

# State of Michigan Commission of Agriculture Meeting Minutes

November 4-5, 1997

Dean Pridgeon Conference Room  
Ottawa Building, 4th Floor  
Lansing, Michigan

## PRESENT:

Norman R. Veliquette, Chairman  
Douglas E. Darling, Vice Chairperson  
Jordan B. Tatter, Secretary  
Shirley Skogman  
Deanna Stamp  
Director Dan Wyant  
Ron Zellar, Assistant Attorney General  
Michigan Department of Agriculture Staff

## PUBLIC APPEARANCES:

Jeff E. Burdick, Sr., Eagle  
Bill Cline, Dean Foods Company  
Tom Frazier, Office of Senator Spencer Abraham  
Doug Gallagher, Traverse City  
Jack Laurie, Michigan Farm Bureau  
Frank Lipinski, Buckley  
Ken Martin, Quality Dairy Company  
Mark McDonald, Mt. Pleasant  
Bob Naerebout, Michigan Independent Co-operative Milk Producers Association  
Bryan Neyer, Neyer Farms, Inc., Mt. Pleasant  
Margaret O'Connor, Ann Arbor  
Remus Rigg, Coldwater  
Walt Wosje, Michigan Milk Producers Association

## CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Norman Veliquette called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m., on November 4, 1997.  
Secretary Tatter called the roll with all Commissioners present.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Darling moved to accept the November 4-5, 1997 agenda as presented. Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Tatter moved to approve the October 7-8, 1997 minutes as presented. Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## NEXT MEETING

The next Commission of Agriculture meeting is scheduled for December 9-10, 1997, in Traverse City, Michigan, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Michigan Farm Bureau

## UPDATE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF MICHIGAN ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS -Bob Naerebout, Chair, and Dr. David Skjaerlund, Executive Director

Dr. David Skjaerlund distributed copies of the Fall 1997 newsletter, "Rural Partners, published by the Rural Development Council of Michigan. Bob Naerebout presented an update on the various activities in which the Council is currently involved. The Council has identified land use, economic development, infrastructure, housing, leadership and health care as the major rural issues in which it will be involved.

Commissioner Tatter inquired as to what has happened on the national level. Dr. Skjaerlund responded that currently 36 states are involved and the networking between those states and Michigan has proven to be very beneficial. Mr. Naerebout stated that federal funding continues to be an issue. One of the Council's goals is to demonstrate that it does make a difference in a state's rural community.

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Director Wyant stated that the Council's intent is not to create more bureaucracy, but to enhance existing programs in setting priorities for rural Michigan.

Mr. Naerebout thanked the Commission for its continuing support and guidance to the Council.

## PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS SCORING SYSTEM AND CRITERIA - Dr. David Skjaerlund, Executive Director of the Rural Development Council of Michigan and Richard Harlow, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Dr. Skjaerlund presented the "Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Scoring System" draft for Commission review and action. The Natural Resources Commission will review these same revisions at its December meeting. The PDR Review Committee includes representatives from the departments of Natural Resources and Agriculture, Michigan State University, Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan United Conservation Clubs, conservation districts, farmers and local officials. These proposed changes have been approved by the directors of the departments of Natural Resources and Agriculture. Dr. Skjaerlund also distributed copies of the "Location of PDR Committee Recommended Applications for 1997."

The PDR scoring system was developed by PDR Review Committee members to help define and measure identified scoring criteria. The Farmland and Open Space Preservation staff evaluates each nominated property and the Committee reviews and evaluates the parcels that receive higher scores to recommend parcels for purchase. There were 768 requests, representing 86,000 acres. The committee was able to fund 35 existing farms or 6,000 acres.

Dr. David Skjaerlund and Mr. Bob Naerebout recommended that the Commission approve the

proposed revisions to the "Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Scoring System" as submitted and reviewed.

MOTION: Commissioner Veliquette moved to approve the proposed revisions to the Purchase of Development Rights Scoring System as submitted. Seconded. Motion carried.

UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS OF RESOLUTION 5, PASTEURIZED MILK ORDINANCE - Sue Crawford, MDA Food and Dairy Division

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Sue Crawford expressed her appreciation to Commissioner Stamp for chairing the Resolution #5 dairy industry meeting held in September. Ms. Crawford then distributed a report to the Commission entitled, "Special Resolution #5, National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments." She summarized the actions taken by the voting delegates at a conference held in October. The Resolution #5 Committee recommended changes in four of the documents used by the NCIMS. There are many differences in philosophy between the Midwest dairy states and the western states. The west has increased its production and is becoming more competitive. She believes that it is important that Michigan continue in its leadership role in the formation of dairy policy.

The Commission and Director Wyant thanked Ms. Crawford and Commissioner Stamp for their leadership in this area.

#### DISCUSSION ON A CREATION OF A MICHIGAN MILK ORDER

Commissioner Veliquette and Director Wyant expressed their appreciation to those in attendance and to those who will appear before the Commission today to provide testimony on the creation of a Michigan Milk Order. The testimony and discussion can be found at Addendum I.

MOTION: Commissioner Tatter moved that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture encourages milk producers of this state to utilize mechanisms to enhance individual producer returns, provided that any action is the will of the majority of the producers, includes features that allow accommodation of marketplace changes, and insures periodic producer review of any plan by specific vote to initiate, continue, alter or discontinue such action. Furthermore, that the Michigan Department of Agriculture will bring the Michigan dairy industry together through meetings to identify the appropriate mechanism that will allow Michigan dairy producers to enhance individual producer returns and allow Michigan to be a leader in all aspects of U.S. dairy production and marketing in due haste. Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### LEGISLATIVE REPORT - Vicki Pontz-Teachout

Vicki Pontz-Teachout reported on the current legislative activity of HB 4337 (Drain Code). Three public hearings have been held: Monroe, Sandusky and Clio. Two additional hearings will be held, one in Kalamazoo and the other in Stanton. Substitutes are being drafted by Representative Howard Wetters and Senator Joel Gougeon.

The HB 4449 (Land Use) amendments by Representative Robert Brackenridge were brought to the House Agriculture Committee and then referred to the Special Land Use Task Force. HB

4774 (Single Business Tax/Nursery), which amends the single business tax to exempt nursery sales to landscape contractors and wholesalers and adjusts the tax base of farmers' cooperatives was combined into Representative Kirk Profit's HB 4773 and presented to the Governor.

A hearing was held by the Senate Agriculture Committee to hear testimony on Wolf Hybrids (HB 4793). HB 5071 (Food Labeling), which prohibits the sale of damaged or mislabeled foods, has been referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

Commissioner Darling and Director Wyant expressed their appreciation to Representative Howard Wetters for his support and cooperation in working with MDA on the Drain Code amendments.

## RECESS

The meeting recessed at 6:30 p.m. The Michigan Commission of Agriculture attended a dinner meeting with MDA staff at the Kellogg Center, State Room, East Lansing, Michigan.

## RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 8:32 a.m. on November 5, 1997. All Commissioners and Director Wyant were present.

## APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S PER DIEM AND/OR TRAVEL

MOTION: Commissioner Tatter moved to approve Commissioner Stamp's per diem and travel expenses on October 14, 1997, to attend the Lions Club Meeting in Sandusky, Michigan, and to approve Commissioner Darling's per diem and travel expenses to attend the Oakland County Farm Bureau Annual meeting on October 16, 1997 and the Drain Commission Hearing in Frenchtown, Michigan on October 20, 1997. Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Darling moved to approve Commissioner Veliquette's per diem and travel expenses on October 24, 1997, to attend the dedication of the Food Safety and Toxicology Building, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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## APPROVAL OF DIRECTOR'S OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

MOTION: Commissioner Darling moved to approve Director Dan Wyant's travel to attend a meeting with the Michigan Congressional delegation regarding fast track legislation held on October 30, 1997. Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## RESOLUTION

MOTION: Commissioner Skogman moved to approve the Commission of Agriculture Resolution honoring Geraldine Marie Shepherd upon her retirement from the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Shirley Skogman reported that they had a very good potato harvest, probably one of the best crops they had ever grown. She hopes there will be a market for the crop, as reports show that the potato market is down across the nation.

The deer damage was not as bad to the Skogman farm this year as compared to other years. They did receive crop damage permits, but shooters are difficult to find because of the increasing harassment. It is unfortunate because farmers are only trying to protect their crops. There is a need for shooters all week long in order to be effective in controlling the deer herd.

Commissioner Skogman participated in the area "Farmer of the Year" banquet which was very well attended. This event offered an opportunity to talk with farmers, who seem to be quite optimistic about the future. She also talked with the area Farm Bureau representative concerning the milk marketing order. Concern was expressed over Upper Peninsula farmers who do most of their business with Wisconsin. It is difficult to get milk haulers to come to the U.P. because of the very few dairy farmers. Menominee County has 89 dairies, Delta County has 36, and Dickinson County is down to eleven.

Commissioner Douglas Darling confirmed Commissioner Skogman's comment on the deer hunter harassment problem.

Soybean yields were fairly good, but there is a problem with at least 25 to 30 percent moisture on the corn. Commissioner Darling attended the Oakland County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, where most of the discussion was centered around land use, zoning, road funding and truck weights. He also attended the Drain Commission Hearing in Frenchtown. It is important that agriculture representatives are attending these hearings to voice concerns. There continues to be concern over the Commodity Futures Trading Commission results. The Chicago Board of Trades has indicated that they would be willing to compromise in some areas.

Commissioner Darling reported that a group of Chinese businessmen visited his farm recently. Two of the men are farmers and oversee 60,000 acres and employ 45,000 people. Commissioner Darling appreciated the interesting exchange of information.

Commissioner Norman Veliquette reported that a large topic of conversation and area media coverage in his area was the imminent closing of Hitch Point Cider Mill, a small, family-owned operation. One attraction to the mill is that the grinder is powered by horses. The mill owners are quite confident that they will not be able to meet potential USDA pasteurization requirements.

Commissioner Veliquette attended a series of cherry administrative board meetings regarding the Federal Marketing Order. There are both optimistic and pessimistic views on how this program will end up. The unfortunate reality is that because the industry has experienced such difficulty, many growers are removing their trees. It will be interesting to see if there will be enough supply to satisfy future demand.

There is a meeting of the sweet cherry industry scheduled in the near future in Traverse City. Also, Commissioners were invited to attend an open house at The Great Lakes Packing Company. The newly constructed facility has begun operation of the new sweet cherry

processing line.

Commissioner Jordan Tatter reported that the horticultural crop harvest in Southwest Michigan completed with minimal in-field crop loss. Apples and grapes picked out short of crop quantity estimates, blueberries exceeded the forecast, and the quality of those crops was excellent. Row crop harvest is proceeding without major problems, other than the delay due to late maturity resulting from the cool summer.

Commissioner Tatter spent several days in Las Vegas attending the National Frozen Food Convention, the American Frozen Food Institute and the National Frozen Food Association annual meetings. He also accompanied Director Wyant and MDA staff, during the MDA Region V Employee Meeting on October 22, on a tour of the marketing and storage operation at Radewald Farms. A tour was also held of Hanson Cold Storage Company and Coloma Frozen Foods. Commissioner Tatter attended the Governor's Birthday Bash in Rockford, as well as the first monthly meeting of the Michigan Frozen Food Packers Association, hosted by Dr. Tom Zabadal and staff at the Southwest Michigan Research and Extension Center of Michigan State University.

Commissioner Deana Stamp reported that most of the soybeans are harvested in her area, as well as sugar beets. It did not appear that early sugar beets were of good quality, but the final crop looked good. Less than one percent of the corn crop has been harvested. There is a lot of corn silage, but virtually no shelling going on yet because the crop is wet in the field.

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Commissioner Stamp informed the Commission that Glenn Lake had passed away. Mr. Lake was a neighbor, raised in North Branch, and a leader in the dairy industry locally and statewide. He also was a past president of the Michigan Milk Producers Association, serving in many leadership roles on the national level as well. Mr. Lake's insight and experience will be greatly missed by all those who knew and worked with him.

Recently, Commissioner Stamp spoke to the Sandusky Lions Club. They were very interested in hearing about MDA and its role in developing Michigan's Right to Farm laws, best management practices and food safety. There also was a lot of discussion about deer crop damage. Since most of the group consisted of businesspeople, they were surprised at the amount of financial loss to farmers that results from deer damage.

Commissioner Stamp stated that she believes that, in light of the dairy industry discussion held at yesterday's Commission meeting, MDA is headed in the right direction. It is important to bring the total industry together to discuss all of the issues and concerns involved in creating a milk order. She also believes that the industry needs to learn how to live within these cycles. She feels that in the long run, uncertainty can make for better managers. The goal is to get through the difficult times and learning how to live within a new system and under new rules will take time. These transition periods are good for the industry.

Michigan does have a secure supply/demand situation because virtually all milk produced is used. Even nationwide surpluses are not that great once the amount of milk produced is taken into consideration. One of the biggest concerns of some dairy farmers is that export markets need to be developed. There is concern that there is not a steady supply of milk available for

export, yet the demand is there. Michigan needs to take advantage of export markets, if opportunities arise. It is more important than ever that industry comes together to discuss the issues in order to put together a plan that will prevent an exodus from dairy in Michigan.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Apple Cider:** As a precautionary measure in early October, Schlubatis Orchards in Coldwater recalled the apple cider they had sold after September 29, 1997. Preliminary results indicated that the bacteria

E coli 0157:H7 may have been present. MDA took this action as a precaution and was found as part of routine cider testing. There were no reported cases of illness.

Director Wyant asked John Tilden, Food Safety Epidemiologist, MDA Food and Dairy Division, to discuss the apple cider situation in Michigan. Mr. Tilden presented a slide show that portrayed the diversity of the various apple cider operations in Michigan.

MDA has seen a great shift to pasteurization driven by the market demand. There are still unpasteurized products at retail grocers, but in major chains most products are pasteurized. Michigan can produce a safe and wholesome apple cider. MDA has made a concerted effort, with industry support, to target problem areas.

Director Wyant showed the Commission a videotape of news stories that ran on two Detroit TV stations recently concerning the apple cider sold at cider mills in the metro area. The stories also briefly addressed the safety of Michigan's apple cider.

**Michigan State Fair:** The Michigan State Fair's financial report for this year's fair showed approximately an \$800,000 deficit. The State Fair has been transferred to MDA and this year's financial situation is of concern.

Barbara Hensinger, MDA's liaison to the State Fair, stated that there are many ideas currently being discussed to reduce or eliminate any potential deficit; e.g., year-round usage, more agricultural exposure and education, and developing partnerships in the Detroit area. There is much interest and the possibilities and challenges are great. There also is a strong public interest in more traditional exhibits.

Director Wyant stated that there are many challenges; i.e, declining attendance, a deteriorating infrastructure, cleanliness, location and safety concerns. The Director commended John Hertel, Director of the Michigan State Fair, on the progress he has already made in those areas. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources also has indicated their interest and support in improving and expanding the fair.

**Fast Track Legislation:** This federal issue is of great importance to agriculture's free trade, especially to Michigan. Thirty-four percent of all our production in this state goes to export. It is where Michigan's current growth is coming from and it is our future opportunity for demand and growth. Michigan ranks fourth in the nation in fruit exports, seventh in the nation in vegetable exports, eighteenth in overall exports.

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Dale Sherwin, MDA's Director of Agriculture Policy and Special Projects, reported that as of November 4 the Senate invoked cloture on the motion to proceed with Senate floor debate of legislation to renew the President's fast track trade negotiating authority. The Senate will be voting November 5 on the issue itself. Mr. Sherwin distributed a copy of the National Journal's Congress Daily, November 4, 1997. A letter signed by previous secretaries of Agriculture was sent to the Secretary of Agriculture and the President in support of this legislation.

Director Wyant reported that he and Jack Laurie, President of the Michigan Farm Bureau, traveled to Washington, D.C. to meet with twelve members of Michigan's Congressional delegation. Senator Spencer Abraham and Representative David Camp are very supportive.

Point-of-Delivery System: Dale Sherwin attended an October 15 hearing whereby the Chicago Board of Trades presented their rebuttal to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission actions.

TB in Deer: The directors of MDA, Natural Resources and Community Health held a joint press conference to announce the receipt of the report entitled, "Recommendations for Elimination of Bovine Tuberculosis in Free-Ranging White Tailed Deer in Michigan," submitted by the TB Deer Task Force Committee. The directors reviewed the recommendations and are proceeding with an aggressive voluntary ban on feeding in a five-county area. They also are implementing a surveillance program to be monitored by MDA. There is a need to eradicate, not just control, the disease. Successful hunts are desired and deer cannot be allowed to disperse to other locations. Michigan cannot afford to lose its TB accreditation, which could be a \$62 million loss a year to our livestock industry.

Dr. Michael Chaddock, Director of MDA's Animal Industry Division, stated that deer herds usually disperse within a 10-12 mile area, under conditions where they have been fed. The problem of how to get rid of TB in the captive situation is already known, but eliminating the disease in the wild is a different situation. Unfortunately, there are no clear signs when there is an infection in an animal population until it becomes a chronic disease. Dr. Chaddock stated that this situation did not happen overnight. It has taken a long time to get where we are, and it is going to take a long time to get back where we want to be.

Ag Tourism: Margaret Cooke, Director of MDA's Marketing and Communications Division, and Director Wyant updated the Commission on various agricultural tourism activities. MDA participated on the director's panel at the Governor's Conference on Tourism held in Grand Rapids. The conference offered a great opportunity to showcase Michigan agriculture, tourism and recreation opportunities. There also is an ag tourism conference that MDA is co-sponsoring with Michigan State University on November 6-7, 1997, in Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Herb Teichman of Tremendous Fruit Farms has been appointed to the Travel Michigan board. Ms. Cooke stated that Travel Michigan has taken agriculture and incorporated it into many new promotional activities. It also has taken responsibility for the nine welcome centers across Michigan. The New Buffalo welcome center will showcase Michigan agriculture with many new agricultural exhibits. The New Buffalo welcome center has had some excellent agricultural exhibits in the past, and Travel Michigan will be building on what is already there. Director Wyant stated that the Southwest Michigan Tourism Council has been active in that welcome center for some time and has done a tremendous job.



On November 12, 1997, the Michigan Harvest Gathering, will be held at the American Red Cross in Lansing. This is an event that MDA partners with Senator Bill Schuette to raise funds and food on behalf of the Food Bank Council of Michigan. Director Wyant also stated that the Women for the Survival of Agriculture in Michigan will be meeting on November 14-16, 1997, in Kalamazoo. He will be speaking at that event.

Food Safety: Director Wyant expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Veliquette that he was able to join in the Food Safety Alliance Meeting and participate in the dedication ceremony for the Food Safety and Toxicology Building at Michigan State University. This is a national food safety and toxicology center and will put Michigan into a leadership role.

#### REPORT ON THE AGRICULTURE CENSUS - Steve Pscodna, Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service

Steve Pscodna distributed "Census of Agriculture" information kits to the Commission. This is the twenty-fifth census of agriculture since 1840. For the first time, the agriculture census is the responsibility of the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). There are 45 field offices, serving the 50 states, that will provide strong support for conducting and editing the census at the local level. Eighty percent of the farmers in Michigan will receive the short form. Nationally there will be approximately 2.5 million questionnaires distributed, with about 80,000 distributed within Michigan.

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Mailings will take place on December 12 through December 18, 1997, with a return date requested of February 2, 1998. A 90 percent response rate is desired from Michigan farmers, with at least a 75 percent response rate from Michigan growers in each county. The data obtained should be available sometime in 1999.

It is important that the agriculture community is aware of the census and of the importance of returning the data. Mr. Pscodna thanked Brad Deacon from Governor Engler's office for his assistance in obtaining a Governor's Proclamation encouraging census reporting. David Kleweno of the Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service will be giving a presentation to the Michigan Farm Bureau. Mr. Pscodna asked that the Commissioners and Director Wyant talk with agricultural groups to encourage completion and return of the census forms.

Commissioner Tatter inquired as to the status of the fruit tree survey. Mr. Pscodna stated that survey was distributed to growers in October. This information should be available by spring of 1998. This is especially critical to the cherry industry in light of the cherry federal marketing order and the need for the data preceding the start of harvest.

#### DISCUSSION ON LAND USE - Bill Rustem, Public Sector Consultants

Bill Rustem distributed a copy of the "Land Use Survey," conducted in July 1997 for the W. K. Kellogg Foundation by Public Sector Consultants of Lansing, Michigan. The Kellogg Foundation's interest in this survey was to determine the direction of its rural development program. This was a survey done of 800 Michiganians, plus an additional 100 African-Americans, with a margin of error of 3.5 percent. Mr. Rustem reviewed the results of the

survey with the Commission.

As background information, Mr. Rustem stated that in 1992 a report, funded by the Environmental Protection Agency, entitled the "Relative Risk Report," was an effort to define what were the most important environmental issues for Michigan's future. The committee who developed this report was comprised of 45 Michigan experts, with assistance from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The committee was divided into three subcommittees, one consisting of agency personnel, state departments, local public health departments, a second that included scientists from both academia in Michigan and industry, and the third was a citizen subcommittee, consisting of representatives from environmental organizations and business, as well as the Michigan Farm Bureau. This committee concluded that the issue posing a major threat to Michigan's environment, over the long term, was the absence of land use planning that considers the resources and the integrity of ecosystems.

Since 1992, there have been a number of other studies that looked at those issues. One study was the "Trend Futures Report," produced by Michigan Society of Land Planners, and another by the Governor's Task Force on Michigan Farmland and Agriculture Development. It is not an environmental issue, it is a land use issue, affecting Michigan's economy and quality of life. There are four industries in Michigan that are absolutely land dependent: agriculture, tourism and recreation, forestry and mining. Those industries are not only important to Michigan's economic health, but also to its quality of life.

1998 COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE MEETING SCHEDULE AND PROPOSED BUDGET -  
David Charney, Commission Liaison

Mr. David Charney, Commission Liaison, reviewed the 1998 Commission of Agriculture proposed budget and meeting schedule.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tom Frazier, Senator Spencer Abraham's Office updated the Commission on the Hepatitis A situation at the national level. Senator Abraham has been very involved in this effort on the national level and there has been a recent development as of this past weekend. In reporting a story on tainted strawberries, the San Diego Union Tribune disclosed that the USDA was aware one week after the purchase by the school lunch program, that strawberries were purchased from Mexico. Senator Abraham has called for further investigation by the Senate panel and is working with Senator Cloverdale from Georgia, who will likely ask for additional hearings and request USDA officials to come forth and explain the situation. The Commission expressed their appreciation for Senator Abraham's involvement in this issue.

Margaret O'Connor, former legislator and representative of "Citizens for Common Sense," in Washtenaw County stated that she totally disagreed with Bill Rustem's survey and position. She also believes that the American Farmland Trust is inaccurate and using scare tactics when they state that Michigan is among the nations' 20 agricultural regions most threatened by residential and commercial development. Mrs. O'Connor distributed handouts supporting her position.

ADJOURN

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Commissioner Darling moved that the meeting adjourn. Seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## ATTACHMENTS

The following support documentation and handout materials are on file in the Commission of Agriculture office:

Attachment A October 7-8, 1997 Commission of Agriculture Meeting Minutes

Attachment B "Rural Partners" Fall 1997 Newsletter

Attachment C Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Scoring System Draft

Attachment D Location of PDR Committee Recommended Applications for 1997

Attachment E Report to the MDA Commission, November 4, 1997, Special Resolution #5, National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments

Attachment F Commission of Agriculture Resolution for Geraldine Marie Shepherd

Attachment G November Director's Report

Attachment H National Journal's Congress Daily, November 4, 1997

Attachment I November 1997 Department of Agriculture Bill Status

Attachment J Census of Agriculture Information Kit

Attachment K Land Use Survey, Public Sector Consultants

Attachment L News Release "Abraham Takes to Senate Floor Demanding Answers from USDA on Strawberry Scare," November 4, 1997

Attachment M Handouts distributed by Margaret O'Connor

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