dar Giess (320) 468-0235

Quality Minnesota Cattle!