

DRAFT
ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2016, 8:30 a.m.
IN THE ABP BOARD ROOM, CALGARY, AB

Present: Darren Bevans - *Chair, Zone 2*
Rick Friesen - *Zone 1*
Howard Bekkering - *Zone 1*
Jimmy Nelson - *Zone 2*
Ralph Buhler - *Zone 6*
Lyndon Mansell - *Zone 8 via phone*
Dick Wymenga - *CCC*
Reynold Bergen - *BCRC*
Clint Dobson - *ALMA*
Susan Novak - *AB Ag & Forestry*
Simon Otto - *Alberta Ag & Forestry*
Kateryn Rochon - *U of M*
Leigh Rosengren - *Rosengren Epidemiology*
(via phone)

Staff: Karin Schmid - *Beef Prod Specialist*
Rosanne Allen - *Executive Assistant*

Absent: Brian Edge - *Zone 3*
Cody Miller - *Zone 7 via phone*
Charlie Christie - *CFC*

Motion by Nelson/Buhler:

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

Carried

4. Decision Items

(a) Full Proposal Review:

ANH.05.16: Some concerns about the representative sample of retained ownership. This project is not perfect and the question is whether we will get information that is of value. The project would be difficult to do if ownership isn't retained. Maybe the least this can give us is more best management practices.

From the AMR surveillance point of view we have a good idea what is going on with fed cattle and retail beef through CIPARS. There are more questions about antimicrobial use in cow calf operations. This project will help provide a little more information there. What this project will come up with is some more solid information to base our consumer communications on. Is there a problem in the industry about the amount of drugs we use or the lack of use of the right drug? **33**

ANH.06.16: It may be useful for treatment options but not useful for on arrival use. This may be appropriate in a couple of ways in a feedlot setting. This would be one scenario where a swab could be taken when an animal looks sick and you would have three or four days before it spreads to the whole pen.

Would also work in a cow calf operation with a pen of calves that look sickly. There is work going on in human health and some other industries. If we expect to have the tool in the immediate future, we will be setting them up for failure. **38**

ANH.07.16: the first phase takes place in the lab and does not involve cattle. How will the animal digest the patch? The researchers do not seem to have any knowledge about cattle.

They focus a lot on in feed delivery and that is being questioned by consumers. Is the goal to reduce the total amount of antibiotics fed or is the goal to decrease the resistance. We can point them at Elanco for funding or the swine industry. If the technology gets up and running they should come back to us for trial deliveries. **16**

ANH.09.16: the intent is to identify problems coming into the feedlot. There are concerns from vets that the drugs we are using are less effective. We have limited treatment options going forward. If this shows there is resistance happening before the calf gets to the feedlot then why is it happening?

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

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Adoption of Agenda:

Addition: 4(b) Chinook Research application:

Motion by Wymenga/Bekkering:

“That the agenda be approved with additions.”

Carried

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

(a) Minutes of the July 5, 2016 meeting:

Motion by Bekkering/Nelson:

“That the minutes of the July 5, 2016 meeting be approved as presented”

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement report:

Primary expenses for this committee will come from this meeting. Previous expenses have been for meetings getting to this point.

Knowing the prevalence of these bacteria is important for feedlots to plan their treatment protocols. **36**

ANH.13.16: Can we reduce the amount of Tylan fed and does it reduce AMR and what effect does it have on liver abscesses? The reviewer found methodology sound and the second reviewer had questions around chlortetracycline and wonders if we need to include that for our production systems. A similar test has been done in the US but because of different climates, animals and feed found between the two countries testing needs to be done in Canada as well. If it works we should see a 25% drop on drug use. The \$70,000 compensation to the feedlot whether the project is successful or not concerns the members. How do we handle a production loss if it is greater than \$70,000? If it's not working than stop the study.

The members were interested in funding the project but questioned whether they could make a caveat regarding the compensation. There is concern that this will set a precedent for future studies. **33**

ANH.15.16: First reviewer was critical of the methods also concerned about the high fat level pellet; the second reviewer said that controlling liver abscesses like this is up in the air because no one knows how they happen. **19**

ANH.06.16	38
ANH.09.16	36
ANH.05.16	33
ANH.13.16	33
ANH.15.16	19
ANH.07.16	16

Motion by Wymenga/Buhler:

“That ABP fund projects ANH.06.16, ANH.09.16, ANH.05.16 and ANH.13.16 with the caveat on ANH.13.16 that funds would be paid up to \$29,960 on production losses only.”

Carried

(b) Chinook Contract Research application:

Schmid received a letter requesting support for the development of an Analgesic Elastrator Band. The band would release an analgesic or other pain killer while the band in on. They need funding to support the next stage field trial research. The band would release pain killer up to 28 days after it has been applied. They want ABP as a partner for advice and to administer the funding.

Direction: The committee supports the idea of this proposal, but would need to approve the proposal before submission.

5. In Camera

6. Discussion Items

(a) Alberta Beef Forage & Grazing Centre Update:

The inaugural meeting will be held in Lacombe on Dec. 1, 2016. Invited people from across western Canada to provide feedback and how it can tie into other initiatives. The management committee and industry advisory committee will also be meeting. ABP is putting in core operational funding at \$25,000 a year.

(b) 2015 Forage Call update:

All of the first updates are due in April so there is nothing solid to report yet. There is one project that has not been contracted as the NSERC funding for that project has not yet been approved, although the stated work on that project has been completed for this past year. If the NSERC funding comes through there will be roughly \$38,000 to spend on a project related to the objectives of the call. All funds have to be spent by September of 2018 on projects related to the forage call.

(c) ALMA & Alberta Innovates Transition:

There are four Alberta Innovates groups and they all ran separately and were more about technology than applied research. These are now merging together under one board and will be called Alberta Innovates with a subsidiary group called InnoTech Alberta.

ALMA transition is not quite fully completed. ALMA closed as of October 31st and some of the staff made the transition over to AAF. They are still trying to close the books on ALMA and no budget has been allocated for the different departments. Novak has put in for a considerable budget to demonstrate how important the agriculture industry is. Novak has 41 projects that she is waiting to fund. There is no longer anything in place to communicate what they have funded in the past and are funding now.

(d) BCRC update:

BCRC has been partnering with other funders and leveraging those dollars to get bigger projects underway. The current beef science cluster will end March 31, 2018 and they are beginning planning for the next Science Cluster when the new Ag Policy Framework comes into effect in April 2018.

They held a research workshop to renew the National Beef Research Strategy. They also sent out an online survey and received over 500 responses many from producers specifically cow calf producers and a large number were young producers.

The call for Letters of Intent was announced today and is looking for research that meets the specific National Beef Research Strategy objectives.

Much of BCRC's future funding activities are dependent on an increase in the National Chick-off.

(e) Funding Strategy for 2017/18 year:

It is unlikely that there will be any changes to our funding before the beginning of the next fiscal year. The timing for leveraging funds through the new ALMA may be off as well.

Schmid has approached Saskatchewan Cattlemen's to partner on a targeted call in 2017. They will be meeting in early December. Another option would be to piggyback onto BCRC funding. BCRC has a lack of flexibility once the Cluster has been funded, those funds are tied up for five years. A third option would be to approach a group of researchers to fund specific projects.

With only \$75,000 as a prospective budget we may not want to put out a call for proposals. Since 2007 we have averaged 5 to 1 leverage. A decision will need to be made by the time the board is looking to finalize their next budget.

(f) Worried about... update:

The new Worried About... on greenhouse gases has arrived and if there are any other topics the committee would like to see done let Schmid know. Water and Biodiversity are two topics that could be done in the future and the health benefits of eating beef.

(g) General project update:

The Trace Mineral study has been completed and the fact sheet has been completed, reviewed by Cheryl Waldner and posted on the website.

ABP's \$100,000 to the feed grain breeding program at FCDC Lacombe is up this year. Should get a recommendation from this committee to pass along to the board for consideration during the budgeting process.

Direction: The research committee recommends the board allocate \$100,000 to the feed grains breeding program at Lacombe for the 2017/18 fiscal year.

7. General Reading Material

8. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

- (a) ABP AGM – December 5-7, 2016
- (b) Saskatchewan Beef Industry Conference, Regina – January 24-26, 2017
- (c) Alberta Beef Industry Conference, Red Deer – February 15-17, 2017
- (d) AFAC Livestock Care Conference, Leduc – March 21-22, 2017

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Nelson at 2:00 p.m.