



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## Governor's Council for Agricultural Development Agricultural Business Environment Working Group



### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 17-Jun-2013

State Office Building  
165 Capitol Ave., Hartford CT

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Allyn Brown III, Agricultural Business Environment Working Group working group chair, called the meeting to order at 1 pm. Other working group members present were:

Joan Nichols	CT Farm Bureau Association
Mark Polzella	CT Dept. of Labor
Bill Rees	Green Power Solutions
Peter Rogers	Rogers Orchards
Lynn Stoddard	CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection

Working group members absent:

Rich Roberts, Esq.	Halloran & Sage, LLP
Mark Sellew	Pride's Corner Farms

Others present:

Linda Piotrowicz	CT Dept. of Agriculture (Representing Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky, Chair Governor's Council for Agricultural Development)
Henry Talmadge	CT Farm Bureau Association, Vice Chair Governor's Council for Agricultural Development
Wayne Kasacek	CT Dept. of Agriculture, Staff

#### II. INTRODUCTIONS

Working group members introduced themselves and provided information about their areas of expertise.

#### III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND UPDATE ON GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Linda Piotrowicz and Allyn Brown III provided an overview of the council's work since it convened in January 2012.

#### IV. INTRODUCTION OF WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENT

Allyn Brown III and Linda Piotrowicz introduced the assignment given the Agricultural Business Environment working group by the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development. The Agricultural Business Environment working group will examine energy related legislation that was considered during the 2013 legislative session. The group will review legislation that passed and legislation that failed. Language should be modified the working group will make recommendations that improve the value of the language to agriculture businesses in this state to the Governor's Council on Agricultural Development.

#### V. DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT DELIVERABLES

The group engaged in an in-depth discussion about its assignment and came to consensus on the following:

- A. Need to highlight the benefits of the new language and it's potential.
  - 1. To agricultural businesses
  - 2. The economy
  - 3. The environment

- B. Need to look at other ways for agriculture to take advantage of the clean energy movement and funding sources for agricultural projects. Improve agricultural businesses utilization of clean energy funding based on need and eligibility.

VI. DETERMINATION OF RESOURCES REQUIRED

It was determined that the working had the necessary resources to provide the Governor's Council on Agricultural Development with recommendations.

VII. RECAP AND NEXT STEPS

Allyn Brown III recapped the highlights of the discussion and the next steps, which include each member reviewing the legislation, having another Agricultural Business Environment Working Group meeting before 20 Aug 2013.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business Allyn Brown III, Chair, adjourned meeting at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Wayne Kasacek

**DRAFT**