

ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – TEAMS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

Present: Melanie Wowl – *Chair, NE*
Jason Hale – *Vice Chair, SE*
Brodie Haugan – *Finance Chair*
Rod Carlyon – *CT*
Mike Nadeau – *NW*
Fred Lozeman – *SW*
Colin Campbell – *@ Large*
Darren Bevans – *@ Large*
Kent Holowath – *@ Large*
Lee Irvine – *@ Large*
Chris Israelson – *@ Large*
Kelly Smith-Fraser – *Past Chair*

Staff: Brad Dubeau – *General Manager*
Laura Procnier – *Controller*
Debra Murphy – *Editorial Content*
Katelyn Laverdue – *Stakeholder Comm*
Megan McLeod – *Field Specialist*

Guest: Lyle Adams – *ACFA*

Absent: Mike Nadeau – *NW*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Additions and adoption of agenda:

Motion by Lozeman/Bevans:

“That the agenda be approved.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of the April 21, 2021 Board of Directors meeting:

Changes:

3a. Change to read 67% spent and add “cost” of annual report..

5b. Should be Minister Rajan Sawhney.

7c. Add American “Drought” payment and correct spelling of Dr. “Chalack”.

7D. Add “greater” than 6 months.

Correct the date on top of minutes and pages to Dec 16, 2021.

Under SE zone report should be Westlock Vet Clinic report and that hoping for Dr. Blake Balog to Chair SE zone producer meeting.

Motion by Holowath/Hale:

“That the minutes of the December 16, 2021 Board of Directors Zoom meeting be approved with changes.”

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending April 30, 2021:

Currently at 69% spent, typically would be around 75% spent at this time of the year. Realized some positive gains on investments and overall investments are in a positive position.

Motion by Haugan/Lozeman:

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

Carried

4. Staff Report, Policy and Governance

(a) BOD Governance:

Governance committee met January, Friday 14th, 2021 along with Andrew MacGregor, ABP Legal and Mark Lyseng, ABP Government Relations and Policy. Spent most of the time reviewing the policy manual and discussing updating it. Lyseng will take the lead and update piece by piece which will be a lengthy process. MacGregor suggested we will require a motion from the ABP Board of Directors as pieces are revised so as not to go without a manual as it’s being update.

5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Research Committee:

Second phase of the Living Labs proposal was submitted on January 14, 2022, significant work for Karin and thanks to her for pulling it together. Waiting for the approval now. Should come within 70 days, but hopefully sooner. 15 organizations involved including AG Canada.

Discussion around populating the ABP Research Committee-will populate using TAT shortly following the AGM.

RDAR held its AGM on January 18, 2022, Dubeau represented ABP.

(b) ACFA Update:

Feed continues to come by rail in a timely fashion and trucks are available to haul. 15% to 25% of daily grain capacity in many feedlots.

Minister Sawhney meeting rescheduled to February mainly to focus on MELT. ABP was requested and did sign on to a letter sent to Minister regarding the situation.

Discussion around the dates at ABIC – possibly postponing due to Covid-19 restrictions. Would be nice to see the AGM’s continue in Red Deer to keep continuity.

Carried

(c) CCA update:

Smith-Fraser provided information that the transport regulations grace period ends on February 20, 2022 and new regulations will come into effect. There will be a slow approach to enforcement. BCRC research on stress due to unloading and stress will complete in the spring of 2022 and forwarded to CFIA. Some current research doesn’t show any benefit to unloading and resting, better to make their way to destination.

Trade Stats – Exports November 2021 saw an increase of 4% from November 2020 and up 24% on the 5 year average. From January to November 2021, beef exports increased 22% in volume and 39% in value from the same time last year. Imports from November 2021 up 4% in volume and decrease of 9% on the 5 year average. January to November 2021 beef imports decreased 17% in volume and 10% in value from same time last year.

CCA continues to work on China and other countries on situation regarding BSE but will take time. CFIA needs to provide background as some countries do not recognise Typical vs A-Typical. Update to come on Canada/UK trade deal.

6. Decision Items

(a) Waller Memo re Commission Regulation Amendment:

Dubeau reviewed proposed amendment to regulation provided by ABP Legal and the process of collecting contact names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses.

Concerns over the approach and with the new sections 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3. Section 1 is currently definitions. Is Legal recommending a new structure. Are we striking definitions? Section 9 changes seem appropriate. Concern about section on 1.2 and the term “if available”. Need to clarify. Also change to by January and July of each year rather than in January and July of each year.

Board decision was to have Dubeau go back to ABP Legal to make changes then present to the Board and approve if acceptable by email or conference call.

(b) Drought Resiliency study Livestock Representative:

Dubeau spoke about the Drought Resiliency Study but did not include a livestock representative. Tier Advisory Team came together and reviewed a couple of individuals that would suit being on this committee. Brad Osadzuck was suggested as a good individual that would be well suited for the committee as he lives in the SE region of the province and has significant experience with drought issues.

Motion by Campbell/Hale:

“That the ABP Board of Directors approve Brad Osadzuck to the Drought Resiliency Study.”

7. Discussion Items

(a) Farm Implement Board:

Dubeau made the Board aware that Brian Chomlach was appointed to the board and serves as Chair.

(b) Made in Alberta, by Albertans Program:

Minister Horner hosted a virtual meeting with ABP and other businesses and commodities to discuss the program and gather suggestions on the structure. Dubeau suggested that there are models to look at such as AFSC and VBP+. The program will be large with many moving pieces. ABP will need to achieve an up to date mailing list prior to moving forward with such a program. It was felt that Alberta Beef being a part of the program would help to bring added attention due to the strength of our brand. A public survey is available to fill out provided by the Government of Alberta.

(c) ABP Producer Meetings:

Dubeau reported that face to face producers meetings will be moving forward unless restrictions prevent the organizations to do so.

Question around have a proper vaccination program at the Cow/Calf level. High death loss at the feedlot. Need to look for ways to work with Cattle Feeders’ to provide education around reducing resistance. ABP will devote space in upcoming communication tools to start to address this topic.

Pre registrations for producer meetings in very low at the time of the meeting.

Producers can still submit their name to become a delegate.

Using social media to continue to promote the upcoming meetings. Forwarding dates to Alberta Cattle Feeders’ Association so they can send them to their members.

(d) Directors Notes for 2021 Financials:

Dubeau pointed out that the notes were in the package for their use during the producer meetings.

(e) Biden Administrative Proposal:

Wowk provided a brief overview of the report and the investment in the processing industry in the USA. We hope to understand how Americans are receiving the proposal when attending the NCBA and if there is anything that could be incorporated in Alberta or Canada. CCA is also looking at what comments will come from NCBA. Discussion around if it’s a national/provincial or both.

(f) ABP Organizational Strategy Working Group:

The working group has been struck with Jason Hale and Brad Dubeau Co-Chairing, Mellissa Downing (NE), Gary These (NW), Austin Dow (C), Sheila Hillmer (SW), Brodie Haugan (SE) along with ABP Legal. They will hold their first meeting soon to begin the process.

(g) Alberta Cattle Leaders Industry Forum:

Next meeting will be Monday, February 14, 2022. Hasn't been held since June of 2020.

(h) Offset Protocol Proposal for Avoided Conversion of Grasslands:

Dubeau reported that the Delegates should have received an invite to a webinar regarding the project and encouraged the directors to participate so as to help guide the direction of ABP's involvement. Dubeau also let the Board know that the ABP's Logo will be on a letter to MLA's regarding the protocol developed by Shell Canada.

(i) Alberta Health Emergency Management Project:

Dubeau made the Board aware that the registration to attend is in the package. Wowk suggested that ABP have seminars with AHM. Wowk also suggested that phone list be made available so producers have contact numbers in the event of an emergency.

(j) ABP Podcast:

Dubeau updated the board that the first podcast has had over 150 downloads in its first week and encouraged directors to take a listen. Very good uptake in a short time. Podcast will be published once per month. Need to keep the podcast monthly to retain the interest.

(k) Letter of Support to RMA addressing Veterinarian Shortage:

Wowk received a call from Dr. Gordon Kerbs, retired veterinarian who now is a councillor who sits on the Rural Municipalities Association who asked for ABP support on a letter that was forwarded to the Government of Alberta to encourage the government to invest in rural communities and employment specifically rural veterinarians.

(l) Deputy Minister Shannon Marchand Meeting:

Dubeau updated and apologized to the board that he missed a meeting with the Deputy Minister. A follow up meeting will be arranged.

(m) ABP Board Self Evaluation:

Lozeman referred to two documents in the package that we received from Geroge Cuff. Lozeman and Governance Chair Howard Bekkring, to utilize the score card self governance model a couple of times a year with comments. The first one should be completed with the current Board to set a baseline. To come for the Governance Committee to the board.

8. Zone Reports

NE: Wowk reported ABP Field Specialist, Megan McLeod attended the Lloydminster Stock Show. NE was going to be a breakfast sponsor but was cancelled due to Covid. ABP had a booth shared with VBP+ and plan to attend the Canadian Bull Congress in Camrose.

NW: Nadeau updated on the Producer meeting and continuing to search for new delegates in the NW.

Central: No report this meeting.

SW: Irvine updated that planning continues for the Producer meeting. Cargill and JBS couldn't participate on the panel due to the lawsuit in the United States.

SE: Hale updated that planning continues for their Producer meeting as well. Also, Hale provide a presentation to the vet clinic in Westlock, AB. Over 100 participants. Very good presentation overall from everyone.

9. In Camera

10. Next Board meeting & Upcoming Events

- (a) Board of Directors meeting – Tuesday, March 1, 2022
- (b) ABP AGM – Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022
- (c) Board of Directors meeting – Wednesday, March 2, 2022

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion from Carlyon at 11:48 a.m.