

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 8:30am - Virtual**

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**Present:** Brodie Haugan -*Chair, SE*  
Sheila Hillmer -*Vice Chair, SW*  
Fred Lozeman -*Finance Chair, SW*  
Nanita Blomquist -*@ Large*  
Jay Hager - *@ Large*  
Kent Holowath - *@ Large*  
Lee Irvine - *@ Large*  
Doug Roxburgh - *@ CT*  
Miles Wowk - *@ NE*  
Gary These - *@NW*

**“That the minutes from the July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting be approved as amended.”**

Carried

**Regrets:** George L’Heureux  
Lyle Adams – ACFA

(b) Issues arising from the minutes.

- ABP/ACFA MOU tabled from last meeting to be discussed later in this agenda.

**Staff:** Brad Dubeau - *General Manager*  
Donald Poitras - *Controller*  
Karin Schmid - *Beef Production*

### **3. Financial Report**

**Guests:**  
Chance Martin – AAMA  
Kristine Chant – KRP  
Jim Bowhay – FAA  
Kyle Forbes – AGLA  
Jason Wilson - WSGA

(a) Audited Year End Financials 2022 – 2023

- The ABP Audit Committee met with the auditors to discuss the fiscal year 2022 - 2023 audited financial statements.
- Minor issues identified were quickly resolved.
- Clean audit obtained; organization is in a strong financial position.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

Motion by Lozeman / Hillmer:

### **1. Adoption of Agenda**

**“That the ABP audited financial statements for Fiscal Year 2022 - 2023 be approved as presented.”**

Additions to the agenda under discussion items:  
(v) Future Board Meeting Dates

Carried

Motion by Holowath/Wowk:

**“That the agenda be approved as amended.”**

(b) Financial Reporting ending July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Carried

- Expenditures tracking as expected for this time of year.
- Investment interest income is expected to be higher than last year.

(a) Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest expressed by attendees.

### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

Motion by Lozeman / Hager:

(a) Minutes of the July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting.

**“That the ABP July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 financial statements be approved as presented.”**

- Adjust motions moved by Haugan to moved by Lozeman.

Carried

Motion by Hager/Wowk:

(c) Refund Report – June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

- Number of requests is down, currently 60% retained.

#### 4. Staff Report, Policy, and Governance

(a) Staff Update

- Kaley Segboer–Edge was hired as the VBP+ Coordinator & ABP Stewardship Lead with a start date of September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

(b) ABP Sales position is in the interview stage of hiring.

- ABP’s July and August 2023 Staff Operations reports are included in the board package.

#### 5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) ACFA Update:

- No ACFA representative in attendance.

(b) CCA Update:

- CBIC was well attended, as were CCA committee meetings.
- FMD preparedness work continues.
- Concerns remain about UK trade.

(c) Western Stock Growers Association:

- Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry tour was held at Bill Newton’s operation.

(d) Alberta Grazing Leaseholders Association:

- Dry conditions have resulted in some instructions to remove cattle early from leases, etc., on very short notice. AGLA will be exploring mitigation options.
- Road allowances and access continue to be a priority.
- Preparing for recreational access review on grazing leases.

- Premier Smith may be attending a tour at Kyle Forbes’ operation later this fall.

(e) Feeders’ Association of Alberta

- Provided an overview of the services and financing options that FAA provides.

(f) Alberta Veterinary Medical Association:

- No ABVMA representative in attendance.

(g) Alberta Auction Markets Association:

- Starting to move into fall run.
- Provided input into proposed traceability regulations.
- Labour concerns exist.

#### 6. Decision Items

(a) Alberta Farm Animal Care

- AFAC has requested additional bridge funding to carry the organization through to the end of the year.
- They have two outstanding grant applications awaiting decisions.
- AFAC Board meeting is planned for late September or early October to determine a path forward.
- ABP will require further information and business planning for continued operations from AFAC before additional investment will be considered.

Motion by Wowk / Hillmer:

**“That ABP provide \$2500 to AFAC as bridge funding, contingent upon the receipt of funds from other sources to ensure continued operations until the end of the year.”**

Carried

#### 7. Discussions Items

(a) Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation/Simpson Centre

- ABP does not currently provide funding to the Simpson Centre.
- Several topics were discussed related to the Agriculture Minister's mandate letter at this meeting.

- New location provides significant savings over the term of the lease as well as potential future growth opportunities and technology improvements.

**ACTION: Dubeau to proceed with relocation**

(b) AEPA Summer Tour – Recycling Plant Bashaw

- Dubeau toured Olds College and the recycling plant at Bashaw.
- Additional work ongoing to widen categories of Ag Plastics that can be recycled.

(g) CBIC

- Approximately 600 people in attendance, primarily industry-affiliated.
- Pre-conference tour organized by ABP.
- Programming of meetings makes it challenging to attend conference sessions.
- Hillmer has been elected Finance Chair of the Canadian Beef Check-Off Agency.
- CBIC 2024 is in Saskatoon.

(c) Western Stock Growers Association - AGM 2023 Update

- Haugan & Dubeau attended.
- Haugan shared the list of resolutions discussed at the WSGA AGM with the ABP Board.

(h) PSE Update

- Existing motions regarding PSE governance and conversation at the CBIC Presidents' meeting were discussed.
- ABP has agreed to draft Terms of Reference by October regarding a committee that would provide recommendations regarding the PSE governance structure.

(d) Transport and Traceability App

- CCA and NCFCA along with some provincial organizations are attempting to develop an app that incorporates transport and traceability requirements across jurisdictions.
- LIS in AB and LSS in SK are developing their own e-manifest apps.

(i) Producer Meeting Planning Summary

**ACTION: Zones to confirm number and locations of producer meetings with Dubeau by noon September 25, 2023.**

(e) AFSC – Agri Recovery Update

- Conversations continue around Terms of Reference, which need to be completed before next steps can occur.

(j) ABP Engagement Sessions Dates & Breakdown

- List of dates & locations included in meeting package.
- Dubeau shared a list of potential discussion questions for the session.

(f) Relocation of ABP Office

- Lease agreement on new building has been received and reviewed.
- Negotiations continue, but no major concerns at this stage.
- Details from current building to reduce current footprint has been received and reviewed.

(k) ABP/ACFA MOU Update

- Tabled from last meeting.
- ACFA executive will review MOU shortly.

(l) Update on Bovine TB Investigation

- Latest CFIA update is included in meeting package.

(m) Ag Plastic Grant Amendment #4

- Amendment has now been signed to extend the Ag Plastics grant to February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026.  
**Brad to change date**

(n) PNWER Update

- Hillmer and Wowk attended.
- Hillmer's report included in meeting package.
- Topics discussed included trade, cross border security & livestock health, disaster resilience, food security, and feral swine.
- There is an opportunity to join the PNWER executive, and Wowk is interested in pursuing that opportunity with support from the ABP Board.

(o) Provincial Cattle Association Fee Modernization

- Canadian Beef Check-Off Agency is proposing a 2% (\$0.05) increase on all provincial marketings which ABP will use to bolster dealer remittances.
- Comment period and Agency AGM didn't generate significant concerns. The motion was passed at the Agency AGM.
- April 1, 2024 implementation date is anticipated.

(p) Food Forum

- Haugan will be representing the Canadian Beef Industry on behalf of CCA at the UN Food Forum in Rome, Italy in October 2023.

(q) Electronic Logging Device Update

- Concerns remain around ELDs and transportation of livestock.

**ACTION: If anyone is aware of concrete examples where animal welfare has been negatively impacted by mandatory driver rest timing, please share with Dubeau by email.**

(r) Semi Annual Update

- Discussion was held regarding a proposed update for all delegates (or other interested producers).

**ACTION: Dubeau will proceed with organization of a semi-annual update.**

(s) Director Indemnification Agreement

- Provides added protection to Directors of ABP in case of liability or litigation when current insurance coverage is insufficient.

**ACTION: All Directors need to sign and return by the November Board meeting.**

(t) Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry (status of soil health in Canada study).

- This Committee had toured some operations in Saskatchewan and Alberta, followed by a dinner with Lozeman and Lyseng in attendance.
- Focus was learning about the status of Canadian soils and where improvements can be made.
- Lozeman and Lyseng emphasized the contribution of grasslands.
- The Grassland Conservation Initiative (GCI) was also discussed under this agenda item

**ACTION: Continue development of grassroutes, producer-first, policy for Alberta regarding grassland conservation.**

(u) Wheatland County Email

- An email was sent to several Board members expressing an individual's concerns regarding permit approval for an abattoir in Wheatland County.

(v) Future Board Meeting Dates

- Dubeau asked whether the November 15 Board meeting could be moved to November 22. This change was supported by the Board. A joint board-staff dinner will be held the evening of November 21.

- There will be no Board meeting in December.
- January 10, 2023 scheduled for next Board meeting, likely virtual.

(b) Jan. 10, 2023 – Format TBD

## **8. Zone reports**

### **Northeast Zone**

- Having issues meeting as a zone in person, but it is a busy time of year, and use WhatsApp to connect.
- Sponsorship of events and Open Farm Days went well.

### **Northwest Zone**

- Feed shortages exist, but some regrowth on cropping operations is helping.
- Fire situation has abated.

### **Southwest Zone**

- Met end of August regarding producer meeting planning.

### **Southeast Zone**

- Will be finalizing producer meetings.

### **Central**

- No representative in attendance.

## **9. In Camera**

(a) The Board went in-camera at 12:24 pm.

Motion by Holowath / Wowk:

**“ABP Board to go into In Camera.”**

Carried

## **10. Reading Material**

The reading material is included in the Board package and was reviewed as part of the Board meeting.

## **11. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events**

(a) Nov. 22, 2023 – In Person – ABP Boardroom

## **11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion from Wowk at 12:33 p.m.