

DRAFT
ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2016, 8:30 a.m.
CONFERENCE CALL

Present: Darren Bevans -Chair (Zone 2)
Rick Friesen -Zone 1
Jimmy Nelson -Zone 2
Brian Edge -Zone 3
Cody Miller -Zone 7
Lyndon Mansell -Zone 8
Dick Wymenga -CCC
Charlie Christie -CFC

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

Carried

Staff: Karin Schmid -Beef Prod Specialist

Absent: Howard Bekkering -Zone 1
Ralph Buhler -Zone 6

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda **8:30 a.m.**

(a) Adoption of Agenda:

Motion by Friesen/Edge:

“That the agenda be approved as presented.”

Carried

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

(a) Minutes of the November 23, 2015 meeting:

Under 4(c), needed to add that there was indeed consensus among the committee to fund the top seven proposals.

Update the header for 4(d) from Funding Strategy/Priorities for the 2015/2016 year to Funding Strategy/Priorities for the 2016/2017 year.

Motion by Mansell/Nelson:

“That the minutes of the November 23, 2015 Research Committee meeting be approved as amended.”

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending January 31, 2016:

Overage in budget is primarily due to a larger, more active committee.

Motion by Wymenga/Miller:

4. Decision Items

(a) Review of Committee Terms of Reference:

The committee discussed the terms of reference; specifically, around selection of projects when some committee members aren't in attendance, if a member of the ABP Executive may still vote on the committee if they were originally intended to sit on the committee as a representative of a zone or council, and why staff and the research chair have final approval on committee membership (reasoning is to limit committee size if budget constraints deem it necessary).

Direction: Schmid to clarify the verbiage around project selection to indicate that members of the committee who are not able to attend the meeting may still submit project rankings, with the understanding that these rankings are not anonymous.

Direction: Schmid to check with Rich Smith around the ex-officio nature of ABP Executive members, and if a member of the Executive were designated to sit on a committee representing a zone or council, whether they can still vote.

(b) 2016/17 Budget:

The budget as originally presented had \$17,000 for operating, and \$83,000 in project funding (for the ALMA partnership call on antimicrobial use and resistance and year 2 of compromised cattle project). It was decided based on the overage from this fiscal year, and also because research pays a portion of the “Worried About” brochure development and printing, to increase operating to \$22,000 for a total budget of \$105,000.

Motion by Mansell/Edge:

“That the research committee present a budget of \$105,000 for approval for the 2016/17 fiscal year.”

Carried

(c) BCRC Award for Outstanding Research and Innovation:

The Research Committee nominated Jim Helm last year, who was unsuccessful, with John McKinnon was the winner. Can leave Jim's nomination in to be considered this year (awarded at the Canadian Beef Industry

Conference in August), but we are also free to nominate someone else, or to have two nominees this year.

Motion by Mansell/Nelson:

“To inform the Beef Cattle Research Council of our desire to have Dr. Jim Helm considered again for the 2016 Outstanding Research and Innovation Award.”

Carried

(d) Field Crop Development Centre Field Day Planning Representative:

Schmid has been asked for a producer volunteer to help with planning the next Field Crop Development Centre Field Day at Lacombe. The next meeting is either Feb. 16 or 18th. The Committee decided to have Schmid represent the group for now, requesting feedback from the Committee as required.

5. In Camera

No in camera was held, as this was a conference call.

6. Discussion Items

(a) Alberta Forage Beef Centre Update:

Schmid updated the Committee on the progress of the centre in Lacombe. The group appointed by the Management Committee as the Research and Extension Advisory Committee have begun work on terms of reference, a project scan, a communications plan, and how to bring in the other stakeholder groups that aren't currently directly involved.

(b) 2015 Forage Call Update:

All of the Ag Canada projects are contracted. Schmid is waiting on confirmation of funding from the forage groups whose projects ABP has funded, and Greg Penner still has to apply for the matching NSERC for his project. There is \$38,000 remaining from that call that is currently unallocated. If Greg's NSERC application does not receive the matching funds, would like to redirect those funds there. If the NSERC application is successful, a suggestion Clint had was to pull together the researchers for each project from the call and have a mini-conference with preliminary results in 2017 or early 2018.

(c) 2016 Call Update:

Once again we are partnering with ALMA to deliver a call, this time with priorities around antimicrobial resistance and use. The priorities were much the same as when the previous members of the committee commented on them in December. ABP commitment is \$75,000, ALMA is \$1,425,000 for a total of \$1.5 million. Schmid asked for input on timelines.

Direction: Schmid to circulate timeline options as well as the priorities for the call.

Schmid also alerted the group to some Growing Forward 2 funding that has become available for animal health focused projects. She has been working with Tim McAllister and Karin Orsel to develop projects around screening beef isolates for colistin resistance and reviving the bloat project from a few years ago that ABP was prepared to support a portion of financially.

Motion by Mansell/Edge:

“That Schmid keep working with both researchers to develop projects eligible for this funding.”

Carried

(d) “Worried About...” Update:

The new brochure will be on greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration. It was going to be too much information to try and tackle all facets of “environment” in one brochure. Hope to have the initial content to the designer this month.

(e) Communications Update:

Created an article called “13 things you didn't know about research ABP funds,” which ran in the last hardcopy of Grass Routes and also will be running in the next issue of Alberta Farmer Express that we have a page in.

Will work on designing a postcard with similar information on it for the fall meetings.

(f) Other:

7. General Reading Material

(a)

8. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

- (a) Alberta Beef Industry Conference, Red Deer – February 18-19
- (b) AFAC Livestock Care Conference, Olds – March 22-23
- (c) 2016 Call Announcement March/April
- (d) International Symposium on Animal Welfare, Kansas – June 8-10
- (e) ABP Semi Annual Meeting, Edmonton – June 13-15
- (f) ALMA Future Fare, Edmonton – June 14
- (g) UCVM Beef Cattle Conference, Calgary – June 16-17
- (h) Beef Improvement Federation Conference, Kansas – June 14-17

- (i) International Range Symposium, Saskatoon – July
17-22
- (j) Next meeting - Early July TBD

9. Adjournment

Adjourned on a motion by Nelson at 9:56 a.m.