

**MINUTES FOR THE FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS HELD DECEMBER 4-6, 2017
AT THE SHERATON CAVALIER HOTEL, CALGARY, ALBERTA**

Monday December 4, 2017

1. Call to Order

Bob Lowe welcomed everyone to the AGM gave a brief update on some of the activities that have happened to in the beef industry over the past year.

Lowe introduced this years John de Groot and Cecilie Fleming, this years AGM Chairs and Darcy Eddleston, chair in training.

(a) Approval of the Chairs:

Motion by Bob Lowe/Walt Suntjens:

“That John de Groot and Cecilie Fleming be approved as Chairs for the 2017 Annual General Meeting.”

Carried

(b) Introduction of delegates:

John de Groot opened the AGM by asking each Zone Director to introduce themselves, their delegates and their Cow Calf Council member.

Nominations are now open for up to 3 Cow Calf Council members at large, up to 7 Cattle Feeder Council delegates at large, 5 Delegates at Large and up to 7 CCA Delegates at Large.

(c) Rules of Procedure:

De Groot spoke briefly on the rules of procedure

(d) Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Colin Campbell/Tim Sekura:

“That the agenda for the 2017 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.”

Carried

(e) Approval of 2016 AGM and 2017 Semi-Annual General Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Chris Israelson/Garth Porteous:

“That the minutes of the 2016 AGM be amended to add the phrase ‘be approved’ to the motion approving the 2015 AGM and the 2016 Semi-AGM.”

Carried

Motion by Chris Israelson/Brody Haugan:

“That the minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting presented in the 2017 AGM Information package be approved as amended.”

Motion by Brad Osadczuk/Walter Suntjens:

That the minutes of the 2017 Semi-Annual General meeting be approved as presented in the 2017 AGM Information package.”

Carried

2. ABP Chair Report

Bob Lowe spoke about the problems producers had with weather that has either produced too much rain or not enough as seen in southern Alberta where they experienced wildfires; trade and the problems with NAFTA, TPP, China and CETA; industry funding and the work ABP has done towards getting a non-refundable check-off, the Alberta Beef Industry Development Fund, plebiscite; income tax changes; labour legislation; sustainability and the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef.

Motion by Bob Lowe/Danny Hozack:

“That the Chair’s report be accepted as presented.”

Carried

3. Finance Report

(a) Acceptance of 2016/17 Financial Statements:

Kelly Fraser thanked Bob Lowe for all of the work he has done on behalf of ABP in the last 2 years. Fraser presented the audited 2016-2017 financial statements to the assembled delegates.

1. Motion by Kelly Fraser/Chris Israelson:

“Be it resolved that the 2016-2017 ABP audited financial statements and auditor’s report be accepted.”
Board

Carried

2. Motion by Kelly Fraser/Walt Suntjens:

“Be it resolved that the firm of Kingston Ross Pasnak chartered accountants be appointed as auditors for 2017-2018 year-end audit.”
Board

Carried

The budget for the 2017-2018 year was approved in March 2017. Fraser spoke about the breakdown of the budget

Motion by Kelly Fraser/Danny Hozack:

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

Carried

4. Review of Afternoon Agenda

John de Groot reviewed the agenda for the afternoon and then called on Rich Smith, Executive Director, for the review of the ABP Plans and the responses from the producers at the recent fall meetings.

5. Review of ABP Plan & Fall Meeting Input

Before he began his report Rich smith called Bob Lowe back to the podium to inform the assembly that an agreement has been made between Canada and China for importing Canadian beef into China.

Rich Smith spoke about the the objectives of the ABP Plan and the work that has been accomplished to meet this years goals. Then the zones broke out into independent groups to discuss the objectives for next year.

6. Final Call for Nominations for Cow Calf Council Members at Large and Cattle Feeder Council Members at Large

John de Groot called for nominations three times

Nominations closed for Cow Calf Council and Cattle Feeder Council members at large.

7. Delegate In Camera Session

The assembly broke so that the delegates could meet and discuss topics they wanted more information or clarification on.

Before proceeding with the scheduled presentations Cecilie Fleming welcomed all of the guests to the AGM.

8. CRSB Certified Sustainable Beef Framework

Cherie Copithorne-Barnes and Fawn Jackson spoke to the assembly about the framework that will be launched on Thursday. Copithorne-Barnes reaffirmed the definition of sustainable beef; and spoke about the framework goals and guiding principles. Jackson discussed how the framework was developed; the key components of the framework; and the mechanics of the framework.

9. Canadian Beef Sustainability Accelerator

Virgil Lowe, Business Manager VBP+, presented the pilot for the Beef Sustainability Accelerator. The purpose for the pilot in the short term is to learn how to deliver sustainable beef from the ranch to the grocery store. Cattle that move through a fully verified sustainable supply chain the producer will receive financial credits.

10. Election of Ballot Counters

Motion by Danny Hozack/Roland Cailliau:

“That Brent McEwan and Samuel Vallejos be approved as ballot counters.”

Carried

11. Speeches for Cow Calf Council Members at Large Candidates

Kolton Kasur
Heinz Lemmer
Lyndon Mansell
Mike Nadeau
Tim Smith
Stuart Somerville

Each candidate gave a brief speech to the delegate body.

12. Election of Cow Calf Council Members at Large

Heinz Lemmer
Mike Nadeau
Tim Smith

13. Speeches for Cattle Feeder Council Delegates at Large Candidates

The candidates for CFC were acclaimed but each candidate gave a brief speech to the delegate body.

14. Election of Cattle Feeder Council Delegates at Large

Jeff Havens
Sheila Hillmer
Glen Kummer
Garth Porteous

15. Adjournment

The meeting was recessed at 5:15 p.m.

Tuesday December 5, 2017

1. Call to Order

John de Groot called the meeting back to order

2. bTB Investigation Update

Rick James-Davies presented an update on the Bovine TB investigation in southern Alberta. James-Davies briefly spoke about the disease and the eradication program over the last year; he gave a summary of the investigation; the phases of the

investigation; spoke of the wildlife surveillance in Alberta; financial impacts; and lessons learned.

3. Canadian Beef Check-Off Agency Report

Melinda German gave a brief update on the Canadian Beef Check-off activities. German spoke about the increase and the reasons for it; the National Beef strategy; allocation of funds; operational updates for the Agency; Agency draft by-laws;

4. BCRC Report

Reynold Bergen, BCRC, presented the delegates and guest with the activities of the Beef Cattle Research Council over the last year. Bergen briefly explained the Beef Science Cluster and how its funding was broken down. Bergen presented information on a study showing how much water it takes to raise a pound of beef; what beef producers can do to minimize their environmental impact; agriculture in the classroom

5. Final Call for Nominations for Director at Large Elections

John de Groot made the final call for nominations before releasing the assembly for a coffee break.

Cecilie Fleming welcomed the guests from industry and government.

6. Speeches for Directors at Large Candidates

Roland Cailliau
Charlie Christie
Assar Grinde
Kolton Kasur
Fred Lozeman
Brad Osadczuk
Cathy Sharp

Each candidate gave a brief speech for the delegates before the vote.

7. Election of Directors at Large

Charlie Christie
Assar Grinde
Fred Lozeman
Brad Osadczuk
Cathy Sharp

8. Canada Beef Report

Frances Andres, Executive VP, gave the report on the activities of Canada Beef to the assembled delegates, industry representatives and government personnel. Andres spoke of the national food service programs that have been undertaken during 2017; brand and marketing initiatives with consumers; generic marketing; Japanese initiatives; Chinese initiatives; emerging markets; CB Centre of Excellence; and parallel

initiatives with industry partners and community outreach programs for wildfire and earthquake victims.

9. Issues Management Report

Tom Lynch-Staunton is the Manager of Public and Stakeholder Engagement for CCA as well as the Government Relations Manager for ABP.

Issues Management came out of the development of the National Beef Strategy. The program deals with concerns from the public or consumer around beef production; to maintain public trust or increase trust in our product and how we produce it.

10. Final Call for Nominations for CCA Directors

Cecilie Fleming congratulated the winners for Directors at Large

Fleming called three times for nominations for CCA Directors at Large. Nominations ceased.

11. Call to Order

Cecilie Fleming called the meeting back to order at 1:05 p.m.

12. Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) Report

Dave Solverson, Past Chair CCA, spoke briefly to the assembly and Dennis Laycraft, CCA Executive VP, presented the report to the delegates and guests. Laycraft gave a brief background on CCA; he spoke on CCA priorities and core services; allocation of funding; workforce challenges and GF2 successor the Canadian Agriculture Program; proposed tax changes and the impact on producers; and trade priorities.

13. Speeches for CCA Directors Candidates

Colin Campbell
Charlie Christie
Bob Lowe
Doug Sawyer
Cathy Sharp
Tim Smith
Stuart Somerville
Miles Wowk

Each candidate gave a brief speech to the delegates before the final vote.

14. Election of CCA Directors

Colin Campbell
Charlie Christie
Bob Lowe
Doug Sawyer
Cathy Sharp
Tim Smith
Miles Wowk

15. Compromised Cattle Benchmarking Project

Dr. Melissa Moggy presented the project summary and findings for the benchmarking project which AFAC spearheaded with funding from ABP, ACFA, Alberta Milk, GF2 and the Canadian government.

16. Canfax Market Report

Brenna Grant presented the Cattle Market Outlook for Canfax. Grant spoke of the strong spring prices before they declined again in the fall;

Chris Israelson/Stuart Somerville:

“That the ballots be destroyed”

Carried

17. AGM Resolutions Debate

1. Motion by Kolton Kasur/Tim Sekura:

“Be it resolved that ABP continue to pursue a non-refundable check off.”

Zone 6

Carried

2. Motion by Tim Smith/Jesse Williams:

“Be it resolved that that should ABP seek a non-refundable check-off that it be through a plebiscite held for producer approval.”

Zone 4, 8

Carried

3. Motion by Chris Israelson/Heinz Lemmer:

“Be it resolved that ABP release the details of any agreement and the structure of all related working groups three months prior to the plebiscite asking for a mandatory check-off.”

Zone 3

Carried

4. Motion by Colin Campbell/Lorrie Jespersion:

“Be it resolved that any plebiscite on the issue of refundability/non-refundability address: a) the issue of refundability; b) the issue of providing funding for other beef cattle organizations.”

Zone 7

Defeated

Going forward with the plebiscite we need to be clear about a refundable or non-refundable service charge only. ABP may be asked for input on the plebiscite we do not get to decide how the question(s) will be worded.

4(a) Motion by Roland Cailliau/Kelly Fraser:

“Be it resolved that ABP submit a formal request to the Alberta Agricultural Products Marketing Council for a plebiscite on a non-refundable service charge model for the Commission.”

Board

Carried

5. Motion by Ralph Buhler/John MacArthur:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Alberta Government to continue to fund both the University of Calgary Veterinary Medicine and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.”

Zone 6, 9

Carried

6. Motion by Ray Boeve/Tim Sekura:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government to promote the inclusion of agriculture and agricultural information, particularly related to the beef industry, in the provincial education curriculum.”

Zone 1, 6

Carried

7. Motion by Tyler Sawley/Jimmy Nelson:

“Be it resolved that ABP contribute, participate and promote Alberta Open Farm Days to drive greater public education about Agriculture and specifically the beef business.”

Zone 2

Carried

8. Motion by Tim Sekura/Assar Grinde:

“Be it resolved that ABP investigate the viability of a calf mortality program.”

Zone 6

Motion by Roland Cailliau/Colin Campbell:

“Be it resolved that the resolution be changed to read ‘calf mortality insurance program’.”

Carried

“Be it resolved that ABP investigate the viability of a calf mortality insurance program.”

Zone 6

Carried

9. Motion by Assar Grinde/Devon Sengaus:

“Be it resolved that ABP, in partnership with other commodity groups and the Alberta Association of Rural Municipalities, support the development of an Agricultural Plastics Recycling Program in the province of Alberta.”

Zone 5, 6

Carried

10. Motion by Tim Smith/Nicole Viste:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the federal government to have the Department of National Defense (DND) compensate affected landowners for damages incurred because of activities occurring on DND property or in close proximity.”

Zone 4

Carried

11. Motion by:

“Be it resolved that ABP intensely lobby the Alberta government, Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) and exercise intense pressure on Alberta Game Policy Advisory Council (AGPAC) to: (1) recognize the enormous commitment of landowners in providing wildlife habitat and environmental goods and services; and (2) to dismiss the AGPAC committee’s proposed recommendation to AEP of taking 1200 landowner special licenses for antlered mule deer from landowners to give to recreational hunters.”

Zone 2

Motion by Fred Lozeman/Tim Smith:

“That this resolution be postponed until tomorrow’s debate.”

Carried

12. Motion by:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government for the continuation of the mule deer special licence for land owners.”

Zone 5

Motion by Kelly Fraser/Colin Campbell:

“That this resolution be postponed until tomorrow’s debate.”

Carried

13. Motion by:

“Be it resolved that ABP intensely lobby the Alberta Government to increase the Petty Trespass Act first offense fine from \$287 to a level that will actually discourage trespassing on private land.”

Zone 2

Motion by Fred Lozeman/Danny Hozack:

“That this resolution be postponed until tomorrow’s debate.”

Carried

14. Motion by Sheila Hillmer/Tyler Sawley:

“Be it resolved that ABP take a stance and give direction to the government that we do not want the beef industry to be sacrificed to save supply management during the North American Free Trade Agreement negotiations.”

Zone 2

Defeated

We all need to support each other where we can now and in the future.

15. Motion by Kevin Stopanski/Garth Porteous:

“Be it resolved that ABP through the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association lobby to ensure that anti-dumping and countervail duties remain intact and not be negotiated away in trade agreements (CETA, TPP) so as to ensure fair marketing of beef and livestock.”

Zone 1

Carried

16. Motion by Sheila Hillmer/Fred Lozeman:

“Be it resolved that ABP and the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association support access to foreign workers and extend plans to 10 years to allow retained employees and expedite the process of resourcing, attaining and employing these workers. The English requirements are currently limiting our access to these highly qualified workers.”

Zone 2

Carried

17. Motion by Danny Hozack/Melanie Wowk:

“Be it resolved that that ABP facilitate an intelligent, informative discussion concerning the effects and extent of man made global warming caused by CO₂ emissions.”

Zone 8

Defeated

There are scientists around the world working on this issue and we are not qualified or equipped to debate the issue.

18. Adjournment

The meeting was recessed at 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday December 6, 2017

1. Call to Order

2. OH&S on Your Farm or Ranch

Dan Trottier, AgSafe Alberta, gave a presentation on Occupational Health and Safety to the assembled delegates and guests. Trottier reviewed the history of the AgSafe Society; practical farm safety management tools; what works for the ag industry;

3. Modernizing Alberta's Grazing Framework

John Buckely, Past ABP Delegate, has been representing ABP on the working group updating the grazing lease rental rates. The working group gave input for the creation of a new framework for the rental fees for grazing rates in Alberta. Buckley spoke briefly on how the rental rates are currently being determined before explaining the new market driven formula that has been created to determine rental rates.

Mike Alexander spoke briefly on the framework and the people who worked very hard to bring the framework to fruition and thanked them all for their effort.

4. AGM Resolution Debate

10(a) Motion by Roland Cailliau/Chris Israelson:

“Be it resolved that ABP supports the Framework for Grazing Lease Rental Rates and assignment fees that was outlined in the letter sent to public land grazing leaseholders this fall.”

Board

Carried

10(b) Motion by Fred Lozeman/Tim Smith:

“Be it resolved that ABP support landowners in maintaining their eligibility for the Alberta Environment and Parks landowner special license for antlered mule deer, which has been recommended for elimination by the Alberta Game Policy Advisory Council Big Game Allocations Policy Sub-Committee.”

Floor

Carried

11. Motion by Chris Israelson/Danny Hozack:

“That the resolution be returned to the floor for debate.”

Carried

The approval of Resolution 10(b) made this resolution unnecessary and the AGM Chairs were asked to declare the resolution redundant.

“Be it resolved that ABP intensely lobby the Alberta government, Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) and exercise intense pressure on Alberta Game Policy Advisory Council (AGPAC) to: (1) recognize the enormous commitment of landowners in providing

wildlife habitat and environmental goods and services; and (2) to dismiss the AGPAC committee's proposed recommendation to AEP of taking 1200 landowner special licenses for antlered mule deer from landowners to give to recreational hunters.”

Zone 2

Redundant

12. Motion by Kelly Fraser/Danny Hozack:

“That the resolution be returned to the floor for debate.”

Carried

The approval of Resolution 10(b) made this resolution unnecessary and the AGM Chairs were asked to declare the resolution redundant.

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government for the continuation of the mule deer special licence for land owners.”

Zone 5

Redundant

13. Motion by Sheila Hillmer/Fred Lozeman:

“That the resolution be returned to the floor for debate.”

Carried

Motion by Sheila Hillmer/Fred Lozeman:

“Be it resolved that ABP intensely lobby the Alberta Government to increase the Petty Trespass Act first offense fine from \$287 to a level that will actually discourage trespassing on private land.”

Zone 2

Carried

5. Chair's Closing Remarks

Charlie Christie thanked the media, government and industry guests for coming

Everyone who helped with the meetings

He Thanked the Chairs for their hard work

Thanked the staff for all of the hard work that they have done in the past and in coordinating the AGM

Thanked the resolutions committee and the board of directors both past and present

Thanked the delegates for putting their names forward for the various committees and council

6. Adjournment of AGM

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.