



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## Governor's Council for Agricultural Development



### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD OCTOBER 7, 2014

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

165 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, CT 06106

#### I. CONVENE MEETING

Commissioner Reviczky, chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Also in attendance were council members Allyn Brown, III, James Guida, George Hindinger, Jason Hoagland, Herb Holden, Jr., Jamie Jones (by phone), Michael Keilty, Shelly Oechsler, Peter Orr, Kevin Sullivan, Henry Talmage, and Gregory Weidemann, along with staff from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

#### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The council reviewed draft minutes from July 1, 2014. Shelly Oechsler moved to approve them. George Hindinger seconded. There was no discussion and the council accepted the motion unanimously.

#### III. REMARKS FROM CHAIR

Commissioner Reviczky provided agency updates, including recent staff changes. He also updated members on the progress of projects resulting from the council's 2014 Producer Education/Innovation and Infrastructure/Wholesale Markets working groups, including the development of new producer training courses and shared processing facilities at the state-owned Hartford Regional Market.

#### IV. GROW CONNECTICUT FARMS NEXT STEPS

Chairman Reviczky reported that agency staff is at work on the council's 2014 *Grow Connecticut Farms* update. Dean Weidemann agreed to have his staff again collaborate on the graphic design. Publication and distribution is on schedule to occur before the upcoming legislative session.

An in-depth discussion regarding the council's priorities and focus for 2015 ensued. Members agreed to concentrate on reviewing the status of and progress made on its recommendations from the past three years, along with developing suggestions to further progress, as appropriate.

#### V. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING(S)

The council discussed the following 2015 meeting schedule:

- Tuesday, January 6, 2015
- Tuesday, April 7, 2015
- Tuesday, July 7, 2015
- Tuesday, October 6, 2015

Henry Talmage moved to approve the schedule. Michael Keilty seconded. The council accepted the motion unanimously.

#### VI. AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

Dr. Rigoberto Lopez from the University of Connecticut's Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics presented highlights of his work with Farm Credit East on a recent study of the economic impact of agriculture in the Northeast.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Chairman Reviczky adjourned meeting at 3:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Eddy and Crystal Morris-Crenshaw.  
October 9, 2014