

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JULY 20, 2017, 8:30 a.m.
AT THE ABP BOARD ROOM, CALGARY, AB**

Present: Bob Lowe - *Chair*
Roland Cailliau - *Vice Chair (via phone)*
Kelly Fraser - *Finance, Zone 5*
Howard Bekkering - *Zone 1*
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3*
Tim Smith - *Zone 4*
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*
Garth Porteous - *Director at Large*
Ken Stanley - *Director at Large*
Penny Patton - *CCC Chair (via phone)*
Bryan Thiessen - *CFC Chair*

Staff: Rich Smith - *Executive Director*
Rosanne Allen - *Office Administrator*
Fred Hays - *Policy Analyst*
Laura Procunier - *Controller*
Karin Schmid - *Beef Production*
Katelyn Laverdure - *Communications*
Jeanette Kennard - *Comm/Marktg Assist*
Brad Dubeau - *Market & Education*

Absent: Fred Lozeman - *Zone 2*
George L'Heureux - *Zone 8*
John MacArthur - *Zone 9*
Brad Osadczuk - *Director at Large*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Additions and adoption of agenda:

Additions: 8(i) Wildlife Compensation:

Motion by Bekkering/Sekura:

“That the agenda be approved with changes.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of the June 12, 2017 meeting:

Motion by Israelson/Thiessen:

“That the minutes of the June 12, 2017 Board of Directors meeting be approved.”

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending June 30, 2017:

There is a difference of 136,000 in marketings compared to last year. This is a difference because Cargill was late in

reporting last year. We have spent 26% of the new budget and are a quarter of the way through the new fiscal year.

Motion by Fraser/Porteous:

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

Carried

4. Policy and Governance Issues

(a) Policy Handbook Working Group:

Held a Governance meeting in June at the Semi Annual. What they intend to do is go through the governance manual section by section to find any gaps or areas that need to be updated. Suggested placing the Governance and Policy Manuals on our website. Looking at a policy regarding guests at meetings.

There was a feeling at the Semi-Annual that the In Camera was a good idea and gave the delegates a chance to speak freely without guests in the room. This will become a part of all general meetings in the future.

At the AGM delegates were asked if they would be interested in participating in the Policy Handbook working group. A number of delegates have expressed interest and a meeting will be held soon.

5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Cow Calf Council:

Held a meeting on June 14th after the Semi-Annual. Discussed fall meeting resolutions; received a letter on a wolf project that was declined; There was a discussion of ES and Heinz Lemmer will be the representative on this issue; Lyndon Mansell spoke about his working group on the Colleges; ABP delegates were asked if they would be interested in participating in the working group; presentation on GMO alfalfa; presentation on green house gas; Cow Calfenomics update.

Sekura spoke about a proposal for calf mortality insurance to help cover the loss on unforeseen occurrences. Setting up a conference call with the Safety Net Subcommittee to look at the proposal.

(b) Cattle Feeder Council:

Council met on June 14th. Spoke about the AgCoalition and Bill 17; curious about the OH&S meetings and how they are going; spoke about the carbon levy and having the ILWG Carbon project tied with the Canfax report; government turned down funding and have had little luck getting a response to the request for proposals; talked about

VBP+; transportation regs and wondered what happened at the hearing; talked about winter manure project. Stanley is doing it but no one is testing; discussed JBS; motion for Thiessen to represent CFC on BCRC; motion on CFC to continue; motion that a deal in principle is reached with ACFA or ABP needs to move on; discussed prescription drugs, the conflict of interest with drugs only being sold through vets and the need for competition;

Motion by Thiessen/St Stanley:

“That the ABP Cattle Feeders Council needs to continue even if an agreement on funding is reached with Alberta Cattle Feeders’ Association.”

Carried

Motion by Thiessen/Sekura:

“That ABP has an agreement in principle with Alberta Cattle Feeders in place by October 15, 2017 or ABP needs to move ahead without an agreement.”

Carried

(c) Research Committee:

Had a conference call to discuss the proposals the committee has received. Schmid will be talking with Mary Ann Possberg from Saskatchewan Cattlemen’s Association to go through the proposals as well.

6. Decision Items

(a) Industry Funding Strategy:

The proposal that the ABP Board developed was presented to ACFA. The ACFA board will be having a conference call today to discuss the proposal and will call Lowe with the results of the call. We need to focus our conversation on the creation of the Alberta Beef Industry Development Fund which requires a non-refundable service charge.

(b) ABQSH Funding Strategy:

ABP is in ongoing discussion with the Alberta government on how to make up shortfall in funding since there is no funding available under GF2. We are hopeful we will be able to secure funding.

(c) Municipal Taxation Decision:

ABP was asked to contribute to the legal costs for the appeal of the court decision upholding the Lethbridge County Business Tax. ABP recognizes the risk this tax represents for the industry and strongly supports provincial action to resolve the issue of infrastructure funding for municipalities. The directors believed it was better for us to direct our resources to research and lobbying on this issue rather than litigation.

(d) Canadian Beef Check-Off Agency Agreements:

The proposed final agreements were in the package. We have been holding off in signing the agreements. The agreements have provisions for ABP to prepare supplementary agreements with the other provinces. ABP is still not satisfied with the lack of separation between Canada Beef (CB) and the Agency. The Agency has taken some steps towards separation but has not created a clear and satisfactory level of separation. The Executive is suggesting that ABP not sign the agreements until after the Agency AGM in August.

Melinda German will be starting a process of conducting some audits across the country.

(e) Agency Organization and AGM Resolutions:

What we are after with CB is that they should be the marketing and promotion services provider. We need to see separation between the management of CB and the check-off administration of the Agency. R. Smith attended a provincial funders meeting in Toronto and a Check-off committee has been created but ABP does not see it as being properly set up yet. There is no clear separation between Canada Beef and the Agency. Alberta will continue to press for an appropriate level of separation at the upcoming AGM. The way to put pressure on CB is the allocation of funds.

(f) Grazing Lease Advisory Committee Actions:

Cailliau and John Buckley have been on a committee that is working to establish a new grazing lease rental framework. Alberta grazing lease rates have not changed in over 20 years. They need the board to ratify the Terms of Reference for the committee.

Motion by Cailliau/St Stanley:

“That ABP ratify the Terms of Reference for the Operational Grazing Disposition Holder Committee.”

Carried

We have agreed in principle with the AGLA, Western Stock Growers and NAGA to go ahead with the grazing lease rate framework. As a provincial organization, ABP has agreed to lead the process of gaining producer support for this framework.

Motion by Cailliau/Campbell:

“That ABP authorize its Executive Director or the Executive to act on behalf of the Board allowing ABP to act as the lead organization forwarding the rental rates proposal according to the "roll out plan" developed by the Operational Grazing Disposition Holder Committee.”

Carried

The other organizations have agreed to work with ABP, we are the logical group to move forward with this.

ABP has been asked to present the framework at our fall meetings. R. Smith is looking at the best way to present the material consistently at the meetings.

(g) ABP 50th Anniversary Celebration:

Our 50th anniversary is in 2019. To celebrate this, we have been thinking about having the Semi meeting in Jasper. The meeting space is comparable but the rooms are more expensive which will increase our bill by \$13,000. We would invite past chairs and people who have had an impact on ABP. It would be a scaled down version of our usual Semi. We could also tie into our fall meetings. The Directors felt that any celebration should include the producers across Alberta rather than just delegates.

We could hold a BBQ in five or six locations across Alberta in September to celebrate the anniversary. We could also have a special dinner at the AGM and make a point of having past chairs attend the banquet as well as living members who sat on the original board. At some point next year, we will put together a small working group to plan the 50th anniversary celebration.

7. In Camera

8. Discussion Items

(a) B.C. Wildfire Response:

We have done radio broadcasts and weekly updates to encourage people to support BC ranchers. The best way for people to help is by contacting the BCCA at wildfires@cattlemen.bc.ca or through the Red Cross.

(b) Calgary Stampede Report – Dubeau:

Dubeau gave the board an update on the Stampede and a view of the marketing campaign. The setup at the Stampede was different this year than in previous years. ABP worked with Canada Beef and Cargill in the food area of Cattle Trail. We created a video using footage from the ESA's that was shown on the TV's at the Cattle Trail during the Stampede. WS also created three videos that were played on the Jumbotrons throughout the Stampede Grounds.

The Canada Beef app was a huge success at the Stampede and just won an award. Next year Dubeau will be looking for producers to participate in the ABP section of the Cattle Trail.

(c) bTB update – Schmid:

There has been a lot of planning going into what the trace-in will look like in the fall. Every trace in will have an officer in charge. The important thing is that quarantine does not go into effect until the testing team shows up at

the operation to begin the trace-in testing. There will be a small number of animals that will have a reaction to the testing. A few trace-out herds are still in quarantine.

(d) U.S. Relations Working Group/NAFTA – Lowe:

Lowe has been on the group since January. In the directors' package, there was a large handout, for Directors, of the work that has been done. There are shared key messages for government for anyone who is talking to government about NAFTA. The key message the cattle industry in the US, Canada and Mexico is trying to get through is that NAFTA is good for jobs and industry.

The rush for feedback is to get it to Cailliau before PNWER next week which will have a large Alberta government turnout.

John Weekes has been hired by the Alberta government to advise them on the trade talks.

(e) CCA Semi-AGM:

The CCA Executive will be meeting to discuss and possibly make a decision on a fixed assessment per marketing.

(f) Canadian Beef Industry Conference:

So far, we have 52 registrants on the bus tour. Canada Beef is making a big effort to make this a good night. Two buses have been reserved and 4 seats from each bus have been set aside for ABP staff and delegates.

(g) Delegate Election Update:

There was a handout in the package showing who is up for election in the fall in each zone. Lowe stressed that the directors need to make sure that they find interested candidates for the delegate positions.

(h) Zone reports:

Zone 1: In the process of planning a meeting and BBQ for September.

Zone 2: Nothing to report

Zone 3: It has been quiet. Haying has been good

Zone 4: Been quiet

Zone 5: Nothing to report

Zone 6: Nothing to report

Zone 7: Nothing to report

Zone 8: Nothing to report

Zone 9: Nothing to report

(i) Wildlife Working Group update:

The working group met at the Semi-Annual and Campbell has been in discussion with Jeff Bectall from the Waterton

Biosphere. Campbell handed out a list of guidelines for compensation that was developed with Bectall.

Motion by Campbell/Sekura:

“That the ABP Board of Directors support the Waterton Biosphere recommendations in their strategy to pursue improved compensation for livestock predation.”

Carried

9. Reading Materials

- (a) BOD Resolutions and Action Items:
- (b) Beef Supply at a Glance:

10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

- (a) Board meeting – September 14, 2017, ABP Boardroom, Calgary, AB
- (b) Board meeting – October 19, 2017, ABP Boardroom, Calgary, AB
- (c) Annual General Meeting – December 4 – 6, 2017, Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Calgary, AB

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Lowe at 1:30 p.m.