

ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONFERENCE CALL
MONDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2009, 8:30 a.m.

Present: Rick Burton - *Chair*
Erik Butters - *Past Chair*
Kevin Boon - *Vice Chair*
Doug Sawyer - *Finance Chair*
Gerald Maser - *Zone 1*
Brent Carey - *Zone 2*
Brian Edge - *Zone 3*
Pat Rutledge - *Zone 4*
Rob Somerville - *Zone 5*
Greg Bowie - *Zone 6*
Roy Eckert - *Zone 6 (at large)*
Ben Schrader - *Zone 7*
Brian Chomlak - *Zone 8*
Darcy Eddleston - *Zone 8 (at large)*
Janys Boyte - *Zone 9*
Chuck MacLean - *CFC Chair*
Dave Solverson - *CFC*
Stuart Thiessen - *CFC*
Darryl Carlson - *CIC Chair*
Larry Delver - *CIC*

Staff: Rich Smith - *General Manager*

The Board confirmed its strong commitment to pursuit of AgriRecovery funding support for cattle producers affected by the drought and adverse weather conditions this year. The directors also recognized the value of the work done on assessing the costs associated with these disastrous conditions. These costs will provide valuable information to support future discussions and negotiations about an AgriRecovery program. At the conclusion of the discussion, there was widespread, but not unanimous, agreement among the directors that the cost figures should not be released publicly at this time. No motion was brought forward during this conference call.

2. Adjournment

The conference call was concluded after approximately one hour.

The Chairman called the call to order shortly after 8:30 a.m..

1. Cow/Calf Committee Resolution

The purpose of the conference call was to deal with a Cow/Calf Committee resolution from an October 30, 2009 conference call. This resolution recommended the immediate release of the cost figures in the Review of Drought Conditions Affecting the Alberta Cow Herd, October 23, 2009 discussion paper to Alberta beef cattle producers.

The Board had a long discussion about the drought work that had been done by the Cow/Calf Committee, the approach that ABP had taken with respect to the AgriRecovery program, and the degree to which this information had been reported to producers at fall meetings. ABP had prepared a four page drought conditions review for distribution at the fall meetings, but this document did not include any cost figures. There is concern among Cow/Calf Committee members that our drought initiatives have not been presented aggressively enough and a view that the cost figures would enhance the profile of these initiatives.

The Board was informed that ARD Deputy Minister John Knapp had stated publicly that Minister Groeneveld had approached Minister Ritz to initiate the AgriRecovery process. A letter from the Minister to ABP was being prepared. Knapp had indicated that there is limited ability for AgriRecovery to provide a substantial level of assistance to producers suffering from the impact of the drought.