

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE WILDLIFE WORKING GROUP MEETING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2015, 8:30 a.m.
AT THE ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS OFFICE, CALGARY, ALBERTA**

Present: Rick McKnight - *Chair*
Walt Suntjens - *CCC Rep*
Gordon Graves - *CCC Rep*
Darren Bevans - *EC Rep*

Staff: Fred Hays - *Policy Analyst*

Guests: Kim Good - *Miistakis Institute*
Tracy Lee

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

1. Adoption of Agenda

This meeting was a session to deal with the Miistakis "Economic Impact of Wildlife to Beef Producers in Alberta".

Motion by Graves/Bevans:

"That the agenda be approved."

Carried

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of May 2, 2014 meeting:

Motion by Graves/Suntjens:

"That the Minutes from the June 9, 2014 Wildlife Working Group meeting be approved."

Carried

(b) Minutes of December 1, 2014 meeting:

Motion by Suntjens/Graves:

"That the Minutes of the December 1, 2014 Wildlife Working Group meeting be approved."

Carried

(c) Minutes of February 5, 2015 conference call:

A conference call on February 5, 2015 did not have a quorum, or minutes. It was acknowledged that direction had been recorded with input after the meeting by a supporting email.

3. Financial Statement

(a) Financial Statement from the previous meeting was not presented.

4. Decision Items

(a) Miistakis Economic Impact of Wildlife Report:

Kim Good and Tracy Lee presented the latest version of their report.

The Working Group discussed the report for interpretation and clarity.

Motion by Graves/Bevans:

"That the final report be presented to the Board at their next meeting on March 19, 2015."

Carried

DIRECTION: to develop a short summary of the study with less than 10 pages available for producers.

It was anticipated having the main document available if requested but making this summary available to producers, the farm papers and for other general requests.

A few specific items were to be addressed by Miistakis.

- (a) Changing the title to "Impact of Wildlife to Beef Producers in Alberta" followed by a subtitle "Starting the Conversation".
- (b) Clarifying number presentation such as percent times percent to include absolute percent for zone or province.
- (c) Clarity in the report of economic impact, economic loss and economic cost as discussed.
- (d) Clarification of the assessment of numbers that are extension computations. For example, clarity of the use of "animal" numbers/percent or "producer" numbers/percent for determining "cost" or "percent" projections or estimations.
- (e) Consultation with an external agricultural economist/specialist for agreement on economic or cost projections.
- (f) A final estimated total cost or impact to the beef producers for total predication, ungulates and birds in the province.
- (g) A short producer summary less than 10 pages that has the high points of the study.
- (h) It was requested of Miistakis to have the final report available for presentation next Board Meeting on March 19, 2015.

Some of the report recommendations needed to have better industry focused. The members were going to review these and offer improvement suggestions early the following week.

5. In Camera

6. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

TBD

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bevans at 11:50 a.m.