

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2019, 8:30 a.m.
AT THE ABP BOARD ROOM, CALGARY, AB**

Present: Charlie Christie - *Chair*
Kelly Smith-Fraser - *Vice-Chair (Zone 5)*
Brad Osadcuk - *Zone 1*
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3 (via phone)*
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*
Gordon Graves - *Zone 8*
John MacArthur - *Zone 9*
Brodie Haugan - *@ Large*
Assar Grinde - *@ Large*
Fred Lozeman - *@ Large*
Ken Stanley - *CFC Chair*

Staff: Rich Smith - *Executive Director*
Rosanne Allen - *Office Administrator*
Laura Procnier - *Controller*
Karin Schmid - *Beef Production*
Brad Dubeau - *Marketing & Education*
Katelyn Laverdure - *Communications*

Guest: Keith Gregory - *ACFA*

Absent: Sheila Hillmer - *Zone 2*
Jesse Williams - *Zone 4*
Melanie Wowk - *Finance Chair*
Tim Smith - *CCC Chair*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Additions and Adoption of Agenda:

Additions: 8(f) Policy Group update; 8(g) Farm Freedom Safety Act; 8(h) Emergency Evacuation Preparedness Working Group

Motion by Graves/Osadcuk:

“That the agenda be approved with changes.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of the October 23, 2019 meeting:

Motion by Lozeman/Grinde:

“That the minutes of the October 23, 2019 Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented.”

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending October 31, 2019:

We have spent 53% of budget and are 58% of the way through the fiscal year. Marketings are down by 100,000 from this time last year.

Motion by Fraser/Lozeman:

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

Carried

4. Staff Report, Policy and Governance

(a) Research and Production Update:

Karin Schmid, Research and Production Manager, gave the Board a brief update on the research program; website tools that have been developed; the new animal transportation regulations; bison near Wood Buffalo National Park; and the BC bTB case.

5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Research Committee:

Schmid is waiting for peer reviews that will be in by December 10th and then final decisions on funding will be made in January 2020.

(b) Cow Calf Council:

Nothing to report at this time

(c) Cattle Feeder Council:

Council has not meet since the last board meeting. Smith will be working with ACFA and government representatives on the issue of spreading manure on frozen or snow-covered ground.

(d) ACFA update:

The next ACFA Board of Directors meeting is in Edmonton on November 27th. Their annual MLA dinner follows the meeting and they have invited members of our Board. Five directors and Tom Lynch-Staunton will attend the dinner,

6. Decision Items

(a) Review of Fall Meetings:

Fall meeting numbers has fallen in each zone significantly, except for Zone 1. Each zone was asked for comments that came out of the meetings. There was positive feedback from the producers after the video ‘Guardians of the Grasslands’.

There was a suggestion that ABP go into the colleges to discuss the organization with ag students.

(b) Regulatory Review direction:

There is not a lot of concern in the Zone 1 area on what the organization does. There is support from the producers for ABP. There was good discussion in Zone 2 and support for all of the changes. Good support in Zone 3 and general support for the proposed changes. In Zone 4 there was concern about traveling to meetings but overall there was no strong opposition to the proposed changes. Zone 5 had concern over travel to meetings, there was good support in the proposed changes. Suggested that there should be more than one meeting per zone, some worry about the disconnect by reducing the number of delegates. Had good discussion and a decent turnout. Producers felt that each zone needed to still have directors; travel time to meetings; cost of the increased meetings; open the zone delegate meetings to allow producers to attend; provide more information at the meetings on what ABP is doing. Zone 7 had poor turnout; agreed that zones need a director; concerns about travel time to zone meetings; we must make the meeting of value to the producers. Zone 8 was against changing the structure of ABP but are looking for more transparency and accountability. There were concerns in Zone 9 and one resolution against the proposal, but generally producers were supportive of the regulatory review changes. Concerns on the number of fall meetings; each zone needs a director.

The Regulatory Review Working Group will be meeting to discuss possible resolutions for the AGM.

In the package was a document suggesting changes to collection and distribution of the service charge. Smith spoke briefly about the two options and opened them up for discussion from the directors.

DIRECTION: that ABP begin discussion with ACFA and other organizations about the possibility of making a portion of the service charge into a non-refundable levy to support the research, market development and education initiatives that would have been part of the ABDIF.

(c) CCA Assessment motion:

ABP needs to deal with the timeline on the motion and the directors were asked if they would agree to change the timeline to reflect either the ABP or the CCA year end.

“That ABP have a column in the financials for Canadian Cattlemen’s Association showing producer funds collected and the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association is paid from those retained funds only to be implemented by January 1, 2020.”

Motion by Graves/Osadczuk:

“That ABP have a line in the financials for Canadian Cattlemen’s Association showing producer funds collected and the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association is paid from those

retained funds only to be implemented by April 1, 2020.”

Carried

(d) CCA Legal Assessment:

ABP previously paid a legal assessment to build the CCA legal reserve and now has been assessed for the ongoing costs in the past quarter. In the past, we have paid this assessment out of our Trade Advocacy Fund. The legal assessment is based on marketings.

Motion by Fraser/Stanley:

“That the ABP Board of Directors pay the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association legal assessment of \$27,422.26 from the Trade Advocacy Fund.”

Carried

(e) Participants for IDP/ICF Workshops:

ABP has been working with ACFA and MNP to provide training for producers on dealing with municipalities and the provincial government on Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDP) and Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICF). MNP is organizing four training sessions for producers around the province.

Smith asked the directors if they knew of two or three producers who would be interested in participating in the sessions.

(f) AgSafe Alberta letter of support:

Christie took Garth Porteous’ place on AgSafe and there was some concern about what would happen after the new farm safety act came out. In the package was a letter from AgSafe asking all industry partners to send a letter to the government about the organization. ABP submitted a letter of support for AgSafe.

(g) Zone delegate appointments:

Motion by MacArthur/Graves:

“That ABP approve the appointments of Lori Kinnee and Erin Moskalyk as Zone 9 delegates for a two-year period.”

Carried

Motion by Cambell/Grinde:

“That ABP approve the appointment of Ken Stanley as the Zone 7 Cattle Feeder Council delegate for a two-year period.”

Carried

Motion by Sekura/Stanley:

“That ABP approve the appointments of Adam Moseson and Joanne Solverson as Zone 6 delegates for a two-year period.”

Carried

7. In Camera

8. Discussion Items

(a) Simpson Centre for Agricultural and Food Innovation and Public Education:

Smith is waiting for clarification on questions that were submitted to the UCVM before ABP can make a decision on funding.

(b) Strategic Research Proposal (White Paper) for Agriculture and Forestry:

At the request of the Minister of Agriculture & Forestry, ABP worked with other livestock and crop organizations to prepare a white paper on research strategy.

An update to the proposal in the package was provided to the Board. The directors were asked to review the document and to let Smith know if they had any questions or concerns.

(c) ABP-ACFA Policy Brief on Class 1 driver licensing:

There are concerns about the new Mandatory Entry Level Training (MELT) program that the government is implementing. ABP and ACFA are proposing a graduated Class 1 drivers license for farm and ranch operations.

Smith, Tom Lynch-Staunton and Janet Tranberg have met with Minister McIver about a graduated Class 1 license and were asked to put together a proposal that the Minister could take to his government colleagues.

(d) Fight For Strategy Session:

Fraser received the summary from the strategy session that she attended and provided it in the board package to the directors for their information.

(e) Zone Reports:

Zone 2: Producers have been asking if cow calf pairs were assessed check-off as one or per head. The check-off is always applied per head.

Zone 5: Had an election. Last zone meeting, a producer informed Fraser that Steven Lee was in the Cremona school giving the students a negative message about beef. When asked, the school refused to let anyone rebut Lee's presentation.

Zone 7: Talked to a producer about herding cattle on roads. The producer was given permission by a councillor.

Zone 8: Had a zone meeting with their 2 new delegates.

Zone 9: MacArthur attended a Northern Alberta Grazing Lease Association meeting.

(f) Policy Group:

This group was created at the beginning of the year to update the ABP Policy Manual. They have written several policies which they sent to Maggie Kiel for her input, but have not heard back from her. Smith looked for someone else to support policy development.

(g) Farm Freedom Safety Act:

Graves and Campbell were at the release of the Act. Created a category for small operations – an operation with fewer than 5 waged non-family workers. Removed farms and ranches from labour relations (unions). Small employers are exempt from employment standards. Larger operations have a choice between WCB or private insurance. Operations with 6 or more waged non-family employees will be under the OH&S Act, but not the OH&S code or regulations

(h) Emergency Evacuation Preparedness Action Group:

Graves participated in a conference call on Tuesday and discussed two incidents that happened this year. The working group will be meeting in January.

9. Reading Materials

(a) BOD Resolutions & Action items:

(b) Beef Supply at a Glance:

10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

(a) Resolutions Committee – November 26, 2019, Conference Call

(b) New Delegate Orientation – November 27, 2019, ABP Board Room

(c) Board of Directors Meeting – December 2, 2019, Sheraton Cavalier, Calgary, AB

(d) Annual General Meeting – December 2 to 4, 2019, Sheraton Cavalier, Calgary, AB

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Osadczuk at 1:55 p.m.