

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 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*
Fred Lozeman - *Zone 2*
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3*
Tim Smith - *Zone 4*
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*
George L'Heureux - *Zone 8*
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*
Brad Osadczuk - *Director at Large*
Garth Porteous - *Director at Large*
Ken Stanley - *Director at Large*
Bryan Thiessen - *CFC Chair*

Staff: Rich Smith - *Executive Director*
Rosanne Allen - *Executive Assistant*
Fred Hays - *Policy Analyst*
Laura Procutinier - *Controller*
Karin Schmid - *Beef Production*

Absent: Howard Bekkering - *Zone 1*
John MacArthur - *Zone 9*
Penny Patton - *CCC Chair*

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Additions and adoption of agenda:

Additions: 8(d) Federal Taxation Changes moved to 6(i);
8(j) Grazing lease update;

Motion by Lozeman/Sekura:

“That the agenda be approved with additions.”

Carried

2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

(a) Minutes of the July 20, 2017 meeting and the August 4, 2017 conference call:

Motion by Porteous/Osadczuk:

“That the minutes of the July 20, 2017 Board of Directors meeting and the August 4, 2017 Board of Directors conference call be approved.”

Carried

3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending August 31, 2017:

The financial statement was presented by Fraser and there was nothing significant to report. We are 41% through the fiscal year with 38% of the budget spent. Marketings are up slightly.

Motion by Fraser/Lozeman:

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

Carried

(b) Service Charge Refund Report:

The latest refund period has 395 refund requests. \$1,103,636 in refunds reported, 34% of the service charge collected. The amount is down slightly from the same period last year but level and distribution of refunds same.

4. Policy and Governance Issues

(a) Governance Manual Update:

The committee met last week and made a number of updates to the manual. R. Smith asked the directors to review the manual and let him know if there are any amendments. It will be on the agenda to approve it at the next board meeting. Committee is not recommending any changes to the honorarium structure.

5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Cattle Feeder Council:

Nothing to report at this time.

(b) Research Committee:

Have received the full proposals that the committee has decided to support and they are currently out for peer review.

(c) Cow Calf Council:

There will be a meeting on October 3rd. Request to speak with Sean Royer to speak about carbon credits. ALUS received another \$500,000 donation from Bissett

Campbell has had three conversations with Jeff Bectall and they are developing some speaking points about wildlife compensation rate proposals. Want compensation taken out of Fish and Wildlife. Developing 5 speaking points to approach the government with. Campbell stressed that we need to speak with political members if we want to see any changes.

6. Decision Items

(a) Delegate Election Update:

Procurier has sent the directors the update on the delegate nominations and which zones will be having an election. There will be a number of new young members.

Directors discussed how we can get interest from the producers to become delegates. There will be an election in four zones and there are 6 delegate vacancies.

(b) Industry Funding Update and Strategy:

The regulation amendment the Board approved in August is now on the agenda for the Marketing Council meeting taking place September 14th. Unless something happens to stop the amendment, it should come into effect April 1, 2018.

Marketing Council was able to find out the results of the last plebiscite on a non-refundable check-off. ABP hosted meetings across Alberta where producers could come and hear about the issues and vote. At the time, there were 32,000 producers in Alberta as opposed to the 18,000 there is now.

The framework for the last plebiscite could be used as a framework for any future plebiscites.

The Alberta Cattle Feeders Association meeting resulted in four or five recommendations on service charges. They will be having a conference call to choose one.

(c) Fall Meeting Plans:

No formal plans have been made for fall meetings yet until we knew more about funding. It was suggested that the zones talk about what the producers discussed last year and what ABP has done to address their concerns. Discussion on the updates to the grazing lease rates should also be presented to the producers. A power point presentation will be created for the zones to present at the fall meetings. The Dynamic Duo exercise will also be done this year, the directors will decide on the questions at the October meeting. It was also suggested that each zone decide which are the top three choices for the zone to bring forward after the meetings.

One of the Zones will be having a Sunday meeting but asked the directors if this is something that they should not consider in the future. The directors agreed that it is up to the Zone but should recognize that it may be hard to get anyone from the Executive out to the meeting.

(d) Agency By-laws Response:

In advance of the Agency AGM they circulated some By-law amendments. They would establish two divisions in the agency. Melinda German is the CEO of the National Agency and Francis Andres is the CEO of Canada Beef. ABP put forward a resolution at the AGM that was carried and ABP has until next Friday to respond to the By-law changes.

The Board provided direction to express our concerns about the unnecessary check-off divisions and the board structure for Canada Beef.

The increase of \$2.50 will be going into effect April 1 and ABP will have the opportunity to decide where the money will go at that time. Not all provinces are giving BCRC and Issues Management the money they requested under the National Beef Strategy. The suggestion was made that ABP make up the shortfall in the funding for BCRC and Issues Management by adjusting our allocation.

(e) Ottawa Fly In – November 7, 2017:

Scheduled another fly-in for November. Lowe, Fraser and Cailliau have indicated that they can attend but one more director is needed. They will fly out the Monday night and return late Tuesday or early Wednesday morning.

Directors who have gone said that it is a very good experience and anyone who hasn't gone should really go. Campbell and Israelson said they may be able to go and will get back to R. Smith.

(f) CBIC Foundation Calcutta:

Fraser, Lowe and Osadczuk bought a Calcutta team in the ranch rodeo at the Canadian Beef Industry Conference. The Calcutta was a fundraiser for the Canadian Cattlemen's Foundation which invests in youth, the environment and research on behalf of the Canadian beef industry. The money used for purchasing the team not check-off funds but personal money.

(g) FAA Convention:

The Feeders Association annual convention is February 2nd and 3rd in Red Deer. ABP has attended in the past with a booth and will consider attending this year.

(h) Fundraiser Auction for Macy Stewart (Erika Strande's daughter):

Erika Strande was a Cattlemen's Young Leader and President of the Young Cattlemen's Council. Her daughter has been diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer and there is a fundraiser to help with costs for travel and treatment. The director's decided it was not appropriate to invest producer money in the fundraiser but director's will contribute personal funds and we will circulate the fundraising information to delegates.

(i) Federal Taxation Changes:

There are changes to taxation for private corporations. The CCA was part of a coalition of small business that have sent a letter to the government. MNP is conducting a study for CCA and other national organization on the impact of the tax changes and has offered to prepare specific reports for each province.

Motion by Thiessen/St Stanley:

“That ABP should support the MNP Taxation Study for up to \$5000.”

Carried

7. In Camera

8. Discussion Items

(a) ABQSH Funding:

There have been positive talks with the government that there will be funding for ABQSH so the money ABP has set aside to backstop ABQSH should not be needed. They are waiting for a letter confirming the funding.

ABQSH needs to see some progress in becoming self-sustaining within the next three years and they will be setting some deadlines to achieve that.

(b) bTB update – Schmid:

We are in the early stages of testing the trace-in herds. Originally, they were looking at 150 herds but that number has been reduced to around 66 herds. A few of the trace-in herds have already been tested. Producers who have double-reactors will be eligible for early release from quarantine if their histo comes back negative. Many of the affected producers have started restocking. All the producers in trace-in have a case officer assigned to them and communication seems to be good. It appears that the bulk of the testing will be done after Thanksgiving and into November.

Schmid confirmed that she would have something written up for the fall meetings. There is a plan under discussion of wildlife surveillance moving forward.

(c) Canadian Beef Industry Conference Report:

The tour was very successful this year. ABP went from one bus to two buses this year. The tour began with the U of C Vet school, went to different locations and did a successful job of showing the different areas of Alberta industry. Fraser did an excellent job putting the tour together. The tour ended with the Canadian Beef Centre of Excellence and dinner.

The rest of the conference was also an enormous success with more than 700 people registered. The conference will be in London, Ontario next year.

The ABP representatives to the CCA Board spoke about the various committees that they sit on updating the board on the discussions that took place in the various committee meetings.

CCA will be moving forward with a set assessment per marketing.

(d) Sustainability Pilot Project:

Virgil Lowe will be speaking about the Canadian Beef Sustainability Acceleration Pilot at the October board meeting. Cargill, VBP+ and BIXs are all partners in this. Producers will be registered through VBP+ and would have to register with BIXs to acquire credits under this program.

(e) Winnipeg Conservation Meeting – Lowe:

Lowe attended this meeting between CCA and as many credible conservation organizations as possible. Lowe was there representing CSRB. They met with Manitoba Heritage, NCC, CPASS, ALUS, DU chaired it with Dennis Laycraft from CCA. The organization agreed on the need for native grasslands preservation. They will encourage the government to recognize grasslands and why they are important.

(f) OH&S Review:

The government is still looking at other aspects of labour legislation and are now looking at an overall review of the occupational health and safety system. ABP was asked to send a representative to the consultations and Charlie Christie attended the meeting on September 8th. Overall Christie felt that the strong message that came out of the meeting was that we need more education not more legislation.

DIRECTION: ABP should work to create a practical approach to risk assessment and safety training for cattle producers.

(g) Canadian Food Guide:

The response to the guide by the industry has been strong. To the extent that industry can have influence on it we are actively trying to address the issues. ABP's participation was part of the public consultations.

(h) PNWER report:

PNWER was very well attended by the Alberta government and federal government. Cailliau provided a report on the meetings that is available in the package and briefly highlighted some of the key points in the report.

(i) Zone reports:

Zone 1: There will be a BBQ next week; 2 new delegates have joined the zone.

Zone 2: 2 new delegates and 1 returning delegate; there is some concern among producers in the area about the release of bison by the Blackfeet Nation in Montana and what will happen when they cross the border. Producers are dependent on government to limit livestock movement but, if the bison designation changes from livestock to wildlife producers would be unable to stop them crossing the border

Zone 3: there are two vacancies; co-sponsored a Rally for the River event in Red Deer watershed.

Zone 4: will be having a zone meeting to make plans for the fall meetings.

Zone 5: have a zone meeting coming up; did a Ronald McDonald House steak dinner

Zone 6: having a zone meeting to discuss fall meetings

Zone 7: had a zone meeting last week; concerned about ACFA and taxation changes.

Zone 8: will be having a zone meeting to discuss fall meeting schedule; donated \$1000 to Haying in the 30's.

Zone 9: Nothing to report at this time.

(j) Grazing lease update:

On the Grazing Lease Rental Framework, the government asked us to have the letter reviewed by a lawyer to make sure it is trade friendly. R. Smith is sending it to the CCA lawyer in Washington, DC for review. Following the review the letter will be sent to all grazing leaseholders in Alberta.

9. Reading Materials

- (a) BOD Resolutions and Action Items:
- (b) Beef Supply at a Glance:

10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

- (a) Board meeting – October 19, 2017, ABP Boardroom, Calgary, AB
- (b) Resolution Committee Conference Call – November 15, 2017
- (c) Board meeting – November 16, 2017, ABP Boardroom, Calgary, AB
- (d) New Delegate Orientation – November 22, 2017, ABP Office, Calgary, AB
- (e) Annual General Meeting – December 4 – 6, 2017, Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Calgary, AB

11. Adjournment

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