

**MINUTES OF THE FORTY FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS HELD DECEMBER 7-9, 2015
AT THE SHERATON CAVALIER HOTEL, CALGARY, ALBERTA**

Monday December 7, 2015

Carried

1. Call to Order

Chair Greg Bowie called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. Bowie spoke to the chaos caused by the introduction of Bill 6 by the government. Over the next two days the delegates will be discussing Bill 6 and future funding for the organization.

(a) Approval of AGM Chairs:

Greg Bowie declared the meeting open and introduced the AGM chairs. Lynch-Staunton spoke briefly about his new role with Canadian Cattlemen's Association and as ABP.

Motion by Greg Bowie/Roland Cailliau:

“That Tom Lynch-Staunton and Janys Boyte be approved as Chairs for the 2015 ABP Annual General Meeting.”

Carried

Bowie introduced John de Groot who will be taking on the role of the co-chair in 2016.

(b) Introduction of Delegates:

Lynch-Staunton congratulated the new zone directors and invited them to introduce the delegates from their zones as well as their representatives on the Cow Calf Council.

(c) Rules of Procedure:

Lynch-Staunton referred the delegates and guests to the Rules of Procedure and spoke briefly about miscellaneous resolutions and protocol for a smoothly running respectful meeting.

(d) Election of Ballot Counters:

Motion by John Buckley/Brian Edge:

“That Sam Vallejos and Larry Delver be appointed as Ballot Counters for the 2015 ABP Annual General Meeting.”

Carried

(e) Approval of 2015 AGM Agenda:

Motion by Gordon Graves/Dick Wymenga:

“That the Agenda of the 2015 ABP Annual General Meeting be approved.”

(f) Approval of the 2014 AGM Minutes, the 2015 Semi-Annual Minutes:

Motion by Bob Lowe/Judy Fenton:

“That the Minutes of the 2014 ABP Annual General Meeting, the 2015 Semi-Annual Meeting be approved as presented in the AGM Information Package.”

Carried

2. Chair's Report

Greg Bowie reported on the actions ABP has taken and will take on Bill 6. Bowie emphasized that ABP is not in favour of mandatory WCB and will continue to make this clear with the government. Bowie spoke about the steps ABP is taking in industry funding. He addressed the dry conditions that affected most of Alberta during the spring. Bowie also spoke to the case of BSE that was discovered early in the spring. The WTO has announced the dollar value that Canada can set as tariff against the US. The Trans Pacific Partnership was signed by the Conservative government and there is hope that the new government will ratify the agreement.

Motion by Tim Sekura/Charlie Christie:

“That the Chair's report be accepted as presented”

Carried

3. Finance Report

(a) Acceptance of 2014/2015 Financial Statement:

Roland Cailliau, Finance Chair, presented the 2014/2015 audited financial statements to the assembly. Jeff Oberg is in attendance to answer any questions the delegates may have regarding the financial statement.

20. Motion by Roland Cailliau/Rick Friesen:

“That the 2014/2015 ABP audited financial statements and auditor's report be accepted as presented.”
Board

Carried

21. Motion by Roland Cailliau/Chris Israelson:

“That the firm of Kingston Ross Pasnak LLP Chartered Accountants be appointed as auditors for the 2015/2016 yearend audit.”

Board

Carried

Based on a decision made by the Board of Directors funds retained from the previous refund period will be used to produce a budget for the next fiscal year. The budget reflects membership payments to the CCA, industry associations, committee and council budgets and office staff and operations.

Motion by Roland Cailliau/John Buckley:

“That the financial statement be approved as presented.”

Carried

4. Review of Afternoon Agenda

Lynch-Staunton briefly reviewed the afternoon agenda and introduced Rich Smith, ABP Executive Director, to review the ABP Plans and Objectives for the current fiscal year.

5. Review of ABP Plans and Objectives

Rich Smith, Executive Director, gave the delegates an update on the work done towards meeting the plans and objectives that the delegates indicated as important at the 2014 AGM. Smith spoke to: the pillars and goals of the National Beef Strategy; ABP core strategies; cattle and beef industry priorities. Smith also presented the strategic goals for 2015-2016; the measures and target taken to address the objectives.

6. Final Call for Nominations for Cow Calf Council Members at Large and Cattle Feeder Council Delegates at Large

The following were nominated as candidates for Cow Calf Council Members at Large:

Judy Fenton
Kolton Kasur
Cam McLerie
Tim Smith
Stuart Somerville
Kevin Stopanski
Melanie Wowk

Nominations were called for three times

Nominations ceased

The following were nominated as candidates for Cattle Feeder Council Delegate at Large:

Garth Porteous

Nominations were called for three times

Nominations ceased

7. Canada Beef Inc Report

Rob Meijer the President of Canada Beef reported on the state of Canada Beef, our national marketing and promotion organization.

8. Remote Sensing of Forage Production

Rick McConnell and Tom Crozier reported on Using satellite Imagery to Measure Pasture Production. The images would be used to determine pasture production at the farm/ranch level. If this works pasture insurance would look like crop insurance.

9. Speeches for Cow Calf Council Members at Large Candidates

Each candidate gave a brief speech to the general assembly.

10. Election of Cow Calf Council Members at Large

The following were elected as Cow Calf Council members at Large for 2015-2016:

Tim Smith
Kevin Stopanski
Melanie Wowk

11. Speeches for Cattle Feeder Council Delegates at Large Candidates

The acclaimed delegate gave a brief speech to the general assembly.

12. Election of Cattle Feeder Council Delegates at Large

The following was acclaimed as Cattle Feeder Council Delegates at Large for 2015-2016:

Garth Porteous

13. Recess

The meeting was recessed until Tuesday, December 8th.

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

1. Call to Order

The meeting was reconvened at 8:30 a.m.

2. Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC) Report

Andrea Brocklebank Executive Director of BCRC presented the report. Brocklebank gave a brief background on the activities and funding of the organization. Brocklebank described the Beef Science Cluster that leverages government

money for research. The program allows researchers to apply to one organization for funding.

3. Facts, fears and fantasies about hormone use in beef cattle:

Reynold Bergen, Science Director for BCRC presented an analysis of the myths surrounding hormone use in beef cattle.

4. Final Call for Nominations for Directors at Large

The following were nominated as candidates for Directors at Large:

Bob Lowe
Charlie Christie
John Buckley
Judy Fenton
Rick Friesen
Rob Somerville
Roland Cailliau

Nominations were called for three times.

Nominations ceased.

5. Speeches for Directors at Large Candidates

Each candidate gave a brief speech to the general assembly.

6. Election of Directors at Large

The following were declared elected as Directors at Large for 2015 – 2015:

Bob Lowe
Charlie Christie
John Buckley
Rick Friesen
Roland Cailliau

7. Farm and Ranch Safety

The speakers that were originally booked to speak to the assembly were unable to attend the AGM. Rich Smith, ABP Executive Director, spoke to the assembly and formed the delegates into groups in order to generate ideas and direction for the organization in regards to Bill 6.

8. Call to Order

9. Final Call for Nominations for CCA Director

The following were nominated as candidates for Canadian Cattlemen's Association Directors:

Bob Lowe
Bryan Thiessen

Cathy Sharp
Colin Campbell
Doug Sawyer
Howard Bekkering
Rob Somerville
Tim Smith

Nominations were called for three times.

Nominations ceased.

10. Canadian Cattlemen's Association report

Jill Harvie, CCA Programs Manager, presented the CCA report to the assembly. Harvie touched on the WTO verdict on Canadian tariffs; the Canadian European Trade Agreement (CETA); Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP); BSE case #19 and BSE surveillance; changes to the Temporary Foreign Worker program; lobbying; the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (CRSB); Dennis Laycraft, CCA VP, has been named as the Chair of the GRSB 2016; VBP+ Sustainable; National Beef Strategic Plan; Canadian Beef Industry Conference; social license and reputation management; Youth mentorship and the International Beef Alliance;

11. Speeches for CCA Director Candidates

Each candidate gave a brief speech to the general assembly.

12. Election of CCA Directors

The following were declared elected as Canadian Cattlemen's Association Directors:

Bob Lowe
Bryan Thiessen
Cathy Sharp
Doug Sawyer
Howard Bekkering
Tim Smith

There was a run-off election between:

Colin Campbell
Rob Somerville

The following was declared elected as a Canadian Cattlemen's Association Director:

Colin Campbell

Motion by Judy Fenton/Cecilie Fleming:

“That the ballots be destroyed.”

Carried

13. Industry Funding Discussion

Several the resolutions that will be debated during the AGM deal with industry funding. Before the delegates debated on the issue they broke up into groups to discuss funding and how it could be implemented.

14. AGM Resolutions Debate

22. Motion by Bob Lowe/Roland Cailliau:

“Be it resolved that we continue to work on a plan that embraces beneficial outcomes for both ABP and the Alberta Cattle Feeders Association in our efforts to advance the industry.”

Carried

1. Motion by Gordon Graves/Kelly Fraser:

“Be it resolved that ABP support the National Check-off Levy increase to \$2.50.”

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8

Carried

2. Motion by Cecilie Fleming/Chris Israelson:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Provincial government to return to a \$2.00 non-refundable Service Charge of which \$0.60 will be put towards a restricted fund for marketing, research and collaboration.”

Zone 1, 2, 3, 5

Carried

3. Motion by Chris Israelson/Brian Edge:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Provincial government to return to a \$2.00 non-refundable Service Charge of which \$0.60 will be put towards a restricted fund for marketing, research and collaboration, but if that fails go to a \$5.00 check-off.”

Zone 3

Defeated

4. Motion by

“Be it resolved that we approve a non-refundable check-off of \$3.00 per head with a portion of the check-off be dedicated to marketing and research.”

Zone 5

Redundant

5. Motion by

“Be it resolved that ABP work on a non-refundable Service Charge with a portion being put in a restricted fund to be negotiated with industry partners.”

Zone 4

Redundant

6. Motion by

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government for the Service Charge be made non-refundable.”

Zone 4, 5, 6, 8

Redundant

7. Motion by John Buckley/Kevin Krebs:

“Be it resolved that any increase in check-off must be approved by a majority of Alberta cattle producers.”

Zone 3

Defeated

8. Motion by Kolton Kasur/Gary Suetter:

“Be it resolved that only one member of a family or ranch unit should sit as a delegate or board member in a zone.”

Zone 6

Carried

Motion by Kelly Fraser/Lyndon Mansell:

“Be it resolved that the resolution b voted on by ballot.”

Carried

9. Motion by Tim Sekura/Cecil Andersen:

“Be it resolved that ABP ask for actions of the Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals to be more transparent and accountable. That food animals not be assessed with the same scrutiny as pets.”

Zone 6

Motion by Gordon Graves/Bob Lowe:

“Be it resolved that the motion be split into two resolutions.”

Carried

Motion by Gordon Graves/Tim Sekura:

“Be it resolved that ABP ask for actions of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to be more transparent and accountable.”

Zone 6

Carried

Motion by Tim Sekura/Cecil Andersen:

“Be it resolved that ABP ask the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals that food animals not be assessed with the same scrutiny as pets.”

Zone 6

Defeated

10. Motion by Ralph Buhler/Tim Sekura:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Provincial government and Alberta Financial Services Corporation to change the pricing methodology used when determining forage compensation rates for production shortfalls and apply the same price discovery methods as are used by AgriStability to establish a market price for forage.”

Zone 6

Carried

11. Motion by Bob Lowe/Darren Bevans:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government to permanently honor the grazing allotments/preference quotas in the Eastern Slopes.”

Zone 2

Carried

12. Motion by Rick Friesen/John Buckley:

“Be it resolved that ABP continue to work with Alberta Grazing Lease Association, Western Stock Growers Association and the Northern Alberta Grazing Association to lobby and influence present government policy concerning grazing lease matters.”

Zone 1

Carried

13. Motion by Gordon Graves/Mike Lutzak:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government for more funding for testing of all contaminants in fresh farm water wells”

Zone 8

Carried

15. Recess

The meeting was recessed until 8:30 a.m. Wednesday December 5th.

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

1. Call to Order

The meeting was reconvened at 8:31 a.m.

2. Sharing the Range

Jeff Bectell, Chair of the Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association, presented a movie of grizzlies in the eastern slopes. The Biosphere would like to see sustainable management of grizzlies and wolves in the Waterton area in whatever form it takes.

3. Canfax Market Report

Brian Perillat, Manager and Senior Market Analyst, presented the Canfax update to the assembly on the cattle and beef situation and outlook.

4. Canadian Beef Industry Conference

Virgil Lowe, co-chair of the Canadian Beef Industry Conference, and Jill Harvie, CCA Programs Manager presented the proposal for the annual conference that will commence in Calgary in August 2016.

During the Conference the annual and semi-annual meetings of some of the partners will be held as well as the graduation of members of the Canadian Young Leaders.

5. AGM Resolution Debate

14. Motion by Melanie Wowk/Les Geier:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government to increase the payout for cattle submitted for BSE testing from \$75 per head to \$200.”

Zone 8

Motion by Melanie Wowk/Cecilie Fleming:

“Be it resolved that the motion be amended to read \$225 instead of \$200.”

Carried

15. Motion by Gordon Graves/Mike Lutzak:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government for an increase in funding for wildlife predation.”

Zone 8

Carried

16. Motion by Mike Lutzak/Gordon Graves:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government for more wildlife officers for predation action.”

Zone 8

Carried

17. Motion by Cecilie Fleming/Tyler Sawley:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Alberta government to provide beef producers’ compensation for predation by coyotes.”

Zone 2

Carried

Motion by Cecilie Fleming/John Buckley:

“Be it resolved that the resolution be tabled until after the discussion of Resolution 18.”

Carried

Motion by Cecilie Fleming/John Buckley:

“Be it resolved that the resolution be lifted from the table.”

Carried

18. Motion by Norm Hennigar/Roland Cailliau:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government to put coyotes on the Predator list along with wolves.”

Zone 9

Defeated

19. Motion by John MacArthur/Norm Hennigar:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Alberta government to restore diagnostic veterinary pathology lab facilities for food producing animals in Northern Alberta (Fairview) in light of the fact that southern and central Alberta have such a service through the Veterinary College in Calgary.”

Zone 9

Carried

23. Motion by Tim Sekura/Gary Seutter:

“Be it resolved that ABP move the producer meetings to the end of November and the AGM into January.”

Floor

Defeated

24. Motion by Gordon Graves/Rick McKnight:

“Be it resolved that we continue to lobby the provincial government to guarantee farmers and ranchers access to crown land for grazing purposes.”

Floor

Carried

25. Motion by Gordon Graves/Rick McKnight:

“Be it resolved that we continue to lobby the Government of Alberta to ensure that Occupational Health & Safety inspectors for farming operations are knowledgeable in all aspects of livestock and equipment, preferably with practical hands on experience.”

Floor

Carried

b) Expressed thanks to various media, government representatives and industry guests who attended the meeting,

c) Extended thanks to Provincial and National cattle association representatives,

d) Thanked the individuals who helped with the meeting, serving as election scrutinisers and ballot counters,

e) Expressed thanks to AGM chairs,

f) Extended a vote of appreciation to the Resolutions Committee,

g) Extended thanks to the 2014/2015 Board of Directors,

h) Special thanks to all of the delegates for a cooperative and productive meeting.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bob Lowe at 11:40 a.m.

6. Chair’s Closing Remarks

a) Extended a vote of thanks to media for covering our meeting,