

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF THE ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS 43<sup>rd</sup> SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2017 AT THE DELTA SOUTH, EDMONTON, AB**

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**1. Call to order**

Rich Smith called the meeting to order welcoming all the delegates and guests to the Semi-Annual meeting. This meeting is being held in our 48<sup>th</sup> year of business. Smith spoke briefly about the events that have happened in the beef industry since the 2016 AGM.

**2. ABP Operations Update and Review of Plans**

**(a) Chair and Finance Report**

Bob Lowe, ABP Chair, spoke about the problems that producers have faced since fall 2016 with unharvested crops, bovine TB, re-negotiation of NAFTA and the work that ABP has been doing to help producers during these challenging times. Lowe spoke about the changes the government has made to MAPA and the need to work with other industry organizations before approaching the Marketing Council to initiate a plebiscite. The increase to the Agency Service Charge will also be discussed during the meeting and the delegates will be asked to carry a resolution approving the increase to \$2.50.

Kelly Fraser presented the delegates with the Audited Financial Statements and the current fiscal budget. Fraser thanked Laura Procnier, ABP Controller, for the splendid work she does preparing the financial documents for the auditor. Fraser spoke about the need for an increase in the Agency Service Charge to continue the work that Canada Beef and BCRC have been doing.

**(b) Review of ABP Plans and Operations Report**

During the fall meetings last year, the zones asked the producers to participate in a Dynamic Duo exercise with the intent of having the producers tell ABP what they would like to see accomplished by ABP this year. From these exercises, Rich Smith and the Board of Directors created the Strategic Plan. Smith asked the delegates to review the objectives and bring any questions or concerns to their director.

Karin Schmid, ABP Beef Production Specialist, provided an update to the assembly on the bovine TB investigation.

**(c) Councils, Committees and Working Group Structure**

Bob Lowe explained the reasons behind the changes the board made to the structure concerning committees and the creation of working groups to investigate issues and bring solutions to the councils and board. Delegates presented concerns regarding the changes that Lowe and Penny Patton addressed.

Delegates are needed to sit on the ESA committee and on the Policy working group.

**(d) Industry Funding**

ABP has received direction from producers and delegates that we work for a non-refundable check-off. Bill 9 allows industry organizations like ABP to change their funding to non-refundable with a plebiscite. The delegates raised concerns that they had on rumours that they had heard about a funding proposal. At the suggestion of one of the Directors the meeting was made In Camera so that the delegates and directors could speak freely.

If any delegates have questions on going forward with provincial funding changes Bob Lowe will answer questions.

Motion by Gordon Graves/Maarten Braat:

**“Be it resolved that Alberta Beef Producers amend the Alberta Beef Producers Commission Regulation to increase the levy (national levy) paid on the sale, export, or feeding and slaughter of cattle from \$1.00 per head to \$2.50 per head, with the increase in the levy coming into force on April 1, 2018.”**

Carried

ABP was approached by the University of Manitoba and some European organizations about funding a project that would consider pasture insurance based on satellite information. There are two students attending the meeting who will assist any producer who is interested in filling out the survey.

Smith made the last call for nominations for the BCRC position.

**3. Canadian Beef Check-off Agency Report**

Melinda German, GM of the Canadian Beef Cattle Research, Market Development and Promotion Agency (Agency), updated the assembly on the changes that have been made to the Agency and its structure. German spoke about the four objectives that the Agency will operate on this year. She discussed the current structure of the Agency and the continue refinement of the separation between the Agency and Canada Beef. The Agreements between the provinces and Agency have been updated. Each province has two agreements one naming the provincial organization that collects the Service charge and the second agreement clarifies collection of provincial service charges by other provinces. German encouraged the delegates to sign-up to receive the Gate Post newsletter that is emailed out every month.

**4. Beef Cattle Research Council Report**

Reynold Bergen, Science Officer for BCRC presented the delegates and guests with the Council's report. Bergen spoke about the results of research that has

been done in Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR).  
Antibacterial use (AMU) in cattle

**5. Election of BCRC Representative**

There is an opening on the Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC) board for one representative for a two-year period.

Chris Israelson  
Stuart Somerville

Each nominee spoke for three minutes.

Motion by Danny Hozack/Ken Stanley:

**“That Janelle Hancock and Norine Moore  
be appointed as ballot counters.”**

Carried

Chris Israelson was elected as the ABP representative on the Beef Cattle Research Council.

Motion by John Buckley/Danny Hozack:

**“That the ballots be destroyed.”**

Carried

**7. Canada Beef Report**

Duane Ellard, Director of Business Development and Marketing, presented the Canada Beef report to the assembled delegates and guests. Frances Andres the new Executive Vice President of Canada Beef also spoke briefly to the assembly. Ellard spoke about the consumer; business develop and the CB partners, retail and food services; industry education; industry partner marketing

**8. Alberta Beef – Setting the Standard**

Brad Dubeau, ABP Marketing and Education Manager, presented the current marketing campaign to the delegates.

**9. Canfax Market Report**

Brian Perillat presented the Canfax report speaking about the increase in prices from the 2016 lows; US beef expansion and cattle slaughter; Canadian herd expansion and slaughter; trade growth in exports and decline in imports

**10. Canadian Cattlemen’s Association Report**

David Haywood-Farmer, CCA Vice President, presented the CCA report. He spoke about their core services; trade and foreign policy; Bi-lateral negotiations with Asia and Europe; Trans Pacific Partnership; CETA; domestic policy; bTB; funding allocation.

**11. Grazing Lease Rental Rates Framework**

ABP, through John Buckley and Roland Cailliau, has been working with the Alberta Grazing Lease

Association, Northern Grazing Lease Association and the Central Grazing Lease Association to develop updated lease rates for grazing leases. John Buckley presented the framework that was created to the delegates.

**12. Adjournment**

Rich Smith thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.