

February 6, 2020

I am reaching out to all Grade A dairy farms to announce a recent change that occurred last week. The Missouri Dairy Industry took a huge leap forward last week with Missouri Dairy Association and Missouri Dairy Industry Alliance boards voting to dissolve and unify into newly formed "MO Dairy".

As an organization MO Dairy has two goals:

1. To represent the dairy industry at our state capital and
2. To provide educational opportunities for dairy producers and members of Missouri's legislature.

Our meeting began with prayer then proceeded into an envisioning process to create a new dairy organization dairymen will be eager to participate in. Cooperative hearts agreed upon:

1. A new name (MO Dairy)
2. Dues structure (\$20.00/month)
3. Governance

All in attendance were enthusiastic about working together in a get-er-done fashion with one goal, create an organization that unifies dairy and reflective of the industry we love.

A nine person transitional board, from the existing 15 board members, includes equal representation across the state. Tom Oelrichs was chosen as chairman.

The "MO Dairy" leadership is positive, forward thinking and plan to do more with less. This closely mirrors in alignment with the industry they represent. Stay tuned for more information from "MO Dairy", our industry's voice in Jeff city.

The University of Missouri-Extension was pleased to help unite this producer lead board. I would like to sincerely thank those who provided leadership to envision this new path forward.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions regarding this matter - or - general dairy farm questions, as that's what your University of Missouri dairy team is here for!



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