



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
CONNECTICUT MARKETING AUTHORITY**



Steven K. Reviczky  
Chairman

Linda Piotrowicz  
Executive Director

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD APRIL 11, 2018  
CMA Offices, Building A, 101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT 06114**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jason Bowsza (Chairman Steven Reviczky's designee), Bruce Benedict (arrived 10:18 a.m.), Alexis Gazy, David Morse, Jennifer Parmelee, Joseph Ruffini.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Randall Fiveash, Frank Musto.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Staff from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAg)/Connecticut Marketing Authority (CMA) and guests.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Jason Bowsza called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and recessed it until 10:11 a.m., when a quorum was reached.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** David Morse moved to accept the February 16, 2018, minutes as drafted. Jennifer Parmelee seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** Jason Bowsza reported on the state budget, explaining DoAg and CMA appear to be in relatively good shape based on current proposals under discussion. He also reported on the current legislative session, which adjourns May 9, 2018.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Executive Director Piotrowicz reported on income and expenses. A discussion ensued. Alexis Gazy asked for more detailed reports on revenue and Piotrowicz explained the budget office was unable to provide such detail under the current accounting system, but she was exploring options for obtaining more detailed reports, which would also benefit her as the director. She then provided updates on the Short Term Investment Fund and refilling of the Maintainer 1 position, which resulted in additional discussion.

**LEASES/AGREEMENTS:** Piotrowicz explained that an outside attorney had been contracted by the Office of the Attorney General to prepare and execute leases for the three incoming long-term tenants. That attorney had sent the leases out and was communicating directly with the tenants and/or their legal representatives. A conversation ensued, including discussion of tenant parking needs. Piotrowicz explained that any tenant could request or submit a proposal for additional assigned parking beyond what their lease included.

Piotrowicz reported that she and others had read in the Hartford Courant that Sardilli and Sysco had submitted proposals for the land across the street from the Regional Market but that she knew no more about the matter. A discussion ensued during which members asked that Commissioner Reviczky reach out to Sardilli to ask whether they still planned to occupy the space at the Regional Market for which they had been offered a lease.

Piotrowicz also reported that DoAg had requested, on CMA's behalf, assignment of an outside attorney by the Office of the Attorney General to assess CMA's options regarding the land lease held by the parent company of Sweet Life, which had requested assignment of that lease. Discussion followed.



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**RAILROAD:** Piotrowicz reported recommended repair/maintenance work on the railroad in the coming year was estimated at approximately \$420,000, including \$46,000 for switch reconstruction and \$68,000 for replacement of the Reserve Road crossing. Presently the railroad tracks at the market serve one non-agricultural client south of the property. A discussion ensued including questions about whether the railroad could be abandoned or transferred to another entity. Bowsza explained DoAg had requested outside legal counsel because railroad law is complex and is a specialized field of law.

**FARMERS' MARKET:** Piotrowicz reported that a meeting was held March 1 with vendors from the farmers' market to discuss the upcoming season and potential changes resulting from the parking needs of incoming tenants. Sardilli, which has requested assigned parking in addition to that included in the lease, was in attendance at that meeting and expressed a desire to work together with vendors to minimize disruptions to the farmers' market. A discussion followed.

Piotrowicz also reported that she is working to schedule bargaining unit and contracted vendors to staff the farmers' market. She then reported that the Department of Motor Vehicles, which agreed to cease CDL license testing in the farmers' market area, had indicated they were having trouble finding a suitable new test location.

**NEXT MEETING(S):** Regular meetings for 2018 are scheduled for July 11 and October 10. Special meetings may be scheduled if needed.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, David Morse moved to adjourn. Jennifer Parmelee seconded, and the motion carried unanimously without discussion. The meeting ended at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Linda Piotrowicz  
April 11, 2018