

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS  
MINUTES FOR THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2015, 8:30 a.m.  
AT THE ABP OFFICE, CALGARY, ALBERTA**

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**Present:** Darren Bevans - *Chair (Zone 2)*  
Jimmy Nelson - *Zone 2*  
Brian Edge - *Zone 3*  
Tim Smith - *Zone 4*  
Nanita Blomquist - *Zone 5 (via phone)*  
Charlie Christie - *CFC*  
Ralph Buhler - *Zone 6*  
Lyndon Mansell - *Zone 8*

**Staff:** Karin Schmid - *Beef Prod Specialist*

**Absent:** Howard Bekkering - *Zone 2*  
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*  
Larry Delver - *CIC*  
Mike Lutzak - *Zone 8*

**Guests:** Clint Dobson - *ALMA*  
Doug Wray - *CFGA*  
Graeme Finn

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

### **1. Adoption of Agenda**

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(a) Adoption of Agenda:

Motion by Mansell/Smith:

**“That the agenda be approved as presented.”**

Carried

### **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

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(a) Minutes of the October 15, 2014 meeting:

Schmid read through the minutes of the October 15, 2014 meeting

Motion by Buhler/Edge:

**“That the minutes of the October 15, 2014 Research Committee meeting be approved as presented.”**

Carried

### **3. Financial Report**

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(a) Financial statement ending June 30, 2015:

Motion by Smith/Nelson:

**“That the financial statement be accepted for information purposes only”**

Carried

### **4. Decision Items**

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(a) Confidentiality Agreement:

The confidentiality agreement was circulated and signed by those present.

(b) Canadian Beef Industry Award for Outstanding Research and Innovation:

Schmid gave background on the award sponsored by the Beef Cattle Research Council. This is the first year this award has been offered and it would be nice to get a number of nominations. To her knowledge there are nominations for Dr. John McKinnon and Dr. John Basarab planned already from other groups. A number of names were presented. Christie nominated Dr. Jim Helm and Edge nominated Dr. John Campbell.

**DIRECTION: That the Research Committee recommend to the board that ABP nominate Dr. Jim Helm for the BCRC Canadian Beef Industry Award for Outstanding Research and Innovation.**

(c) Funding Consortium:

Schmid explained that she had been approached by the Funding Consortium to see if ABP wanted to join. The Funding Consortium is made up of 13 different organizations that have a single application process and all organizations review the proposals that fit their organization. There are some opportunities for co-funding projects through the process. Most of the members are on the crop side, the livestock side includes Alberta Milk, Alberta Chicken Producers and Egg Farmers of Alberta along with ALMA.

**DIRECTION: The committee felt that ABP has been receiving excellent value on partnerships such as those with BCRC and ALMA, which we can arrange without being part of the Consortium, and consensus was that we not join at this time, but remain engaged with the group going forward.**

(d) LOI Decisions:

25 letters of intent were received. The committee reviewed and discussed each application, with individuals providing a rating of “low – do not request a full proposal,” “medium – request a full proposal for more information,” and “high – definitely request a full proposal.” Rankings from all members in attendance (except one) were provided to Schmid prior to the meeting. Suggestions for improving projects were noted by Schmid.

Rankings were converted to a numerical score and it was suggested that projects where more than half of the

committee members rated it a medium or higher be approached to provide a full proposal. Blomquist requested that FRG.15.15 (Capo-chichi) be added to the full proposal request.

Motion by Mansell/Christie:

**“That full proposals be requested from projects FRG.02.15 (Baron), FRG.03.15 (Hannoufa), FRG.06.15 (Slaski), FRG.07.15 (Hucl), FRG.11.15 (Acharya), FRG.13.15 (Omokanye), FRG.14.15 (Penner), FRG.15.15 (Capo-chichi), FRG.19.15 (Westerlund), FRG.20.15 (Rhyant), FRG.21.15 (Block), FRG.22.15 (Iwassa), FRG.23.15 (Paddock) and suggestions for improvement be included in the request letter.”**

Carried

On behalf of the committee, Bevans thanked Wray, Finn and Dobson for their input and expertise during the selection process. Wray expressed appreciated for the recent leadership the beef industry has shown in addressing the lack of forage research.

## 5. In Camera

### 6. Discussion Items

(a) Alberta Forage Beef Centre Update:

Schmid stated that the contract had been signed by all parties, and that the management committee representatives have been named and will be meeting on August 19. ABP management committee representatives are Rich Smith and Charlie Christie.

(b) Attendance at FCDC Tour and Livestock Gentec/Lacombe Field Day:

There will be a field day hosted by Livestock Gentec at Lacombe on August 19. It includes a tour of the cowherd and the meat processing facility. FCDC has offered to host a private tour for ABP, and CFC wants to hold their next meeting at FCDC and tour either the day before or the day after the Gentec field day. Schmid asked committee members to let her know if they are interested in the Gentec tour and she will confirm the date of the FCDC tour as soon as possible.

(c) General updates:

(i) AMR Diagnostic Project:

This project has been completed and the final report submitted to ALMA. There were some interesting results and as soon as the fact sheet is completed Schmid will circulate the fact sheet and final report.

(ii) RFI on Pasture Project:

This project is also completed and the report and fact sheet will be circulated after the meeting.

(iii) “Worried About...” Project:

Schmid shared the first proof from the designer of the new Worried About brochure on antimicrobial use and resistance. The committee offered a few suggestions on content and advised an attempt to make it less “busy,” while acknowledging that it is a very complex topic. Schmid asked for input on the next brochure topic and the committee felt that the environmental benefits of beef production would be a good news story to share with the public.

## 7. General Reading Material

### 8. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

- (a) FCDC Tour – August 18 or 20
- (b) Livestock Gentec Field Day at Lacombe – August 19
- (c) Livestock Gentec Conference – October 13 & 14
- (d) Next meeting – Mid November TBD

### 9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned on a motion by Smith at 3:15 p.m.