

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 2016, 8:00 a.m.
AT THE SHERATON CAVALIER HOTEL, CALGARY, AB**

Present: Bob Lowe - *Chair*
Roland Cailliau - *Vice-Chair*
Howard Bekkering - *Zone 1*
Cecilie Fleming - *Zone 2*
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3*
Tim Smith - *Zone 4*
Kelly Fraser - *Zone 5*
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*
Lyndon Mansell - *Zone 8*
John MacArthur - *Zone 9*
John Buckley - *Director at Large*
Rick Friesen - *Director at Large*
Bryan Thiessen - *CFC Chair*
Greg Bowie - *Past Chair*

Staff: Rich Smith - *Executive Director*
Fred Hays - *Policy Analyst*
Katelyn Laverdure - *Communications*
Laura Procnier - *Controller*
Tom Lynch-Staunton - *Gov't Relations*
Brad Dubeau - *Mrktg & Education*
Rosanne Allen - *Executive Assistant*

Absent: Melanie Wowk - *CCC Chair*

Guests: Heinz Lemmer - *Zone 3 delegate*
Ken Stanley - *Zone 7 CFC*
Penny Patton - *Zone 7 delegate*

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

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Adoption of Agenda:

Motion by Bekkering/Buckley:

“That the agenda be approved as presented.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of the November 17, 2016 meeting:

Motion by Friesen/Sekura:

**“That the minutes of the November 17, 2016
Board of Directors meeting be accepted as
amended.”**

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending November 30, 2016:

The financial statement was presented to the directors. There was nothing remarkable in the financial statements except for an inconsistency between marketing numbers on the highlights page and the expenses page. Procnier later provided the correct number. Expenses are at expected levels for this point in the fiscal year. The AGM expenses will be incurred this week and will show up in the January statement.

Motion by Cailliau/Israelson:

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

Carried

4. Policy and Governance Issues

(a) Policy Issues and Governance Issues:

Fleming led this session and did not go into a lot of detail on specific policies because the board will be changing over the next few days, but stressed the directors need to own the process and we will have our best governance when the directors become involved with it. Those directors who stay on the board need to become mentors for those who are beginning. If we believe in governance, we all need to be a part of the process.

Lowe asked for an update on a proposal for governance and executive coaching. R. Smith is still in the process of finding additional quotes for this coaching. He will have potential options for the Board at the January Board meeting.

5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Environment Committee:

Cows and fish have a strategic planning session scheduled for January. There will be a joint meeting of the CCC, Wildlife Committee and Environment Committee on the evening of December 5th to discuss ecological goods and services.

(b) Research Committee:

Nothing to report at this time

(c) Wildlife Committee:

In the Rocky Mountain House area, there is an issue with wolves and there will be a meeting in January in which some MLA's will be taking part.

The committee will be meeting briefly after dinner on December 5th with the Environment Committee and CCC.

(d) Cattle Feeder Council:

Nothing to report at this time

(e) Cow Calf Council:

Nothing to report at this time

6. Decision Items

(a) TB Case Update and Actions:

During the last week in November, an additional 12 premises were added to the six premises that had been identified as the location of the infected herd. There are still only six confirmed bTB cases, but around 50 premises are under quarantine. ABP hosted a conference call for the producers affected by the quarantine on December 2, 2016. The call included several representatives from Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), including the Incident Commander from the Emergency Operations Centre in Calgary. The call went very well and the producers seemed to appreciate the information they received on the call.

The CFIA is proceeding as quickly as possible with the testing of herds and the slaughter of animals from the premises of the infected herd. After live testing, non-reactor animals are processed for meat subject to routine post-mortem examinations at the plant. Reactor animals and calves are slaughtered and rendered with the reactor animals. There are no tests for calves under one year of age. The CFIA is hoping to complete the testing on infected premises before Christmas.

The aggressive approach to depopulation of infected premises and comprehensive tracing in to and out of the infected herd is necessary to maintain Canada's bTB-free status. The CFIA is facing challenges finding processing plants to deal with the animals from the infected herd, but is working hard to find more capacity. The CFIA has worked with ABP to develop a protocol for placing quarantined calves in terminal feedlots. Now, we are trying to determine how many quarantined producers would want to send their calves to a feedlot and find a feedlot willing to take these calves.

We were pleased that the federal and provincial governments announced that AgriRecovery funding will be provided to producers affected by the disease investigation and there is a commitment to begin sending these funds very soon. Clearly, there are still many questions about cleaning and disinfection of premises, future use of the community pastures, the fate of other species on the infected premises, and the number of herds that ultimately will be quarantined because of tracing related to the infected herd. Many of these decisions will be significantly influenced by the results of the ongoing testing.

Ken Stanley reminded the board that there are producers that have not been able to harvest their crops because of

the weather. A lot of these producers are under as much stress as the producers affected by bTB and some of them are in an even worse financial situation.

(b) Selection of Nominating Committee:

ABP always appoints a small committee to gather nominations for the positions available through elections during the AGM. The nominating committee members are producers who will not be seeking any of these positions.

Cailliau nominated Greg Bowie and Rick Friesen to be the nominating committee for the 2016 AGM

Motion by Cailliau/Fleming:

“That Greg Bowie and Rick Friesen act as the Nominating Committee for the 2016 AGM.”

Carried

(c) Zone Election Ballot Counters:

The Board needs to provide authorization for Rich Smith and Laura Procnier to act as ballot counters for the zone elections held after the Board meeting.

Motion by Friesen/Fraser:

“That Rich Smith and Laura Procnier act as ballot counters for the zone elections.”

Carried

(d) CIP Epidemiological Project:

Since the National Cattle Traceability Summit in Saskatoon during 2011, the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) has been working, through its Cattle Implementation Plan (CIP) Committee, with the CFIA on the development of appropriate traceability regulations amendments supporting a functional national traceability systems for the cattle sector. This has been a challenging process because the CFIA keeps proposing regulations that are not consistent with the CIP and our Guiding Principles for Beef Cattle Traceability.

Now, the CFIA is proposing a requirement for passive reading of individual animals arriving at intermediate sites and scanning of animals moving out of intermediate sites and individual operations. Both of these requirements are contrary to the CIP and guiding principles. The CFIA is using a specific epidemiological study as the justification for these requirements and the CCIA wishes to have a team of experts perform in independent review of the epidemiological study, the proposed regulatory amendments, and the CIP recommendations. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada will not provide funding for this third-party review and the CCIA is prepared to provide funding for the project subject to industry matching these funds. ABP has received a request from the CCIA for funding on the amount of \$5,000 for this project.

Motion by Fleming/Israelson:

“That ABP support the Cattle Implementation Plan Epidemiological Project proposal with up to \$5000 in funding.”

Carried

(e) Review of AGM Agenda and Resolutions:

R. Smith reviewed the agenda for the AGM and gave a quick synopsis of the events over the following few days. He also encouraged the directors to participate in the resolutions debate.

(f) Review of AGM election procedures:

R. Smith briefly reviewed the elections that would happen during the AGM and their processes.

(g) CCA Budget Process – Thiessen:

On December 8, 2016, Thiessen has an executive meeting at CCA to discuss the budget. Thiessen has spoken with the CCA about how their budget is determined and what should be done to make the CCA budget better aligned with changes in provincial service charge revenue.

Thiessen is suggesting that the CCA should establish a provincial assessment process that would be applied on a per marketing basis and include the current special assessments with the idea that the CCA would build its own reserves to cover special assessments. The directors agreed with Thiessen’s approach to the CCA budget process and expressed their support of his recommendation.

(h) ABP Representation at NCBA Convention:

For many years, ABP has sent the Executive and the Executive Director to the NCBA convention. ABP has seen significant value in having our representatives build relationships with key U.S. producers and gain an understanding of the major issues affecting the U.S. industry.

Motion moved and seconded:

“That the ABP Board approve the Executive and Rich Smith attending the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association conference in February 2017.”

Carried

7. In Camera

8. Discussion Items

(a) Report on ACFA Meeting – Lowe:

Lowe and Fraser met with Ryan Kasko and Leighton Kolk, from the Alberta Cattle Feeder Association (ACFA) Board, to discuss the ACFA resolution that is coming to the AGM and future direction on industry funding. Lowe told the

ACFA representatives that ABP will continue discussions with ACAF on the topic of industry funding, but we also will be going ahead with our proposal for a conditional non-refundable service charge to the provincial government. Lowe suggested that directors make strong efforts to speak with as many MLA’s as possible before the Spring sitting of the legislature, preferably having two ABP people at the meetings. We also should consider some type of MLA reception or dinner before the Spring sitting.

(b) Strengthening Investment in R&D – Lowe:

The final major activity for Phase Two of the work on Strengthening Investment in R&D in Alberta’s Livestock and Poultry Sector was a meeting in Nisku on November 28, 2016. The board, commission, and association representatives at this meeting agreed to move forward with the implementation of the key recommendations from Phase Two. A small committee will be established to meet with senior government officials to determine where government R&D funds will be invested, how the investments will be made, and how much will be invested. The committee will meet with the Agriculture Funding Consortium and begin developing a strategic planning process for livestock and poultry research and development. ABP will participate on the committee and contribute a modest amount of funding to this process.

(c) Alberta Beef Quality Starts Here update:

Had the AGM and are moving forward with VBP+ implementation. Waiting for the results of the equivalency evaluations on VBP+, ProAction, the CRSB Indicators, and the Feedlot Animal Care Assessment Tool.

(d) CBCOA/Canada Beef Inc update:

Melinda German will be speaking on behalf of the Agency at the AGM and James Bradbury will be presenting the results of the Canada Beef consumer research. The Agency has changed its trade name to the Canadian Beef Check-off Agency (CBCOA) from National Check-Off Agency (NCOA) to better identify the Agency as a beef organizations. Canada Beef continues its search for their senior staff member.

(e) Zone reports:

No reports at this time

9. Reading Materials

(a) Beef Supply at a Glance:

10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

(a) Annual General Meeting – December 5-7, 2016.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Campbell at 11:00 a.m.