STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Governor's Council for Agricultural Development

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 12, 2013
Hartford Regional Market
101 Reserve Road
Hartford, CT 06114

I. CONVENE MEETING
Commissioner Reviczky, chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:21 p.m.

Other council members in attendance were James Guida, George Hindinger, Jason Hoagland, Jamie Jones, Michael Keilty, Kevin Sullivan, Jr., and Henry Talmage. Staff from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture also was present.

Council members Allyn Brown, III, Herb Holden, Jr., Shelly Oechsler, Peter Orr, and Dr. Gregory Weidemann were absent.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The council reviewed draft minutes from October 22, 2013. George Hindinger moved to approve them. Kevin Sullivan seconded. The council accepted the motion with all in favor except Henry Talmage, who abstained.

III. REMARKS FROM CHAIR
Commissioner Reviczky reviewed the decision by members at the last meeting to narrow the council's focus for the coming year to three or four priority topic areas and dive into those more deeply. He distributed and reviewed a draft timeline for 2014, pointing out that working groups corresponding to the priority topic areas would begin meeting in January.

IV. UPDATE ON YEAR-END REPORT
Commissioner Reviczky reported that his office had sent a final draft of the council's 2013 year-end update to the communications staff at the University of Connecticut's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources on October 31, 2013. They estimate completion of a draft layout on or before November 27, 2013. The Department of Agriculture has made arrangements to print the reports through the Department of Administrative Services' print shop again this year, which will take about two weeks from receipt of the final layout from the University of Connecticut.

V. 2014 PRIORITIES AND WORKING GROUP STRUCTURE
The council engaged in an in-depth discussion about priorities for 2014 and came to consensus that its four areas of focus for the year ahead will be as follows:

1. Food Safety Requirements (especially the Food Safety Modernization Act)
2. Innovation, Research, and Producer Education
3. Infrastructure and Wholesale Markets
4. Marketing

Corresponding working groups will begin meeting in January. The council concurred it should take advantage of different producer group meetings that month to solicit stakeholder input on these topics and then have a day at the end of January to engage experts in these areas in more in-depth discussions. Council leadership will work out the details.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING(S)
The council's next quarterly meeting will be held February 4, 2014. Working groups will begin meeting in January.

VI. ADJOURNMENT
There was no further business and Chairman Reviczky adjourned meeting at 3:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Piotrowicz
November 13, 2013

DRAFT