



## COLORADO FOOD SYSTEMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Colorado Food Systems Advisory Council

Colorado Department of Agriculture, 305 Interlocken Parkway, Broomfield, CO 80021

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 11am-1pm

COFSAC Charge: Advance recommendations that strengthen healthy food access for all through Colorado agriculture and local food systems and economies.

Present: Tracy Miller (member), Tom Lipetzky (member), Barry Pardus (member), Kelleen Zubick (member), Sandy Stenmark (member), Julie Moore (member), Jody Beck (member), Joyce Kelly (member), Meighen Lovelace (member), Jon Padia (member), Tom Parks (member), Wendy Peters Moschetti (member), Dawn Thilmany (member), and Becca Jablonski (staff)

### Minutes:

1. Approve Minutes and COFSAC annual report
  - a. Meighen moved, Jody seconded, all in favor (unanimous)
2. Funding from the CO Health Foundation (thanks Sandy and Wendy!!!)
  - a. ~\$6k in CDA account, \$5k from CO Health Foundation
  - b. Approve spending:
    - \$3,000 on website – new cofoodsistemas.org integrating COFSAC, COFPN, Farm to School task force and creating a hub for statewide activity. Also, CSU is creating a revised version of the community commons/digital hub that will be housed on this site.
      - Also opportunity to try to track key metrics across the state and better align with the CO Blueprint to End Hunger (<https://www.endhungerco.org/>).
      - \$3k would cover setting up the site, but maintenance would be out of \$ from the state to CSU.
      - Motion to approve, Meighen, Jody seconded, all in favor (unanimous)
    - Up to \$2000 on white papers/issue briefs

- Bold green headings don't line up
  - Add a pig (there are two sheep)
  - Footnote 6 and 7 need to be better formatted.
  - Get rid of artichoke
  - Plum in picture instead of tomato – where there are the ops of color
  - Feels like there is space to have slightly larger fonts on the tables and breakouts
  - Just have opportunities (delete barriers) on p. 3 – add barriers in the brown line “barriers and expanded opportunities
  - Both barriers and opportunities are ii.
  - Make the maps the same size. If can't change them – don't put them side by side. Try printing them to make sure that the maps print in high res. Can we keep maps and just recreate the key/legend?
  - Make sure to redo the figure numbers – 3 and 9 are very confusing – redo headers.
  - Jody moved to approve spending up to \$2k on formatting/printing the policy briefs, Kelleen seconded, unanimous.
3. Approve to finalize the hunger/food security white paper and issue brief (Wendy)
- a. Motion to approve the summary changes, Sandy, Dawn seconded, unanimous.
  - b. How do we publicize/promote? Discussion about moving to a statewide newsletter, but in the meantime, want to develop a press release list.
    - CDA has a great press release list.
    - CO Pork Council also has. a good list
    - Blueprint to end hunger has a good list
    - Tom L will talk to CDA's communications folks, Joyce will see about sharing CO Pork list, and Sandy will investigate if Blueprint to end hunger has one.
    - Who's hands do we need to put this in? Other agencies besides the three represented on the Council? Look at the names in italics on the briefs. For example, USDA FNS.
    - Wendy and LiveWell will send to local foods coalitions and workgroups of the Blueprint to End Hunger.
4. COFSAC bill- HB1202
- a. A big thanks for Livewell's Wendy and Terri! Huge congrats on getting the bill passed.

- b. Bill signing on Friday! Starts at 2pm, but long list of bills that need to be signed so not sure timing.
- c. Three main areas of work:
  - Implementing CO Blueprint of Food and Agriculture
  - Supporting Farm to Institution
  - Connecting Federal Food Assistance with CO Agriculture
- d. Created a full time staff person at CSU, and officially moves COFSAC to CSU.
- e. Next steps:
  - State fiscal year starts July 1 and then the money will move to CSU
  - Transition planning with CDA, CSU, and LiveWell in late June
  - Changing board composition and reappointments
  - Things CSU wants to know:
    - 1. Input on job description (initial thinking of CSU is to have a statewide Extension specialist, requirement of MS)
      - Discussion that it makes a lot of sense to have this person physically housed under the Office of Engagement, also discussion that a statewide Extension specialist title is ok assuming that the person works closely with statewide agencies.
    - 2. Input on 1 full time vs 2 part time people
      - Discussion that 2 part time positions never works – better to have 1 full time person.
    - 3. Should this person be housed in Denver or Fort Collins
  - Tom Parks and Wendy Peters Moschetti will serve on the Search Committee as COFSAC representatives. Note that the
  - Need to set clear directives about what the person does. More structured committee structure. So, say you have a 160 hour month how much time is spent on each scope of activities. Some are outlined by the bill, but not all. Perhaps outline some of this in the job description (as Extension does).
  - Becca is going to get additional information about the application process and will send out with COFSAC members as able. Note that we will send out the official call throughout the state to try to solicit as many people as possible – and also work to get geographic and social diversity. As these positions are appointed by the Governor – the Boards and Commission may make the final determination if there are multiple applicants.
    - Creating a task force with CDA, CDE, CDPHE, CDHS, Extension, and OEDIT to set rules about how COFSAC members are appointed.

5. HB19-1132, the Local School Food Purchasing Program (Wendy/Jon)
  - a. Two things:
    - 1. Incentives to schools that purchase local products – CDE still has a lot to figure out
    - 2. Statewide grant to a nonprofit to provide technical assistance. Nonprofit will report to CDE.
  - b. There is a statewide rule making process. Likely that the top 10 school districts will be ineligible as they are just too big and there is not enough funding. So, need to figure out equitable, diverse geographic decisions.
  - c. Two years of funding, but three year pilot program.
  - d. No evaluation part of it. And, only a very small amount of support for CDE.
  - e. Need to make sure outreach and TA are done effectively – or the program risks being underutilized by small rural schools. CDE has strong relationships so that should help. Jon also does regional menu planning.
  - f. CDE will reimburse the incentives, CDE will also award the TA contract. The TA contractor could provide sub-awards.
6. Update on the meat processing white paper (Dawn)
  - a. Stalled on CSU's end, but potential for Dawn to pick it up.
  - b. Discussion about a Western SARE grant proposal that includes 4 primary components.
    - Meat Conference: Establish and convene two Rocky Mountain meat conferences (2/2021 and 2/2023) that include at least 400 ranchers/producers, meat processors, and meat supply chain stakeholders to build measurable improvements in social capital, shared-values and understanding (including enhanced communication and new market opportunities for participants, and supply chain coordination).
    - Meat School: Pilot online 'meat school' including a regional convening in three regions of Colorado with at least 25 participating ranchers/producers per year starting in fall of 2020. Conduct an evaluation showing that at least 60% of participants will make new or different market channel decisions or improve the profitability of an existing or new market channel.
    - Decision Tool: Create an online pricing decision tool, integrating financial data from the USDA ARMS. The tool will be piloted in 2022 through a national webinar hosted by the Niche Meat Processing Network and utilized by at least 60 stakeholders by 3/2023.
    - Consulting Support: Provide business consulting support to at least eight ranchers, producer groups and meat processors by 2023 with regionally-branded products or members of the NMPAN in the Rocky Mountain

Region to evaluate the potential to add additional further processing or value-added products designed to capture emerging and existing market opportunities.

- c. COFSAC is highly supportive of the Rocky Mountain Meat Summit planned for February of 2021
  - d. Decision to pivot the white paper: what are the opportunities to move the meat sector/supply chain forward
    - Meighen moved, Wendy seconded, unanimous
  - e. This could be a bit of a template – start with beef, and then think about repeating this process
7. Update on GFPP and rural-urban linkage work (Becca)
- a. Looks likely that the City and County of Denver are going to adopt a regionally-focused Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP)
  - b. Discussion about if there is interest from more rural districts or institutions in adopting GFPP so that we might be able to think a bit more broadly than just Denver.
  - c. If statewide interest, than the ‘lever’ is broader than just Denver. Nudge in procurement.
  - d. Save the date: January 7, 2020 – Denver Museum of Nature and Science – Colorado Food Summit.
8. Discuss feasibility of forming committees to explore topics and initial work plan
- a. Farm to School
    - Meighen was appointed Chair
    - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting held May 28<sup>th</sup>
9. Next Meeting
- a. October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, 11am-1pm – location TBD