

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MONDAY JUNE 11, 2018, 10:00 a.m.
AT THE DELTA SOUTH HOTEL, EDMONTON, AB**

Present: Charlie Christie - *Chair*
Kelly Smith-Fraser - *Vice-Chair/Zone 5*
Melanie Wowk - *Finance Chair/Zone 8*
Garth Porteous - *Zone 1*
Sheila Hillmer - *Zone 2*
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3*
Jesse Williams - *Zone 4*
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*
John MacArthur - *Zone 9*
Assar Grinde - *@ Large*
Fred Lozeman - *@ Large*
Brad Osadczuk - *@ Large*
Cathy Sharp - *@ Large*
Tim Smith - *CCC Chair*
Ken Stanley - *CFC Chair*
Bob Lowe - *Past Chair*

Staff: Rich Smith - *Executive Director*
Fred Hays - *Policy Analyst*
Laura Procnier - *Controller*
Karin Schmid - *Beef Production*
Rosanne Allen - *Executive Assistant*

Guest: Howard Bekkering - *CCIA rep*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Additions and Adoption of Agenda:

Additions: 8(g) Livestock Assurance Fund report;

Motion by Lozeman/Osadczuk:

“That the agenda be approved with changes.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of the April 18, 2018 meeting:

Motion by Lozeman/Sekura:

**“That the minutes from the April 18, 2018
Board of Directors meeting be approved.”**

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending May 31, 2018:

Audit Committee met with the Auditors to discuss last year's fiscal report and commended ABP and Procnier on

the excellent work done on the financial records. No audit adjustments and no changes were needed. The Auditor complimented the thoroughness of the work done by the Controller, Laura Procnier.

Motion by Wowk/Hillmer:

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

Carried

4. Policy and Governance Issues

(a) Executive Director Evaluation:

The directors received the Director evaluation form on May 30th for them to fill out and send back to MMP. Christie suggested that the evaluation be completed at the July meeting.

(b) Director Communications – Hillmer:

Hillmer spoke to the board about the need to respond to communications between the directors. It helps everyone to keep open communications and to know that all the directors have received the information. Hillmer suggested placing an action in the subject line to give the readers a sense if something is required beyond just reading the email. Sending reminders are good as well.

5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Cow Calf Council:

The council will be meeting on June 13th, there is nothing to report.

(b) Cattle Feeder Council:

Next meeting is on June 13th.

(c) Research Committee:

Research committee met on June 4th regarding their joint research call with Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association. They had 22 letters of intent (LOI's) for two areas of research, animal health focusing on mycotoxins and forage and grazing. The LOI's were narrowed down to eleven and Karin Schmid, Beef Production Specialist, spoke with the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association and agreed to ask for full proposals for the LOI's.

The committee asked if there was anyone interested in attending the UCVM conference on June 19th and 20th as Heinz Lemmer was unable to go.

6. Decision Items

(a) Farmers' Advocate/Alberta Environment Letter:

The Executive had an open discussion with the Minister of Environment & Parks and her staff. The Executive felt that they had made a good connection with the Minister and some of the issues that producers are facing did come up during the discussion. The letter was discussed at the last board meeting, but we were waiting for other signatures before sending it to the Farmers' Advocate.

The directors agreed that the letter should be sent directly to the Ministers, should be firm, and should include a deadline for action. It also would note the positive meetings that we have had with the Minister and her staff, along with our desire to continue with this communication.

DIRECTION: for R. Smith to send the letter directly to the Ministers of Environment & Parks and Agriculture & Forestry with a deadline attached.

(b) Agency/Canada Beef By-Laws:

The Executive sat down with the Agency and Canada Beef (CB) a week ago to discuss the proposed changes to their by-laws regarding the governance of CB. The Agency is proposing that CB Committee would have 6 industry members from the Agency Board, 4 from the Canadian Meat Council, 1 importer/exporter and 1 from retail and food services.

There would be 6 people elected to that committee by delegates at the AGM, but 2 of these would need to be producers from the Agency Board and they are proposing that members of the Agency Executive cannot be on the CB Committee.

We have not seen the by-laws, but if the Marketing & Promotion Committee is given sufficient authority and responsibility, this would create a satisfactory separation between CB and the Agency. The proposal also allows the delegates to elect half of the Committee, although there is the constraint that 2 producers must be from the Agency Board.

Motion by Israelson/Grinde:

“That ABP approve the proposed changes to the Canada Beef elective structure pending changes to their by-laws.”

Carried

(c) CFIA Traceability Definition:

In discussion with Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) over the traceability framework, one of the considerations on animal movement would be when individual animal movement needs to be reported. There would be an exception for animal movement reporting for community pastures. Recently, the CFIA agreed that they would leave that in there, but only for community pastures

on crown land. R. Smith is looking for approval from the Board for a letter stating that there is no traceability difference between community pastures on crown land and private land.

Motion by Osadachuk/Stanley:

“That ABP send a letter to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency opposing the changes to the definitions of community pastures.”

Carried

(d) SCA on CCIA - Bekkering:

Howard Bekkering is the ABP representative to Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) and he spoke to why Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association was not accepted on the CCIA board. This request from SCA came to the CCIA board in December and was discussed. Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association (SSGA) is on the CCIA Board and their current chair, Mark Elford, comes from SSGA. The CCIA Board felt that Saskatchewan is currently being very well represented on CCIA. There is a representative from each province on the board and from several other agriculture organizations. The ABP Board supports SCA being on the CCIA board because they are our counterpart in Saskatchewan. ABP has had a request to support SCA getting a seat on CCIA.

DIRECTION: for ABP to respond to SCA stating we support SCA being on CCIA, but we are not in a position to dictate the membership and board structure to CCIA.

(e) Fed Cattle Price Reporting:

At the meeting in April, the Board agreed to send a letter supporting the proposal for Stats Canada to use Section 13 to acquire fed cattle prices. Since the proposal was not supported by all provinces, Stats Canada and AAFC will not be moving forward with using Section 13.

Currently there is not bad cash prices discovery, but that could change with market conditions. Information from Section 13 is historical and could set the framework for price insurance, policy work and trade Advocacy. Unless there is a change in support for the use of Section 13, there will be no action on this initiative.

CCA should be actively communicating with the provinces who are opposing the use of Section 13.

(f) AGM Resolution decisions:

The directors looked at the resolutions that were carried during the 2017 AGM. Most of the resolutions are completed or are being worked on already. The two that haven't will be sent to the appropriate council.

(g) BOD Fall Meeting Resolutions:

1. Motion by Campbell/Porteous:

“Be it resolved that ABP continue to collaborate with other industry groups (i.e. ACFA, WSGA) to develop a single voice for the beef industry and work towards unification of said industry organizations.”
Zone 1

Carried

The ABP Board and Executive are already working on this issue, but it is a lengthy process.

2. Motion by Lozeman/Grinde:

“Be it resolved that ABP change the funding share of the national levy amended to 55% BCRC and 40% to Canada Beef and 5% to issues management.”
Zone 2

Defeated

It was a way to let the Agency know that we are displeased with Canada Beef governance. ABP did adjust allocations to provide 44% BCRC, 50% CB, 6% IM.

3. This resolution was discussed during the February board meeting and was defeated at that time.

4. Motion by Lozeman/Sekura:

“Be it resolved that ABP encourage the Canadian Beef Check-off Agency to include the contributing provincial members onto their board.”
Zone 2

Defeated

There is concern that some of the provinces that sit on the board do not contribute to the resources used in running it. Without members from each province on the Agency Board, we likely would not have all provinces collecting the national check-off and would not be able to collect a levy on imports.

5. Motion by Lozeman/Osadcuk:

“Be it resolved that ABP is directed to ask the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association officers to review remuneration for John Masswohl and Dennis Laycraft for their excellent service to the industry. Further, that a succession plan be established for further continuance of good governance within our industry.”
Zone 2

Defeated

A producer felt concern that they may not feel we appreciate them and wanted to make sure that their remuneration reflected their value. Also make sure that there is a succession plan in place for these positions. We are not aware of any issues regarding remuneration and it

is not ABP’s place to interfere with CCA Human Resources.

6. Motion by Wowk/Fraser:

“Be it resolved that ABP pull their funding from Alberta Farm Animal Care for the 2018 and subsequent years and use the funding to sponsor beef related projects for the cattle producers of Alberta.”
Zone 8

Defeated

There is no real good reason to remove funding from a program that is needed and worthwhile.

(h) PNWER appointment:

PNWER is hosting a Cross Border Livestock Health Conference, which ABP sponsors and to which we are able to send a representative. We are looking for someone who would like to go to Spokane on July 24th and 25th. Sheila Hillmer agreed to attend.

(i) Ag Plastics Recycling letter of support:

Grinde updated the board members on what the group has been doing. They have created a list of desired outcomes of a potential recycling program and the group is looking for letters of support from ag groups to show the government that industry does support it. ARMA is sponsored by government for tires, electronics, paint and used oil. Another model called Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) makes the manufacturer/importer of them product responsible for getting the product back for recycling. In Alberta there are at least two different companies that make items from recycled plastic.

R. Smith has a template for a letter of support.

Motion by Hillmer/Sharp:

“That ABP send a letter to the Alberta government showing support for the proposed ag plastic recycling program.”

Carried

7. In Camera

8. Discussion Items

(a) Plebiscite Process Update:

We are in the middle of the town hall meetings. The regulations are in the hands of the marketing council. Marketing Council is working hard to have the regulations for the plebiscite ready for the fall meetings. The town hall meetings have been a good look at the challenge ABP will face getting producers who agree with a non-refundable check-off to vote. Zones are struggling to get producers to attend the meetings and producers are still having difficulty

understanding where CCA funding comes from. We will need the help of every delegate to get the message out. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation that is being presented at the town hall meetings was included in the Board package.

Decisions on how the plebiscite will look haven't been made yet though Marketing Council may use the same format used at the 1984 plebiscite. When speaking to the producers we need to remember to stop using acronyms that they may not understand.

Sharp asked if we have contacted past ABP delegates to come and vote and the young CYL producers.

(b) Alberta Beef Announcement:

The day of the MLA reception Calgary Coop announced that they will exclusively stock fresh Alberta beef in their Calgary stores. There will be a presentation on this announcement at the Semi banquet.

(c) Auction Markets and Livestock Dealers Update:

The Auction Markets Association had a conference call and agreed to send in the money that they have been withholding and asked R. Smith to let them know if some don't. ABP has agreed to meet with them in the fall and to discuss the remitters rebate after the plebiscite. We will need to make a very firm response to the Auction Markets if they do this again.

(d) Prescription Only Antibiotic Dispensing:

There were speaking points in the Board package and R. Smith has some copies of the pamphlet that BCRC but together with ABP. The ILWG met with the Minister to discuss the dispensing and will be meeting with the vets to discuss it later in June.

(e) ABQSH Plans:

ABP has been approached to see if we would consider delivering the VBP+ program in Alberta. ABQSH has been doing a very good job of delivering the program to producers in Alberta. We think it makes more sense for VBP+ to be responsible for the provinces delivery agents than organizations such as ABP.

(f) Zone reports:

Zone 1: There has been no zone meeting recently; they held a town hall meeting in Brooks

Zone 2: No meeting; disappointed in the town hall meeting turnout; getting pressure to eliminate CFC; 4-H membership is up in the zone; received thanks from the livestock show for their sponsorship

Zone 3: Nothing to report

Zone 4: Range Field day and Grazing Day sponsored; trying to engage auction marts more; worried only negative votes will show up

Zone 5: Had a quick meeting last week; will be doing another Ronald McDonald House dinner this summer; looking for documentation on the health benefits of beef to hand out to a school with a teacher promoting the vegan lifestyle.

Zone 6: Had a zone meeting; sent pamphlets to the Breton fair.

Zone 7: had a zone meeting in early April with past zone delegates and brought them up to date on the Boards activities.

Zone 8: Sponsored the Vermillion Fair for \$300; \$300 for Women's Grazing Conference; town hall meeting at Vermillion college was disappointing; the college has offered to share ABP message through their social media.

Zone 9: new abattoir has opened in Grande Prairie; 4-H funding proposal may be cut by Agriculture & Forestry.

(g) Livestock Assurance Fund report:

Tim Smith attended the annual meeting as the alternate and Greg Bowie is our representative. Levy will remain at 10 cents. Direction that the Livestock Assurance Fund and the Livestock Dealers Assurance Fund remain separate.

9. Reading Materials

(a) Beef Supply at a Glance:

10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

(a) Semi-Annual General Meeting – June 12, 2018, Delta South Hotel, Edmonton

(b) Board of Directors Meeting – July 16, 2018 – Calgary, AB.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Grinde at 3:20 p.m.