

**MINUTES OF THE ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS 45th SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY JUNE 11, 2019 AT THE DELTA SOUTH, EDMONTON, AB**

1. Call to order

Rich Smith, Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 8:35. Smith welcomed the delegates, staff and guests to the 45th general meeting. This is the 50th anniversary of Alberta Beef Producers and we will be celebrating the anniversary this fall.

2. ABP Operations Update and Review of Plans

(a) Chair and Finance Report

Charlie Christie, ABP Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and spoke of the difficulties that producers are facing across Alberta with the lack of moisture many areas of the province are facing. Christie spoke of the loss ABP faced with the unexpected death of one of the delegates. He spoke of the collaboration between ABP and ACFA and the benefits to both industries. This year ABP will be doing a Regulatory Review and Christie spoke of some of the changes that may be coming.

Melanie Wowk, ABP Finance Chair, gave a presentation on the audited financial statements to the general assembly. Wowk kept the presentation brief as more in-depth discussion will take place during the Fall Meetings and the Annual General Meeting in December.

(b) Operations Report and Review of ABP Plans

Smith updated the delegates on the operations of ABP and spoke of the strategic plan for the upcoming year. The Board discussed the strategic plan during their meeting on June 10th to create measurable goals that can be assessed and identified. Smith went through each step and the goals that will be worked on during the year.

ABP is involved in a project to test the Cool Farm Tool. The tool comes from Europe and needs to be modified to work in Alberta and we are looking for 12 producers across Alberta to Beta test the tool.

(c) ABP Regulatory Review

ABP has a Regulatory Review every five years. ABP has begun discussions now so that finalized options can be presented at the AGM in December. Delegates discussed the review during In Camera

(d) ABP Respect, Violence and Harassment Policy

The need for this policy was identified by the Governance Committee and Howard Bekkering the Chair of the committee spoke to the delegates and guests on the progress of the policy. The committee met on June 10th to formalize a draft that will be sent to the board for approval. Once the draft has been

approved it will be presented to the delegates at the AGM in December.

3. Canadian Beef Check-off Agency Report

Smith welcomed Doug Sawyer and Melinda German from the Agency. Sawyer spoke briefly touching on the accomplishments that have been seen over the last three years; on transparency; on the audit of the check-off remitters.

Melinda German updated the delegates and guests on the activities of the National Agency over the last year. German showed the duties and responsibilities of the Agency Board and the Marketing Committee. German covered revenue and allocations; agency programs; financial reporting; inspection program; going forward.

4. Public and Stakeholder Engagement Report

Jill Harvie presented the update for Public and Stakeholder Engagement (PSE). Harvie gave a brief background on PSE spoke on team structure and funding; fact sheets on common issues; going forward they will be working on social media content; BAC social media content.

Harvie spoke about projects they are doing to accurately improve the beef industry.

5. Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program

Tammy Schwass, Executive Director, Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group. She spoke to the assembly about the representatives on the group; background on the APRG; recycling project;

6. Election of BCRC Representative

Motion by Gordon Graves/Gary These:

“That Janelle Hancock and Brent McEwan be approved as ballot counters.”

Carried

Jill Burkhardt
Rod Carlyon
Chris Israelson
Craig Lehr

Each candidate spoke briefly to the delegates.

Chris Israelson
Craig Lehr

7. WCB and the Agriculture Industry

Boris McKale, WCB, spoke to the assembly about Bill 6; how and who the WCB covers. WCB is

funded entirely by employers; cover employers and employees; no-fault insurance; has to be work related; did the accident happen during the course of a work related activity; vocational retraining makes up one-third of premium costs; coverage is optional for employers; premiums are determined by salary paid out; went through the steps and employer should go through once an employee is injured.

Motion by Gordon Graves/Linda Messner:

“That the ballots be destroyed.”

Carried

8. Beef Cattle Research Council Report

Reynold Bergen presented the update for BCRC. Bergen spoke about how funding is being used; beef quality audits; providing funding to universities to develop beef related programs; cow-calf surveillance network; proof of concept ideas that BCRC is currently pursuing; current beef extension capacity; VBP+

9. Canadian Cattlemen’s Association Report

David Haywood-Farmer spoke briefly on trade, trade agreements and market access.

Brady Stadnicki presented the CCA report to the delegates and guests. Stadnicki spoke further on increased market access and CPTPP, CETA and China; BSE risk application to OIE; transportation regulations; Ag policy work for food guide, traceability and agricultural labour; CYL program is in its tenth year of mentorship.

10. Canada Beef Report

Michael Young, President of Canada Beef, updated the assembly on the organization’s current activities. Young spoke on market performance; future opportunities; a new global strategy; domestic and export market development; performance measures and indicators; independent retail operators’ program; and stakeholder engagement.

11. Canfax Market Report

Brian Perillat, Canfax, presented the cattle market update for the last year. Perillat began with the US cattle industry increase; spoke of challenges for cattle feeders and feeder prices; cow-calf profits; fluctuation of the Canadian dollar; beef expansion; factors for producers to watch for.

12. Future of Genomics in Canadian Beef Production

Graham Plastow, Livestock Gentec at the University of Alberta, spoke to the delegates and guests about

genomics; explaining the relationship between genotypes and phenotypes; future opportunities for beef genomics; and genetic initiatives.

13. Adjournment

Smith thanked the delegates and guests for their interest and attention during the day. After some general housekeeping information, Smith adjourned the general meeting at 4:55 p.m.