

MINUTES

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY 20 DECEMBER 2011 AT 10.00AM AT LISSUE HOUSE

Present:

Mr P O'Rourke (Chairman)
Mr P O'Neill
Mr J McGaughey
Mrs M McCormack
Mr J Noble
Mr K Sharkey
Mr C Tweedie

In attendance:

Mr I Stevenson
Miss S Blain
Mr K Morrison (DARD)

2011/13/1 Apologies

None.

2011/13/2 Minutes

The minutes of a meeting held on 16 November 2011, taken as read, were approved by the Commission and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mr P O'Neill
Seconded: Mr J McGaughey

2011/13/3 Matters arising

(i) Bulletin

The Chief Executive advised the Board that an agreement had been reached with Farming Life to publish the Bulletin for a three year term starting in the New Year. A mid-week market report will also appear in the Farm Week and Irish Farmers' Journal.

(ii) Board Size

The Chief Executive advised that LMC has written to the main stakeholder organisations (NIMEA, UFU, NIAPA) to arrange meetings for early 2012 at which the out-workings of the review implementation issues will be discussed, including the proposed reductions in the LMC Board size.

Withheld – Commercially Sensitive

(v) Food NI

The Chief Executive has given verbal feedback to Ms Shirlow (Food NI) of the Board's decision at the last meeting.

(vi) CAP Reform Proposals Post 2013

The Chief Executive had circulated a draft response to Board Members.

Action Point: Board Members will forward any comments to the Chief Executive as soon as possible.

Action Point: The Chief Executive will consult with other industry stakeholders before finalising the LMC response, which should be signed off at the next Board Meeting.

(vii) Draft MSFM

The Chairman and Chief Executive have submitted some queries to DARD and are currently waiting for feedback.

2011/13/4 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on meetings he has attended since the last Board Meeting.

NIMEA

The Chairman advised he had received correspondence from NIMEA, expressing serious disquiet at the recent appointment of a new Board Member. NIMEA has also written to the DARD Minister.

2011/13/5 Chief Executive's Report

Mr C Tweedie & Mr P O'Neill left the meeting at 10.35am

(i) Review of the Price Reporting System provided by NIMEA

The Board discussed the Chief Executive's recommendations.

Action Point: The Board approved both recommendations made by the Chief Executive.

Mr C Tweedie & Mr P O'Neill re-joined the meeting at 11.50am

(ii) LMC Business Plan 2012/13, Strategic Plan 2012/15, Annual Report & Accounts 2011/12

Action Point: The Chief Executive will write to DARD to advise that LMC will endeavour to meet the timescales identified.

Withheld – Commercially Sensitive

2011/13/7 LMC Brussels Update November 2011

The update was noted.

2011/13/8 Notes of Senior Managers Meetings – 20 October & 24 November

Noted.

2011/13/9 Board Meeting Dates

Action Point: The Board agreed the dates for 2012 subject to confirmation of Balmoral Show dates.

2011/13/10 Date of next meeting

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting would be 25 January 2012 at 10.00am

2011/13/11 Any Other Business

(i) Bulletin Quarterly and FQAS Newsletter

The Chief Executive advised that both of these publications were being sent to LMC stakeholders in December 2011.

(ii) LMC Annual Report & Accounts 2011

The Board was advised that the LMC Annual Report and Accounts 2011 had been laid in the assembly on 15 December 2011.

(iii) Retirement of Board Member

The Board recognised that this was Mr C Tweedie's last meeting as a Board Member. The Chairman expressed the Board's gratitude for Mr Tweedie's valuable contribution to LMC, and made a presentation to him on behalf of the Board.