

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE COW CALF COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY JANUARY 14, 2020, 8:00 a.m.
IN THE ABP BOARD ROOM, CALGARY, AB**

Present: Jason Hale - *Chair, Zone 1*
Jodi Flaig - *Vice Chair, Zone 8 (phone)*
Shane Hansen - *Zone 2*
Keith Chitwood - *Zone 3*
Regan Curry - *Zone 4*
Kent Holowath - *Zone 5 (via phone)*
Kolton Kasur - *Zone 6*
Lori Kinnee - *Zone 9*
Tim Smith - *at Large*
Jill Burkhardt - *at Large (via phone)*
Gary These - *at Large*
Brodie Haugan - *BOD rep*

Staff: Tom Lynch-Staunton - *GR & Policy Manager*
Rosanne Allen - *Office Administrator*

Absent: Martin Clausen - *Zone 7*

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

1. Adoption of Agenda **8:00 a.m.**

(a) Additions and Adoption of agenda:

Motion by Kasur/These:

“That the agenda be approved as presented.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

(a) Minutes of the October 10, 2019 conference call:

Motion by Smith/Kasur:

“That the minutes of the October 10, 2019 Cow Calf Council conference call and the December 2, 2019 meeting be approved as presented.”

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending November 30, 2019:

Lynch-Staunton passed around the financial statement ending December. As of December 31st we are at \$21,900 spent from a \$52,000 budget. Lynch-Staunton briefed the council on the budget expenses over the last month. Any funds not spent will return to general revenue. Question from Smith as to whether we would be funding the UofC Simpson chair project from this budget. This depends on how much is left over and goes back into ABP general revenue for 2020 year.

Direction: Lynch-Staunton to remove line items in expense statements that we no longer use.

Motion by Hansen/Kinnee:

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

Carried

4. Decision Items

(a) CCC Terms of Reference Yearly review:

Lynch-Staunton spoke to the council about the terms of reference and explained a few of the changes that were made last year.

The members were asked to review the Terms of Reference after the meeting and asked to share any changes or additions they to the TOR with Lynch-Staunton to update.

Question as to whether the CCC would work on animal health issues like encouraging producers to vaccinate for disease prevention. Suggested that this could be addressed through Cow Calfenomics workshops yet to be planned. Could also bring ACFA and AB Vet Med Association into the education about the importance of vaccinating.

Motion Kasur/Smith:

“That the Cow Calf Council approve the Terms of Reference as presented.”

Carried

Direction: to consider the importance of a good vaccination program at future Cow Calfenomics workshops.

(b) CCC Yearly Workplan 2020-2021:

Lynch-Staunton highlighted objectives that were achieved by the council during the year. Some of the goals come from resolutions that were approved during the 2018 AGM.

The council discussed each goal and what has been completed and steps that still need to be taken to achieve final goals.

Lynch-Staunton suggested that the council members look through the work plan and send ideas into him and he will develop a new work plan. Members suggested removing Goals 4 and 5 as they have already been done.

The members discussed a resolution on calf mortality insurance that from 2017 that was defeated by the board due to countervail concerns and the high cost levels.

DIRECTION: for Lynch-Staunton to work on a new workplan for 2020-2021 year.

(c) Membership to Committees, Working Groups and Associations:

i. Watersheds:

The council can appoint anyone to sit on a watershed council, not necessarily a delegate. There are a number of changes that may be happening along the Bow River that could affect producers. Hale can keep the council up to date on activities and concerns with the Bow River Basin Council.

The council suggested existing ABP reps continue on with their existing watersheds so long as they give updates back to the council.

ii. Safety-Net Subcommittee:

Smith, Kasur, Flaig, Emil Dmytriw and Assar Grinde sit on this subcommittee. Gordon Graves also sat on this subcommittee. Holowath will replace Kasur on the committee. Haugan, Curry and These will participate on the subcommittee.

iii. Wildlife Working Group:

Hansen, Flaig, Mike Nadeau and Jeff Bectell sit on this group. Hansen and Flaig agreed to stay on. Kinnee agreed to sit on the working group. It was suggested that Nadeau continue on as well if he is willing. G. These would also participate.

iv. Ecosystem Services Working Group:

Clausen and Shawn Freimark sit on this working group. Curry and Burkhardt agreed to participate in the working group. Lynch-Staunton will check to see if Shawn Freimark wants to continue on this committee.

v. Cull Cow Working Group:

Flaig and Kasur are on this working group and should be active over the next few months. The Meat Inspection Act will be opened March of 2020 and ABP would like to see changes to the Act that would allow for less restrictive rules applied to pre-slaughter inspections on-farm. These expressed an interest in sitting on the working group.

vi. Cow Calf Extension Working Group:

This working group was repurposed to organize the Cow Calfenomics Workshops. If this is still something that is of interest to the council, we will need to decide when to hold the workshop. Hansen will continue to participate, and Burkhardt will replace Kasur on the working group. Flaig will also stay on and Holowath will also participate.

vii. Cows & Fish Board of Directors:

There was a summary of Cows & Fish in the package. Emil Dmytriw was the representative with Flaig as the alternate. Lynch-Staunton asked if there was anyone interested in sitting on the board to replace Dmytriw. Flaig will step up

from alternate to board member. Hansen agreed to be the alternate.

Motion by Haugan/Kinnee:

“That the Cow Calf Council approve the appointment of Jodi Flaig as their representative to the Cows & Fish Board and Shane Hansen as the alternate.”

Carried

viii. Drought and Excess Moisture Advisory Group (DEMAG):

Emil Dmytriw will continue to sit on this group with Tim Smith as alternate.

ix. Endangered Species Conservation Committee (ESCC):

Gordon Graves sat on this committee and Flaig sat as the alternate. Council agreed to have Graves continue to sit on the committee. Burkhardt agreed to replace Flaig as the alternate on the committee.

x. Agri-Environmental Partnership of Alberta (AEPA) Land Use Framework and Water Working Group:

ABP (Lynch-Staunton) sits on the Advisory Committee; Smith has been sitting on the Water Working Group and the spot on the Land Use Framework has been vacant since no LUF meetings were held in 2019.

The LUF has not been active but may start up again this year. Smith is interested in continuing on the Water Working Group. Kinnee agreed to sit on the Land Use Framework working group.

xi. Environmental Stewardship Award Selection Committee:

One person is elected from the council to sit on the committee. Kasur is the Chair of the committee. Kinnee agreed to participate in the committee. Chitwood agreed to be the alternate.

xii. Other Working Groups to be considered:

Question about ABP representation on the Alberta Farm Animal Care Council (AFAC). This rep is appointed by the board. Also the Alberta Forage Industry Network had Katlyn Benedict on its board. Depending on if she wants to stay, J. Burkhardt is interested if needed.

Suggestion that working groups should have a start and end date, and should be called “committees” if they are ongoing.

Motion by Hansen/Haugan:

“That the Cow Calf Council confirm the appointments of delegates and members on committees, working groups and watersheds as discussed during the meeting of January 14, 2020.”

Carried

(d) Budget 2020-2021:

The final budgets will be approved at the March Board of Directors meeting. Lynch-Staunton clarified the current budget and what has been spent. He will estimate the council expenses and other expenses for the approved council working groups and subcommittees.

Lynch-Staunton will put together a budget for the council and set up a conference call for mid-February to discuss the budget before it is sent to the board in March.

(e) Extra Project Funding:

5. In Camera

6. Discussion Items

(a) Board and Committee updates:

(i) Research Committee: (Burkhardt)

Research met last week to review full proposals and finalize the funding for projects in conjunctions with BCRC and those funded through ABP. Research committee will not elect new members until current project approval cycle is complete.

(ii) Audit Committee:

Clausen was appointed to represent the Council on the Audit Committee.

(iii) Governance Committee:

At the meeting in December the Council appointed Flaig to represent them on the Governance Committee.

(b) CCC Working Group updates:

(i) Safety-Net Subcommittee:

Smith gave the group an update on the issues that have been covered and discussed by the subcommittee. There will be some changes to the insurance coverage. Working with AFSC on a feed need model for feed insurance.

(ii) Ecosystems Working Group:

Lynch-Staunton updated the group on the work done by the Ecosystems Working Group. Question about whether NCC can share their priority areas and how many acres are under NCC conservation easements. Lynch-Staunton will ask NCC for this information.

(iii) Wildlife Working Group Update:

The last meeting the working group had was with ACA and Travis Ripley. Lynch-Staunton is putting together a proposal for a three-year project. Hope to get the project funded by April 1st. increase predator compensation; due diligence on behalf of producer; recognize the problem with

getting compensation for a predator kill. Part of the project is training 'verifiers'.

(iv) CCC Extension/ Cow Calfenomics:

Had a conference call in August and decided to move forward with Cow Calfenomics contingent on finding outside funding. Alberta Agriculture will still help with funding but do not want to run the meetings.

(v) Cull Cow Working Group:

This working group put together a briefing note for ABP recommendations on how to allow for meat to be sold or donated from an animal killed on the farm. Lynch-Staunton had a call with AF Food Safety division to understand why this can't happen, which has to do with rules of pre-mortem inspection.

The Meat Inspection Act is up for renewal in June 2020, so this group should be active this spring in making recommendations for improvements to the Act.

(c) Association updates:

(i) Cows and Fish report:

UCB government has committed to investing in \$1 million extra per year to Cows and Fish to work on the eastern slopes. Lynch-Staunton and Dmytriw has been helping strategize on how to use the funds and where to target the work.

(ii) Endangered Species Conservation Committee:

Upcoming meeting to occur on Jan.23rd where they will be reviewing other species like Prairie Falcon and Bison classifications.

(iii) Drought and Excess Moisture Advisory Group report (DEMAG):

Had a conference call in early December to wrap up the year in crop conditions and moisture. Some areas are in drought while others received excess moisture. Lynch-Staunton shares crop and moisture reports with council as they come out.

(iv) Alberta Forage Industry Network (AFIN) report:

Quarterly report in the package. Burkhardt interested in attending AGM.

(v) Agri-Environmental Partnership of Alberta report (AEPA) – Lynch-Staunton/Smith:

Handout found in the package.

(vi) North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP):

Handout found in the package.

(d) Watershed Updates:

Update from Bill Fox, Greg Bowie in the package.

(e) Other Updates:

(i) Montana Stockgrowers Association Convention Update:

Hale reported to the council on the Montana convention. A lot of their issues are the same as those Alberta producers were facing. Hale tried to make the bigger colleges (sessions). He spoke briefly about each of the colleges he attended. Detail report is in the package.

7. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

- (a) Alberta Beef Industry Conference, March 4-6, 2020, Cambridge Red Deer Hotel
- (b) Alberta Forage Industry Network AGM, March 10, 2020, Leduc AB
- (c) Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC) Conference, March 18-19, 2020, Olds, AB

Motion by Hansen/Kasur:

“The Cow Calf Council support Tim Smith to attend the AFAC 2020 Conference

Carried

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Kasur at 12:30 p.m.