

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2009  
AT THE SHERATON CAVALIER HOTEL, CALGARY, ALBERTA**

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**Present:** Rick Burton - *Chair*  
Doug Sawyer - *Finance Chair*  
Erik Butters - *Past Chair*  
Gerald Maser - *Zone 1*  
Brian Edge - *Zone 3*  
Pat Rutledge - *Zone 4*  
Rob Somerville - *Zone 5*  
Greg Bowie - *Zone 6*  
Roy Eckert - *Zone 6 (at large)*  
Ben Schrader - *Zone 7*  
Brian Chomlak - *Zone 8*  
Darcy Eddleston - *Zone 8 (at large)*  
Janys Boyte - *Zone 9*  
Chuck MacLean - *CFC Chair*  
Stuart Thiessen - *CFC*  
Dave Solverson - *CFC*  
Darryl Carlson - *CIC Chair*  
Larry Delver - *CIC*

**Staff:** Rich Smith - *General Manager*  
Rosanne Allen - *Executive Assistant*  
Adrienne Waller - *Legal Counsel*  
Laura Procnier - *Controller*  
Barb Sweetland - *Promotion Mgr.*  
Fred Hays - *Policy Analyst*

**Absent:** Brent Carey - *Zone 2*

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

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Addition: 4(h) Report of Drought Sub-committee; 6(h) Wood Buffalo Park update;

(a) Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Chomlak/Bowie:

**“That the Agenda be approved with the changes discussed.”**

Carried

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

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(a) Minutes of the November 2, 2009 conference call:

Motion by Maser/Somerville:

**“That the Minutes of the November 2, 2009 conference be approved as amended.”**

Carried

(b) Minutes of the November 17, 2009 meeting:

Motion by Edge/Eddleston:

**“That the Minutes of the November 17, 2009 meeting be approved as amended.”**

Carried

(c) Minutes of the November 30, 2009 conference call:

Motion by MacLean/Thiessen:

**“That the Minutes of the November 30, 2009 conference be approved as amended.”**

Carried

The ABP election process has been revised to reflect the decisions made by the Board during this conference call.

**3. Financial Report**

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Sawyer updated the Board on the current state of the ABP finances. We have moved a little ahead of last year on marketings.

Motion by Maser/Solverson:

**“That the Financial Report be accepted as presented for information purposes.”**

Carried

**4. Decision Items**

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(a) Selection of Nomination Committee:

Motion by MacLean/Maser:

**“That Janys Boyte, Rob Somerville and Stuart Thiessen be appointed to the nominating committee.”**

Carried

(b) Response to ACFA Letter:

Burton received a letter from ACFA on November 26<sup>th</sup> regarding the administration of the refundable check-off by LIS. A reply was sent to ACFA on December 7<sup>th</sup> stating ABP’s position with respect to administration of the refundable check-off. A copy of this letter also was sent to Dave Burdek, General Manager of Marketing Council.

(c) Review of Proposed Refund Process and Resolutions:

Four documents related to the proposed refund process and amendments to ABP regulations and bylaws have been sent to Marketing Council. The delegate discussion paper on the proposed refund process and the proposed resolutions will be considered by the delegates at the AGM. The amendments to the Commission Regulation will reflect the results of the delegate decisions. These will

be approved by the Board on Wednesday and forwarded to Marketing Council.

(d) Review of By-law Amendment Resolutions:

Waller spoke to the board about getting the by-law amendment resolutions on the floor during the AGM. The Plan Regulations and By-laws are in the AGM package, while the proposed resolutions regarding amendments to the by-laws will be distributed to delegates as they arrive at the AGM.

(e) Review of SRM Program Letter:

ABP has been asked to send a letter to the provincial government supporting the SRM coalition request for a payment to offset the costs of meeting the requirements of the enhanced feed ban on OTM animals. After the last board meeting, it was decided that before we sent a letter regarding helping the processors the board needed to approve it. Since that meeting, we have heard that there was a suggestion at the Beef Value Chain Round Table that any payment should be sent to producers rather than processors. Directors discussed the merits and problems associated with supporting the SRM coalition letter and decided that this was a matter to be decided by the new board.

Motion by Thiessen/Sawyer:

**“Be it resolved that ABP draft a letter for board approval outlining our strong belief that we need SRM harmonization and that during the interim period that we support an SRM offset program provided that the benefits reach the primary producers.”**

Carried

(f) ILC Young Rancher Program:

ABP is being urged to send someone to participate in the Young Ranchers Program at the ILC – USA event held in conjunction with the National Western Stock Show in Denver. Smith asked the Board their opinion about using the AGM to offer this opportunity to all ABP delegates under 35 years old and any other young ranchers nominated by ABP delegates. We could accept the names of any young ranchers who wanted to attend and then draw one name to be the ABP representative.

Motion by Sawyer/Solverson:

**“That ABP support a young rancher attending the International Livestock Congress in January, 2010.”**

Carried

(g) Recreational Access Regulations:

Burton spoke to the Board regarding the current Recreational Access Regulations under the Public Lands Act. These regulations are scheduled for renewal or

review now. A grazing leaseholders working group, in which Schrader represents northern producers, has reviewed the regulations. The regulations appear to provide a good balance between the needs of the leaseholders to protect land and livestock and the rights of recreational users to have access to the land. The working group has recommended that these regulations be renewed for another term and ABP has prepared a draft letter supporting this position.

Motion by Somerville/Chomlak:

**“That the letter be approved and sent to SRD.”**

Carried

(h) Report on Drought sub-committee work:

Sawyer spoke to the board about the AgriRecovery/AgriInsurance programs and our hope to make the programs of more benefit to the primary producers. AFSC told the sub-committee that it would take at least 12 to 18 months before any changes could be made.

Motion by Sawyer/Schrader:

**“That ABP develop a proposal, subject to board approval, to apply for ALMA funding to identify the deficiencies in risk management programs related to forage and pasture insurance and make recommendations for improvements.”**

Carried

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## 5. In Camera

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## 6. Discussion Items

(a) AgriRecovery update:

Burton reported on the meeting that he, Doug Sawyer, Ben Schrader and Rich Smith had with Minister Groeneveld, John Knapp, and Brad Klak last Thursday in Edmonton. Schrader presented ABP’s proposal for AgriRecovery funding to the government, along with the reasoning behind our request. It was confirmed that the Alberta government had made a request to the federal government to initiate the AgriRecovery process. The assessment phase of the process has started and Burton was informed that it would be the end of January, in the best case, before the assessment was completed. The government proposed to assess the costs to the producers, determine what costs would be covered by existing programs, and establish a value for the costs that were not currently covered and would be eligible for AgriRecovery funding.

Smith spoke with Tim Highmore regarding Saskatchewan’s proposal to the federal government for funding support.

Schrader believes that it is imperative that we do not let up on AgriRecovery. We need to keep momentum going and

internally we need to get out press releases and use radio spots to get the message out.

ABP has written a letter to the Minister thanking him for the meeting and confirming his commitment that ABP could take an active role in the assessment process.

(b) FOIP/Conflict of Interest update:

Smith reported to the Board that the official FOIP request has gone to AFSC and their lawyers have acknowledged receipt of it.

(c) Legality of sharing information update:

Waller is looking into the legality of sharing information, such as birth dates, that is collected under regulations of the Animal Health Act. There are questions about what information is proprietary, the ownership of this information, and whether it is legal for the information to be shared. Currently, the Animal Health Act requires producers to submit age information on all animals, while the information is shared by CCIA. Waller will ensure that ABP and CCIA work together on this assessment and will report to the January board meeting.

(d) Review of agenda for AGM:

The Board discussed the agenda for the AGM and has the opportunity to raise questions or issues. Smith spoke to the Board about the order of events during the AGM and explained the process for election of Zone Directors and the Zones Cow/Calf representatives.

(e) Review of hosting list for AGM:

Except for the ESA winners we have no dignitaries to host this year. Smith suggested that this year the new Executive sit together at a table.

(f) Review of resolutions for AGM:

The Board looked at the order of the resolutions and spoke about the procedure for lifting resolutions to the floor or adding a new resolution.

(g) Auditor Resolution:

The Board approved the auditor and budget resolutions and they will be going to the AGM

(h) Update on Wood Buffalo Park:

Brian Chomlak, Murray Kerik and Maartin Braat attended a meeting in November at the Legislature Building with representatives from SRD, ARD, Alberta Parks and the Chief Provincial Veterinarian. They have agreed to find the funding to create a buffer zone around the park and patrol it by plane. Any buffalo found outside the buffer zone will be destroyed. Chomlak will get more information by the end of January.

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## 7. General Information

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(a)

## 8. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

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- (a) BOD Orientation – January 20, 2010, ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB
- (b) Board Meeting – January 21, 2010, ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB
- (c) Board Meeting – February 17, 2010, ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB
- (d) Board Meeting – March 18, 2009, ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB
- (e) Red Meat Reception – April/May, Edmonton, AB TBD
- (f) Board Meeting – April/May, Calgary, AB TBD
- (g) Board Meeting – June, TBD

## 9. Adjournment

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The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m. on a motion by Thiessen.

Carried