

ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE COW CALF COUNCIL CONFERENCE CALL
WEDNESDAY MAY 10, 2017, 1:30 p.m.

Present: Penny Patton - *Chair*
Walt Suntjens - *Zone 4*
Dick Wymenga - *Zone 5*
Assar Grinde - *Zone 6*
Lyndon Mansell - *Zone 8*
Linda Messner - *Zone 9*
Devon Sengaus - *At Large*
Heinz Lemmer - *At Large*
Tim Smith - *At Large*

Staff: Fred Hays - *Policy Analyst*
Rosanne Allen - *Office Admin*

Absent: Kevin Stopanski - *Zone 1*
Tyler Sawley - *Zone 2*
Kevin Krebs - *Zone 3*
Brad Osadczyk - *Bd rep*

The chair called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda **1:30 p.m.**

(a) Additions and adoption of agenda:

Additions: 3(c) Budget discussion:

Motion by Lemmer/Suntjens:

“That the agenda be approved with changes.”

Carried

2. Decision Items

(a) Working Group definition and update:

Hays sent out the information on the Working Group summary. One of the working groups is dealing with farm plastics but the resolution dealing with this was defeated at the AGM. Grinde asked the directors to discuss the issue at their next zone meeting to see if this is an area that is important enough create a working group for. This may not seem like an important topic but this will become a bigger issue as recycling becomes more mainstream. Grinde suggested the a working group come up with a policy for ABP. There are other options for ag plastic besides recycling that ABP can look at for producers to do.

If we continue to ignore the problems producers have with plastic we will find ourselves legislated into something we can't afford.

Grinde will present something to the CCC by the end of May and give the council a presentation at the June meeting.

Mansell has begun on the Ag colleges enrollment for younger producers. There is concern at the fall zone meetings about getting the younger generation involved in agriculture. Mansell found that the enrollment in Ag colleges is going up but there is a question on how they are using their education.

Grinde offered to speak with Raymon Boeve and Kolton Kasur to see if they would be interested in working with Mansell on this issue.

The ABP Fireguard Proposal still needs to be presented to the board.

Hays spoke briefly about current working groups and what they are doing.

The Wildlife Policy working group will report to the CCC. Mark Crowe is interested in taking part in a Wildlife working group. Patton will ask Buck Eden if he is interested in participating as well. Suntjens also agreed to participate.

(b) Compensation for Wildlife Habitat – what next:

(c) Presentation topics for June meeting:

The delegates spoke about topics that the group would like to have presented during the council meeting in June. In the past people who have presented to the council had not be paid to do so. Crystal MacKay would cost the council about \$5000.

The directors expressed an interest in learning more about GMO Alfalfa. Mansell said he would look for someone who could give an unbiased talk on GMO's.

Grinde expressed interest in getting more information on greenhouse gas.

Succession planning??? Agriculture insurance???

Patton would like to see a presentation by Ducks Unlimited. They can be an alternate if the first two options don't work out.

3. Discussion Items

(a) Board report – Smith:

It was agreed at the board meeting that a summary will be sent out within 10 days of the board meeting. At the Semi-Annual in June there will be discussion with the delegates on the working groups; \$4000 added to the Carbon Pricing project; Clean Cattle project was discussed and the board declined to fund it; review of the fall meeting Duo exercise which led to the development

of the Strategic Objectives for the 2017-2018 year; discussed funding proposal with ACFA which was turned down by the directors; discussed the proposed grazing lease rental rates; Campbell will lead a Wildlife Predation Working Group to develop a policy dealing with predation and report to the Board;

(b) Cow calfenomics meeting topics:

In the past the government has gotten in touch with members of the Council to discuss topics for the Cow Calfenomics but this year they have already developed the topics for this years presentations.

(c) Budget discussion:

The approved budget for the current fiscal year was handed out to the directors and staff at the last board meeting. Hays noticed that Environment, along with ESA, had been allocated \$30,000 and was a separate line item from the Cow Calf Council. After some discussion with Rich Smith, Executive Director, it was agreed to keep ESA separate with a \$22,000 budget and to add the remaining Environment budget directly to Cow Calf Council increasing its budget from \$45,000 to \$53,000.

4. Reading Material

(a) Minutes for April 10th conference call:

5. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

(a) CCC meeting – June 14, 2017, Delta South, Edmonton, AB

6. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned on a motion by Patton at 3:00 p.m.