

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MONDAY DECEMBER 3, 2018, 8:00 a.m.
AT THE SHERATON CAVALIER HOTEL, CALGARY, ALBERTA**

Present: Charlie Christie - *Chair*
Kelly Smith-Fraser - *Vice-Chair/Zone 5*
Melanie Wowk - *Finance Chair/Zone 8*
Garth Porteous - *Zone 1*
Sheila Hillmer - *Zone 2*
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3*
Jesse Williams - *Zone 4*
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*
John MacArthur - *Zone 9*
Assar Grinde - *@ Large*
Fred Lozeman - *@ Large*
Brad Osadczyk - *@ Large*
Cathy Sharp - *@ Large*
Tim Smith - *CCC Chair*
Ken Stanley - *CFC Chair*
Bob Lowe - *Past Chair*

Staff: Rich Smith - *Executive Director*
Rosanne Allen - *Office Administrator*
Karin Schmid - *Beef Production*
Laura Procunier - *Controller*
Katelyn Laverdure - *Communications*
Brad Dubeau - *Marketing & Education*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Additions and Adoption of agenda:

Additions: 8(a) Delegate Dismissal; 8(c) Ottawa Fly-in Report; 8(d) VBP+;

Motion by Stanley/Hillmer:

“That the agenda be approved with changes.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of the November 22, 2018 meeting:

Motion by Lozeman/Hiller:

“That the minutes of the November 22, 2018 Board of Directors meeting be approved with changes.”

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending November 30, 2018:

There are no issues, but the Service Charge plebiscite will come in over budget. We still have not received a contract with the government for the ABP share of the plebiscite.

Motion by Wowk/Sharp:

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

Carried

4. Policy and Governance Issues

(a) Governance training at January Board orientation:

There was discussion about bringing in Maggie Kiel from MNP and she agreed that half a day would work. The Board just needs to pick a date for the orientation which would take place the day before the board meeting.

(b) Tom Lynch-Staunton – Government Relations and Policy:

Lynch-Staunton spoke to the board about what is currently going in with Government Relations. Last week Lynch-Staunton and R. Smith met with an ADM Environment & Parks to discuss a wide range of issues including conflicts with wildlife and compensation. We will be doing a workshop looking for ways in which producers can live with predators and ungulates. Hoping to have the workshop with ABP, Waterton Biosphere, Alberta Ag and Environment & Parks. They also discussed grazing leases; tenure for stewardship; improvement on public lands; Fish & Wildlife staff doing predator kills and park staff interactions with producers.

The government is renewing its policies on consultation with First Nations and Metis settlements. ABP is one of the sponsors of the series of Cow-Calfenomics seminars in January

5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Cow Calf Council:

Will be meeting briefly on Monday night to discuss some important issues.

(b) Cattle Feeder Council:

Nothing to report

(c) Research Committee:

Nothing to report

(d) Governance Committee:

The committee met on November 27th and had a productive meeting. The harassment and violence policy will be ready for Board approval at the January Board meeting. There was a good discussion about increasing the duties and responsibilities of delegates. The Code of Conduct and Conflict of interest will be revised to include delegates. The committee considered ways in which the By-Laws can be amended to allow the delegate body to remove a delegate.

6. Decision Items

(a) Plebiscite results and strategy:

The results have been released and ABP service charge will stay refundable. The government would like to make the announcement before ABP informs its delegates.

After a brief discussion on the results, the directors focused on moving forward. ABP has established a good relationship with ACFA and we need to keep it going. The directors discussed the next steps for ABP and options for future direction.

One way to communicate with the producers is to get our Grass Routes out to the auction marts. There are still many producers who believe that the CCA funds come from the National Check-off and we may be able to persuade these producers to leave the CCA funds with ABP.

Directors asked if the names of producers requesting a refund could be published. This would require a change in policy by ABP and we may not be allowed to disclose these names. We may need accept that the challenge with the plebiscite was related to producer engagement and not necessarily communications.

Motion by Osadchuk/Campbell:

“That the ABP Board of Directors invite the Alberta Cattle Feeders Board of Directors to meet with them the day before the January Board meeting.”

Carried

(b) Selection of Nominating Committee:

Motion by Fraser/Lozeman:

“That Bob Lowe and Howard Bekkering act as the Nominating Committee.”

Carried

(c) Selection of zone election ballot counters:

Motion by Sekura/Sharp:

“That Rich Smith and Laura Procnier act as ballot counters.”

Carried

(d) Review of AGM agenda, elections and resolutions:

R. Smith previewed the agenda for the next few days with the members. Anybody who has already submitted a nomination form for Director at Large or CCA Director will be announced at dinner on December 3rd. Up to three of the CCA directors can be non-delegates.

(e) Delegate approval:

Motion by Wowk/Israelson

“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the 2-year appointment of Jodi Flaig as a Zone 8 delegate.”

Carried

(f) ABFGC Industry Advisory Council representative:

Motion by Osadchuk/Campbell:

“That we nominate Jill Burkhardt to represent ABP on the Alberta Beef, Forage and Grazing Centre Industry Advisory Council.”

Carried

(g) Operational Grazing Disposition Holder Committee representatives:

John Buckley and Roland Cailliau have been representing ABP on this committee. Cailliau informed R Smith that he would like to step down from the committee. It is an appointment from the government so we can only suggest a name to replace Cailliau.

Motion by Sekura/Osadchuk:

“That ABP nominate John MacArthur for the Operational Grazing Disposition Holder Committee representative.”

Carried

7. In Camera

8. Discussion Items

(a) Delegate Dismissal:

The Director discussed the reasons a delegate was removed from the election process. The delegate had submitted a photocopy of an old nomination form instead of filling out a current form with updated signatures.

(b) Zone reports:

The zones had nothing to report.

(c) Ottawa fly-in report:

Fraser, Osadchuk, Christie and Sharp flew to Ottawa on November 26th and 27th to speak with MP's about current industry issues. Each participant spoke briefly about the

discussions they had with various MP's and answered questions from the Directors.

(d) VBP+:

In Alberta, ABQSH is the delivery agent for VBP+. Fleming thanked the board for approving her continued representation on the board. She has been elected as chair of ABQSH for another term. She thanked the board for backstopping the organization and ABQSH has applied for several grants through CAP that will help the organization with finances. Fleming also Chairs the National VBP+ Management Committee which is the group that is made up of producers appointed by their provincial beef organizations and they set policy for VBP+. Brad Osadczuk is the rep to that committee from ABP.

There will be two separate streams for VBP+. One will deal with VBP+ Training and ensure that VBP+ will have full equivalency with Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) in the US in order to meet the demands of packers to ensure Canadian cattle meet their specs required. Training and education are fully fundable from checkoff and grants. The other will be the VBP+ Audit Division. A limited liability company is being formed as the audit arm of VBP+, to limit the risk for CCA. As part of the audit division there will be a new \$300 levy added to the cost of an audit to offset costs of risk insurance and maintaining a database that is current and accessible for the sustainability incentive programs. Programs that derive a direct benefit to a specific producer cannot be covered by National Checkoff or CAP Grants. To be a VBP+ Certified Operation in good standing you must follow the annual requests of either a Records Assessment or a Self Declaration within the allotted time frame. Failing to remain in good standing will put an Operation into suspension status and will exclude them from incentive programs. The VBP+ Audit Cycle has been changed to a 5-year cycle from a 8 year cycle to meet the criteria of the CRSB. The current audit cost in Alberta are \$650 for a cow calf operation, \$850 for a feedlot and \$950 for a feedlot/cow calf operation and the new \$300 levy will be applied when implemented.

9. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

- (a) Annual General Meeting – December 3 – 5, 2018, Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Calgary, AB
- (b) Board of Directors Meeting – December 4, 2018, 5:00 p.m., Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Calgary, AB
- (c) Board of Directors Meeting – December 5, 2018, 12:00 p.m., Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Calgary, AB

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Porteous at 10:45 a.m.