

April 23, 2007

Maine Milk Commission Public Hearing Minutes
Deering Building, Room 233
Augusta, Maine 04333

Notices for the April 23, 2007 public hearing were distributed to Commission members, intervenors and other interested parties March 23, 2007 and sent to the Secretary of State's Office for posting on 3/23/07.

Commission Present: Chair, Michael Wiers, Colon Durrell, John Joseph Jr., Katherine O. Musgrave and Shelley Doak.

Commission Absent: None

Department Officials: None

Staff Present: Stanley Millay, Executive Director, Carol Gauthier, Office Associate and Audrey Shorty, Resource Administrator.

Legal Counsel: Lucinda White, Assistant Attorney General.

Chapter 29, Dealer Margins Public Hearing called to order at 10:10 A.M. by chair, Michael Wiers.

Chairman Wiers explained that this public hearing was for the purpose of taking testimony regarding proposed changes to Chapter 29 Dealer Margins. Specifically, it was an opportunity for interested parties to testify before the Commission on the results of a dealer cost study conducted for the Commission by George Criner and Lisa Bragg of the University of Maine. Written comment period open through May 3, 2007.

Dr. George Criner, Professor and Chair of the Resource Economics Department, University of Maine, explained the conclusions of the study. He explained that the results were based on the most recent fuel prices available. He reported that adjustments were made in the distribution section that lowered the final margins. He went on to say that when one processor provided additional distribution information it actually raised the final margins.

Dr. Criner said that he would contact two other processors to get more distribution data and have that available to the Commission at the end of the comment period.

No other testimony was received.

Hearing Adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

Stanley Millay, Executive Director, Maine Milk Commission.