

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2017, 8:30 a.m.
AT THE ABP BOARD ROOM, CALGARY, AB**

Present: Bob Lowe - *Chair*
Roland Cailliau - *Vice Chair*
Kelly Fraser - *Finance, Zone 5*
Howard Bekkering - *Zone 1*
Fred Lozeman - *Zone 2 (by phone)*
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3*
Tim Smith - *Zone 4*
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*
Melanie Wowk - *Zone 8 (by phone)*
John MacArthur - *Zone 9 (by phone)*
Brad Osadcuk - *At Large*
Ken Stanley - *At Large*
Bryan Thiessen - *CFC Chair*

Staff: Rich Smith - *Executive Director*
Rosanne Allen - *Executive Assistant*
Fred Hays - *Policy Analyst*
Laura Procnier - *Controller*

Absent: George L'Heureux - *Zone 8*
Garth Porteous - *At Large*
Penny Patton - *CCC Chair*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Additions and Adoption of Agenda:

Additions: 6(i) Occupational Health & Safety:

Motion by Bekkering/T. Smith:

“That the agenda be approved with additions.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of the October 19, 2017 meeting:

Motion by Stanley/Osadcuk:

**“That the minutes of the October 19, 2017
Board of Directors meetings be approved.”**

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending October 31, 2017:

Fraser presented the financial statement to the Board. Marketings are up 50,000 head over this period last year. We are 58% through the fiscal year and have spent 55% of the budget.

Motion by Fraser/Bekkering:

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

Carried

4. Policy and Governance Issues

(a) Harassment (respect) Policy – proper respect for staff and colleagues:

R. Smith asked to have this item on the agenda after a delegate made some inappropriate remarks to a staff member. We don't currently have a harassment policy and he will work with the Governance Committee to create a policy dealing with respect for staff and delegates.

5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Cow Calf Council:

There will be an Ecological Services working group meeting soon.

(b) Cattle Feeder Council:

Nothing to report

(c) Research Committee:

Schmid is still working through the proposals. There was a conference call on November 10th to discuss the proposals. Decided to support a study on transportation looking at resting time for cattle.

6. Decision Items

(a) Fall Meeting Review:

The board package included a copy of the attendance statistics for this year along with a comparison to last years numbers. R. Smith reminded the Zone Directors that they needed to submit copies of the producer engagement activity from their fall meetings. The Directors discussed how the meetings went and some of their concerns arising from the meetings. Overall the meetings went well, and attendance was okay.

FCC and AFSC want to work with ABP on succession planning for farmers and ranchers.

(b) Zone delegate vacancy appointments:

Motion by T. Smith/Osadczyk:

“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the 2-year appointment of Colin McNiven as the Zone 4 Cattle Feeder Council delegate.”

Carried

Motion by Campbell/Stanley:

“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the 2-year appointment of Glen Kummer as a Zone 7 delegate.”

Carried

Motion by Cailliau/Stanley:

“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the 1-year appointment of Lyndon Mansell as a Zone 8 delegate.”

Carried

Motion by Israelson/Cailliau:

“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the 2-year appointment of Graeme Finn as a Zone 3 delegate.”

Carried

Motion by Lozeman/Fraser:

“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the 1-year appointment of Shane Hansen as a Zone 2 delegate.”

Carried

(c) AGM plans:

The AGM will have a focus this year on ABP business. Since the In Camera was so well received by delegates at the Semi-Annual meeting another one will be held with the delegates after the first coffee break on Monday afternoon. R. Smith gave the directors a brief synopsis of the presentations and suggested that the board create a resolution asking the government to start the procedures for having a plebiscite that can be discussed by the delegates at the meeting.

(d) Strengthening Investment in R&D:

After the provincial government disbanded ALMA a group of livestock and poultry organizations came together to discuss creating a committee that would give the government input into funding for research and development for our industries. A copy of the proposal was in the Board package and Lowe explained to the directors what ‘*A Strategic Statement on Investment in Research and Development from Alberta’s Livestock and Poultry Producers*’ is proposing to the government.

In the new year an advisory council will be set up to make recommendations to the government on research funding.

Research funding has fallen drastically since ALMA was first funded.

The Directors need to make a decision on a letter of support at the December Board meeting. The directors were asked to read the material and be prepared to discuss it then.

(e) Industry funding strategy – ACFA meeting:

The intent of the meeting on November 24th is to move forward with the concept that was approved by both boards. The next step is to get something in writing. Nothing done between the organizations will become a part of our regulations. Part of the plebiscite process is having information meetings. The other topic will be the Beef Industry Development Fund and what it will look like and should include education. Anything that is discussed will come back to the next board meeting and then discussed with the delegates at the AGM In Camera.

In the Zone 2 meetings Lowe felt there was a lot of support from the producers for the concept that has been discussed with ACFA. Stanley stated that the meetings in his zones were against the concept.

Once we make the request and Marketing Council approves the plebiscite they need to approach the Cabinet to create the plebiscite, what it would look like and how it would be structured.

(f) ABP response to antimicrobial use legislative and policy changes:

After speaking with Thiessen, R. Smith asked Karin Schmid to put together an information document for the directors. Also included in the package was the letter that was sent by ABP to the government last year.

Thiessen presented a resolution that the directors will be voting on. Thiessen suggested that ABP write a letter to government stating our concerns and speak with other industry organizations about the concerns with the current prescription structure. Some of the smaller vet practices really don’t want this type of legislation because of the increase in work and responsibility that will come out of it.

Motion by Thiessen/Campbell:

“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the provincial government to update the appropriate legislation to require the use of veterinary prescriptions when dealing with medically important antimicrobials for food production animals, with reasonable checks and balances, while at the same time working to expand the distribution network of these products that respects natural flow of commerce (i.e. Authorized Medicine Sales Outlets), the importance of competition within the market, the changes in technology while also recognizing the geographical distribution of

Alberta’s producers and the limitations of restricted distribution.”

Carried

DIRECTION: R. Smith will send letters to the government and the Chief Provincial Vet before the end of November.

(g) Review and input on CCA priorities:

A summary of the CCA priorities was in the board package. CCA is in the process of changing how its budgeting structure is developed. The summary shows what is of importance to CCA but not how much of the budget is dedicated to the priorities. R. Smith will request percentages for each priority and send the information to the directors for discussion at the December board meeting.

(h) Alberta wildfire assistance:

There has been some investigation of what has been happening regarding producer assistance. The affected farmers and ranchers are presenting costs to the government next week. The governments position is that the fires don’t trigger an AgriRecovery cost because they can be covered under AgriInsurance and AgriStability. The Saskatchewan government has said they are not doing AgriRecovery so far and are trying to cover costs through government programs. BC has been given \$20 million through AgriRecovery. What actions should ABP be taking? There are a few producers that lost their entire herds in the fire and they need help. There were six fires in Alberta and each began from different causes.

Motion by Osadczuk/Israelson:

“That ABP pursue AgriRecovery support for the producers affected by the Alberta wildfires.”

Carried

There are still producers in Zone 7 who are unable to get into their fields to get their crops off because the ground is still to wet.

(i) Occupational Health & Safety update:

The last two working groups created under Bill 6 have made their recommendations. There are about 140 recommendations and the government will have open consultation until the middle of January. ABP has been invited to participate in a conference call with the government on the recommendations. ACFA and Alberta Pork will also be participating in the conference call. Bill 6 only covers paid non-family employees.

7. In Camera

8. Discussion Items

(a) Ottawa Fly In report:

Cailliau, Lowe and Campbell went to Ottawa November 6th to meet with Alberta MP’s. They discussed trade; proposed changes in taxes; the environment, environmental footprint and climate change. Cailliau felt it is important to keep in touch with the government and we need to remind them of the issues that are important to the industry. Lowe and Campbell discussed NAFTA and TPP; research, BCRC and funding the beef cluster; and, food policy. In the future if we could make more of an effort to speaking with MP’s that have opposing views to ours. Fraser was unable to attend.

(b) bTB Update:

Karin Schmid, Beef Production Specialist, provided an update to the directors. 20 animals out of the 6900 tested have been destroyed. They are just about done with the trace-in testing and should be finished by Christmas. There is one trace-in herd under quarantine and waiting for the results of tests. \$48 million has been paid in compensation for animals destroyed.

On wildlife there 1258 elk have been tested but nothing was found. Over the next three years there will be more active surveillance and testing of elk for TB. The government extended the tax deferral for producers who received funding in 2016-2017. Producers who needed to sell breeding animals because of the drought have also received a tax deferral for this year.

(c) Landowner Special Licenses Working Group:

A sub-committee under the Alberta Game Policy Advisory Committee are recommending that land owners no longer be allowed to get special licenses for antlered mule deer. This recommendation will be discussed at the AGPAC meeting during the AGM and ABP has created a working group with Darren Bevans, Nicole Viste, Mike Nadeau and Cam McLerie to address this issue. Darren Bevans will be attending the AGPAC meeting. The working group will have to look at different options for the landowner special licenses.

(d) Federal tax changes update:

MNP spoke at a couple of fall meetings. It sounds like the Federal government is taking some steps back in their proposed tax changes. ABP has approved funding for MNP to access the impact the changes will have on feedlots.

(e) Board meeting frequency:

This issue came up at one of the fall meetings. the Board currently meets 10 times a year and R. Smith wondered if the Board could be more effective meeting 6 or 7 times a year. This would place responsibility on the Executive Director to provide updates to the Board between meetings and place responsibility on the Directors to review the information between meetings. There may also be a need for conference calls between meetings. It is not something

that needed to be decided today but may be discussed with the new Board.

representative on Alberta Beef Quality Starts Here.”

Carried

(f) Zone reports:

Zone 1: The zone will be attending the Medicine Hat Pen Show from December 15th to 16th and will have someone from VBP+.

Zone 2: Nothing to report at this time

Zone 3: Nothing to report at this time

Zone 4: Some of the delegates attended Beef Tech with mixed results.

Zone 5: Had a booth at AgriTrade but there was difficulty getting zone delegates to help with the booth. Virgil Lowe was there one day talking about VBP+. This is a big event in the zone but if we cannot get people to help at the booth who are conversant with ABP information it may be better to not attend, or have it become an ABP event. Next week there is a Clearwater County Cattle Show that is sponsored by the zone.

Zone 6: We were at Farm Fair

Zone 7: Nothing to report at this time

Zone 8: George has resigned as the Zone Director but will remain as a CFC delegate

Zone 9: The grizzly issue is moving forward, and the pasture manager has been charged. Linda Messner attended the Women’s Show in Grande Prairie where she presented the Roundup App. There is still a demand for the recipe books.

9. Reading Materials

(a) Beef Supply at a Glance:

10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

- (a) New Delegate Orientation – November 22, 2017 – ABP Office, Calgary, AB
- (b) Board of Directors Meeting – December 4, 2017 – Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Calgary, AB
- (c) Annual General Meeting – December 4-6, 2017 – Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Calgary, AB

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Thiessen at 2:00 p.m.

Addendum to Minutes through email decision:

Motion by Lozeman/Bekkering:

“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the re-appointment of Cecilie Fleming as their