

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14, 2020, 8:30 a.m.
ABP BOARDROOM, CALGARY, AB**

Present: Kelly Smith-Fraser - *Chair*
Melanie Wowk - *Vice Chair (via Zoom)*
Brad Osadczuk - *Finance Chair (via Zoom)*
Darren Bevans - *Zone 2*
Jim Bowhay - *Zone 3*
Shawn Freimark - *Zone 4*
Cathy Sharp - *Zone 5 (via Zoom)*
Assar Grinde - *Zone 6*
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7 (via Zoom)*
Emil Dmytriw - *Zone 8 (via Zoom)*
Mike Nadeau - *Zone 9*
Brodie Haugan - *@ Large (via Zoom)*
Kolton Kasur - *@ Large (via Zoom)*
Fred Lozeman - *@ Large (via Zoom)*
Jason Hale - *CCC (via Zoom)*
Chris Israelson - *CFC (via Zoom)*
Charlie Christie - *Past Chair (via Zoom)*

Staff: Brad Dubeau - *General Manager*
Rosanne Allen - *Office Administrator*
Laura Procnier - *Controller (via Zoom)*
Karin Schmid - *Beef Manager (via Zoom)*

Guests: Dennis Laycraft - *CCA (via Zoom)*
Dave Moss - *CCA (via Zoom)*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Additions and Adoption of Agenda:

Motion by Grinde/Israelson:

“That the agenda be approved as presented.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of the September 2, 2020 meeting:

Motion by Bowhay/Nadeau:

“That the minutes of the September 2, 2020 Board of Directors meeting be approved with changes.”

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending September 30, 2020:

For this month the balance sheet reflects assets of \$12 million; marketings were up to capacity though prices were weak; cattle stayed on grass longer this year. Western Canadian packers

have been running a few more Saturday shifts. We are currently 40.45% of the budget; Osadczuk gave a brief update on spending for the various budget areas.

Motion by Osadczuk/Campbell:

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

Carried

4. Staff Report, Policy and Governance

(a) Karin Schmid:

Schmid gave a brief update on the activities of the Research Committee. The committee met September 3rd and have requested full proposals on 26 of the letters of intent.

Schmid briefly updated the directors on the mandate, vision, and structure of RDAR. Schmid and Lozeman participate in the Advisory Committee; transport; the Mule Deer Management Advisory Committee.

ACTION: look at adding a landowner as a representative on the committee.

Schmid spoke of prescribing and dispensing of prescriptions by veterinary pharmacies.

Staff were asked to provide an update to the board on the effects of coal mining on cattle operations around Grassy Mountain north of Blairmore. Schmid gave the directors a brief history of open pit mining in Alberta before focusing on coal pits being planned in southern Alberta.

(b) Policy decision – Open Pit Coal Mining Proposal – Smith-Fraser:

Motion by Lozeman/Freimark:

“That ABP supports the local beef producers affected by the Open Pit Coal Mining Proposal at the Livingstone Range in their efforts to protect native pasture lands and healthy water sources for cattle grazing in the area. Furthermore, ABP would encourage the developers of said mine to take every opportunity to minimize any negative impact on cattle production in the area.”

Carried

(c) Policy decision – Weather related AgriRecovery – Smith-Fraser:

AgriRecovery is for areas that have had issues with extremely negative impact of weather on producer crops and/or grazing land. Grinde, Haugan, Osadczuk and Israelson will investigate this issue and bring back a motion for the next meeting.

5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Cow Calf Council:

Funding has been announced to modernize irrigation in Alberta. The upgrade will create about 6800 jobs and has the potential to add about \$3.8 billion to Alberta's GDP. Once complete it will irrigate around 200,000 acres. There is a concern that land surrounding the project could affect the native grassland. But one solution would be to promote in field expansion on what was flood or non-irrigated crop land. Potentially native or tamed grass could benefit from the project.

(b) Cattle Feeder Council:

Nothing to report at this time. Israelson will speak with the CFC delegates to see if they would like to submit nominations forms to sit as a delegate.

(c) Research Committee:

Schmid gave a very good update earlier. BCRC overlapped the projects that ABP had asked full proposals for. There is about \$2.9 million budgeted for proposals. BCRC had a 2-day virtual meeting in mid-September to discuss proposals as well as the research goals for the next 5 years.

There was a new Executive elected to BCRC; Matt Bowman, from Ontario, is the new Chair, Craig Lehr is the Vice-Chair and Fred Lozeman is the Finance Chair.

(d) ACFA update:

Nothing to report at this time.

6. Decision Items

(a) Contribution to WSGA/AGLA – Smith-Fraser/Dubeau:

At the last meeting John Buckley came forward to request financial assistance from the board for the work that AGLA and WSGA have done on the Grazing Lease Agreements. Smith-Fraser, Wowk, John Buckley and Dubeau meet with government officials on October 8th. They discussed people accessing privately owned land for recreational activities; they also discussed the grazing lease operational progress. The government is frustrated on how slowly progress is being made on upgrading the grazing lease transfers. One issue that has been discussed is banks holding the grazing leases as securities. The largest obstacle seems to be the wording on the first page of the contracts.

ABP would consider making a commitment to offset these fees but only after there is complete understanding between the committee and Environment & Parks and a clear path to cleaning up the grazing disposition backlogs and agreements.

Dubeau will speak with Buckley about taking a leadership role in these talks.

7. Discussion Items

(a) CETA update – Dennis Laycraft:

Dennis Laycraft, Executive VP CCA, and Dave Moss, CCA, presented a CETA update to the board.

CCA is actively engaged in the UK/EU trade talks with Canada. CCA addresses concerns with regard to UK/EU manufactured beef coming into Canada at a much lower value than domestic manufactured beef. They presented options as to why this was happening. No deal is better than a bad deal with the UK/EU. Other commodities are frustrated with CETA as well.

During the next CCA Director meeting Christie will bring up the discussion on the EU price of cull cows.

ACTION: Christie and Sharp to report on CETA and EU cull cow issue.

(b) Government update – Smith-Fraser/Wowk:

Minister Dreeshen gave an update on a number of issues from Smith-Fraser's operation. Smith-Fraser spoke about the changes to BRM's and the hope that ABP will be a part of any changes made; as well as pressing to have the ABP Regulations signed. MP's Shannon Stubbs and Lianne Rood visited with Wowks and there was discussion on several issues of the day. A suggestion coming from the meeting is when ABP goes to the government with an ask that is only partially met, we consider supporting the opposition to keep up pressure on the government to meet the full ask.

There may be an announcement coming out of the Ministers office this week, some of them will be addressing research.

(c) AB Council – Dubeau:

The executive considered their proposal to provide ABP with lobbying, but the Executive agreed that our new Government Relations and Policy Manager will handle that initially from in house. Our best option for the time being is to let our new GR Manager take the lead in this area but we keep the AB Council near in case we do need them in the future.

(d) Rural Municipalities of Alberta – Dubeau:

This goes back to our conversation in the last meeting. Urban encroachment into crown and private lands. The RMA will work with our GR Manager to develop materials to help educate the public on how they should be acting on crown and private lands. They also spoke about the increase in taxes in municipalities. The government is holding back at this time, but it is not going away. There are some municipalities that will potentially become insolvent if these new taxes come into effect.

The government is looking for additional access to lease lands for hunting.

(e) Fall Meetings – Smith-Fraser/Dubeau:

The Executive met on September 7th and decided not to hold in person meetings with the limits we are facing. On the evening of November 26th, we will hold a virtual town hall meeting from the ABP Board Room. On December 2nd and 3rd, we will hold Resolution meetings with break out rooms for each zone.

Ballots will be mailed out to producers along with a QR code that will allow those producers who wish to, to vote online. Delegate elections will close on December 11th. We are hoping to announce the results by January 8th.

Directors need to push the delegates to treat the online meetings the same as they would an in-person meeting.

ACTION: Allen to create a cheat sheet on when the fall meetings will be held and how producers can submit resolutions for Directors to hand out.

ACTION: send out information on the delegate elections and board election.

(f) Delegate Issue – Smith-Fraser:

The Executive met with the past delegate, his wife and Marketing Council on September 7th. Smith-Fraser updated the directors on the delegates demands. A resolution seems to have been found.

(g) RDAR – Smith-Fraser:

Schmid gave a great update. Smith-Fraser spoke briefly on RDAR about Champions of Ag coming under the RDAR umbrella. ABP expressed some concerns about this in a letter to Dave Chalak.

(h) Government Relations & Policy Position – Dubeau:

Dubeau will be offering an applicant the position on Thursday afternoon. If they accept ABP will release the name.

(i) ABP Platform – Dubeau:

We are no longer calling it the ABP Hub but ABP Platform. Dubeau will be listing the positions tomorrow and the title changes of current staff will be changing over the next week. We are developing all of the different areas that we will populate when the Platform goes live. We encourage ideas from the board for editorial content for the magazine.

(j) Zone Reports:

Zone 1: Director has been in touch with the delegates reminding them to send in their nomination forms.

Zone 2: reminding delegates to get in their nomination forms. There have been some issues with Fish & Wildlife

Zone 3: Nothing to report, everything is good

Zone 4: held an in-person meeting on October 8th.

Zone 5: Held a conference call this week and are planning for an in-person meeting

Zone 6: will be holding a conference call October 15th.

Zone 7: Nothing to report

Zone 8: holding an in-person meeting on October 25th

Zone 9: spoke with the delegates and reminded them that they needed to submit their nomination forms

8. In Camera

9. Reading Materials

- (a) Board of Directors Resolutions & Action Items:
- (b) Staff Monthly update:
- (c) Beef Supply at a Glance:
- (d) Board Training package:

10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

- (a) BOD meeting – November 19, 2020, TBD, Calgary, AB
- (b) Board of Directors Meeting – TBD

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bowhay at 2:35 p.m.