**MONDAY DECEMBER 2, 2019**

1. **Call to Order**

Charlie Christie called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. and welcomed everyone to meeting. This is our opportunity to reflect on the last year and on the fall meetings. This is an exciting time for the organization with some changes coming to the structure. Christie challenged the delegates to get out there and get in touch with the producers one on one.

1. Approval of the Chairs:

Motion by Charlie Christie/Chris Israelson:

**“That Cecilie Fleming and Howard Bekkering be approved as Chairs for the 2019 Annual General Meeting.”**

Carried

1. Introduction of Delegates:

Cecilie Fleming welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. Before lunch the elections were held for Zone Director and Cow Calf Council. Fleming invited the new Zone Directors to introduce the delegates and CCC member.

1. Rules of Procedure:

Fleming spoke briefly on the rules citing a few of them for the delegates.

1. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Shelia Hillmer/Melanie Wowk:

**“That the agenda for the 2019 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.”**

Carried

1. Approval of 2018 AGM and 2019 Semi-Annual General Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Colin Campbell/Brad Osadczuk:

**“That the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting and the 2019 Semi-Annual General Meeting be approved as presented in the 2019 AGM Report.”**

Carried

1. **ABP Chair Report**

Charlie Christie presented his report to the delegate and guests. Christie talked about the weather challenges producers have faced; trade benefits and challenges; cattle markets and cow herds that were not growing. He spoke of events over the last year since the plebiscite decision; the regulatory review; benefits of continued collaboration with ACFA. The successes we have had with government relations and advocacy; grazing lease rental rate framework; Farm Freedom Safety Act; farmer-led research. He finished with investments in research; progress in marketing and education programs and the effectiveness of communications using social media.

Motion by Trish Vachon/Emil Dmytriw:

**“That the Chair’s report be accepted as presented.”**

Carried

1. **Finance Report**
2. Acceptance of 2018/19 Financial Statements:

Melanie Wowk, Finance Chair, presented the 2018-2019 audited statements to the delegates. She thanked Laura Procunier for her guidance and hard work over the last two years.

1. Motion by Melanie Wowk/Chris Israelson:

“Be it resolved that the 2018-2019 ABP audited financial statement and auditor’s report be accepted.”

Board

Carried

1. Motion by Melanie Wowk/Shane Hanson:

“Be it resolved that the firm of Kingston Ross Pasnak chartered accountants be appointed as auditors for the 2019-2020 year-end audit.”

Carried

Motion by Melanie Wowk/Joanne Solverson:

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

Carried

1. **Review of Afternoon Agenda**

Fleming reviewed the agenda for the afternoon and then called on Rich Smith to present the review of ABP plans and operation. The In Camera session was moved to 2:00 p.m.

1. **Review of ABP Plan & Fall Meeting Input**

Rich Smith presented the strategic objectives and the work and progress that has been done over the last year to address them. The delegates are invited every year to give input into the objectives. Smith spoke about the ABP research program; education and marketing; and the results of our communications department.

1. **Final Call for Nominations for Cow Calf Council Members at Large and Cattle Feeder Council Members at Large**

Fleming called for final nominations for Cow Calf Council and Cattle Feeder Council.

1. **Delegate In Camera Session**
2. **Speeches for Cow Calf Council Members At Large Candidates**

Motion by Walt Suntjens/Craig Lehr:

**“That Samuel Vallejos and Janelle Hancock be approved as ballot counters.”**

Carried

Jill Burkhardt

Tim Smith

Gary These

1. **Election of Cow Calf Council Members at Large**

Jill Burkhardt

Tim Smith

Gary These

1. **Speeches for Cattle Feeder Council Delegates At Large Candidates**

Chris Israelson

Joanne Solverson

1. **Election of Cattle Feeder Council Delegates at Large**

Chris Israelson

Joanne Solverson

1. **Public & Stakeholder Engagement**

Amie Peck gave an update on issues management to the general assembly. Peck spoke about media cover and the positive stories that have been seen over the last year; social media advocacy; partner videos with Waldron Ranch and *‘Guardians of the Grasslands’* video; public outreach; external outreach; future promotions, activities and upcoming projects.

1. **Adjournment**

The meeting was recessed at 4:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY DECEMBER 3, 2019**

1. **Call to Order**

Cecilie Fleming called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. **Canadian Beef Check-Off Agency Report**

Melinda German gave the assembly a quick update on the progress of the Agency over the last year. German spoke of the structure of the Agency; revenue and allocations for the last year; funding projections; inspection program; benefits of check-off to producers; focus of future inspections and Agency to-do list.

1. **BCRC Report**

Reynold Bergen, BCRC, spoke of the benefits of BCRC and focused on two specific projects that they are involved in: i) McDonalds and how antibiotics are used in their supply chain. They are implementing a strategy and timeline on reducing antibiotics in the supply chain. ii) Transport Regulations and the changes to the movement of livestock.

1. **Canfax Market Report**

Brian Perillat, Senior Market Analyst for Canfax presented the cattle market update to the general assembly. Perillat spoke of supply and demand; US beef production; Alberta cattle prices; Canadian cattle numbers; feeder imports and exports; affect of the Canadian dollar on trading; rising feed costs.

1. **Final Call for Nominations for Director at Large Elections**

Cecilie Fleming called for final nominations for Director at Large.

1. **Speeches for Directors at Large Candidates**

Jodi Flaig

Brodie Haugan

Kolton Kasur

Fred Lozeman

Tim Smith

Kelly Smith-Fraser

Stuart Somerville

Melanie Wowk

1. **Election of Directors at Large**

Brodie Haugan

Kolton Kasur

Fred Lozeman

Kelly Smith-Fraser

Melanie Wowk

1. **Canada Beef Report**

Ron Glaser, VP Corporate Affairs, presented the Canada Beef report to the delegates and guests. Glaser spoke about beef consumption; retail and wholesale demand; international demand for beef; new global strategy; four keys to Canada Beef success; balanced investment strategy; differentiate Canadian beef from other countries; support end-user customers with unique promotions; investment framework for 2020-2021.

1. **VBP+**

Melissa Downing spoke about the sustainability of the beef industry through VBP+. The program is voluntary, producer developed and owned and nation wide; training includes on-farm food safety, animal care, biosecurity and environmental stewardship; Downing explained the certification process; the Canadian Beef sustainability acceleration pilot; the steps a producer needs to take to become a member of the CRSB.

1. **Final Call for Nominations for CCA Directors**

Howard Bekkering called for final nominations for CCA Directors.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Canadian Cattlemen’s Association (CCA) Report**

David Haywood-Farmer, President of CCA, began the report for the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association with a brief introduction. Dennis Laycraft, CCA Vice President spoke about the changes to the CCA structure; election overview; foreign trade; food policy; animal health and care; domestic ag policy and regulations; environment; federal policy progress and the Cattlemen’s Young Leaders Program and Young Cattlemen’s Council.

1. **Speeches for CCA Directors Candidates**

Charlie Christie

Jodi Flaig

Sheila Hillmer

Danny Hozack

Doug Sawyer

Cathy Sharp

Stuart Somerville

Miles Wowk

1. **Election of CCA Directors**

Charlie Christie

Jodi Flaig

Sheila Hillmer

Doug Sawyer

Cathy Sharp

Stuart Somerville

Miles Wowk

1. **Assessing and Reducing GHG Emissions**

Karen Haugen-Kazyra spoke to the assembly on green house gas emissions; sustainability; GRSB and the Beef Carbon Footprinting Study; CFGA and the Canadian Grasslands Protocol; the Cool Farm Tool project; sustainable Agri-Food tracking platform; large scale finishing rals and the national monitoring strategy for soil

1. **CRSB Update**

Kaley Segboer, Certified Sustainable Framework Manager, recapped the work that has been done by the CRSB. Segboer spoke about sustainability issues; the three core areas that they work on: Sustainability Benchmarking, Certification Framework and Sustainability projects. Key components of the framework

1. **AGM Regulatory Review Resolutions Debate**

B1. Motion by Colin Campbell/Jill Burkhardt:

“**Be it resolved that** ABP move from the current nine zone structure to five zones with three zones in the northern part of the province (northwest, central, and northeast) and two zones in the southern part of the province (southwest and southeast) as shown on the map presented at the fall meetings.”

Board

Carried

1. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP leave the 9 zones as they are.”

Zone 8

Redundant

2. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** there are 9 zones and one director elected to the board from each zone.”

Zone 8

Redundant

3. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** there remain 9 zones, with 5 delegates elected per zone and one delegate from each zone be elected to the board.”

Zone 8

Redundant

B2. Motion by Kelly Fraser/Brad Osadczuk:

**“Be it resolved that** producers in each zone will elect seven delegates to staggered, two-year terms for a total of 35 delegates.”

Board

Carried

4. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** there be 5 delegates per zone.”

Zone 8

Redundant

5. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** there are 4 delegates elected per zone.”

Zone 8

Redundant

B3. Motion by Brad Osadczuk/Fred Lozeman:

**“Be it resolved that** the ABP Board of Directors shall consist of 12 directors elected at large to staggered, two-year terms by the delegates at the Annual General Meeting”

Board

Defeated

Delegates felt that there should be at least one Director that came from each zone. Environment is a large part of the issues that producers deal with and it can vary widely across the province, producers and delegates believed that directors elected from the zones would have a better understanding of each zone’s issues.

B4. Motion by Fred Lozeman/Kelly Smith-Fraser:

**“Be it resolved that** the ABP Board of Directors shall consist of 12 directors elected at large to staggered, two-year terms by the delegates at the Annual General Meeting with the condition that there be at least one director from each zone.”

Board

Carried

This resolution reflects the concerns heard from the producers during the fall meetings and ensures that we have geographic representation on the Board.

B5. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** the ABP Board of Directors shall consist of 12 directors elected to staggered, two-year terms with five directors elected by the zone delegates in each zone and seven directors elected at large by the delegates at the Annual General Meeting.”

Board

Redundant

6. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** one director be elected from and by the delegates in zone with the balance of the board (7) being elected at the ABP Annual General Meeting.”

Zone 7

Redundant

7. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** in the plan review, the board of directors consist of one from each zone and seven at large.”

Zone 6

Redundant

8. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** there be 1 delegate from every zone to go to the Board of Directors.”

Zone 8

Redundant

9. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** the delegates for each zone elect two from their number as directors and that the remaining two directors be elected off the floor at the AGM.”

Zone 7

Redundant

10. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** there be 5 directors elected at large.”

Zone 8

Redundant

11. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** under any new zone structure, there continues to be at least 2 directors from each zone.”

Zone 6

Redundant

12. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** the ABP regulatory review recommendations as presented at our fall producer meetings are not accepted but rather that:

* The number of zones remain at 9
* The number of delegates be reduced per zone to five or four
* That directors on the board be reduced to one zone director plus the chair
* That semi-annual in person meetings cease
* That directors on the board have one-year terms.”

Zone 9

Redundant

13. Motion by Rod Carlyon/Colin Campbell:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP needs to address the issue of a director facing election within their two-year term, loses or no longer sits as a Delegate within their zone.”

Zone 7

Carried

14. Motion by Emil Dmytriw/George L’Heureux:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP dissolve the Cow Calf Council and the Cattle Feeder Council.”

Zone 8

Carried

15. Motion by Emil Dmytriw/George L’Heureux:

**“Be it resolved that** the semi-annual meeting be eliminated, and that the AGM be moved to coincide with the Alberta Beef Industry Conference in Red Deer.”

Zone 8

Motion by Emil Dmytriw/George L’Heureux:

“Be it resolved that the resolution be split into two motions.”

Carried

Motion by Emil Dmytriw/George L’Heureux:

“Be it resolved that the semi-annual meeting be eliminated.”

Postponed

Relationships are important and eliminating one of the general meetings reducing the opportunity for delegates to develop these relationships. How do we develop our core strategies and goals if we only meet for one day a year?

Motion by Craig Lehr/Walt Suntjens:

“Be it resolved that the motion be postponed until more information can be provided and more discussion can be had between the delegates.”

Carried

Motion by Emil Dmytriw/George L’Heureux:

“Be it resolved that the AGM be moved to coincide with the Alberta Beef Industry Conference in Red Deer.”

Zone 8

Carried

B6. Motion by Brad Osadczuk/Colin Campbell:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP change the fall meeting format to one, all-day meeting in each zone, held later in the year, with participation from the ABP Board and our national partner organizations and presentations on topics of interest and concern for producers.”

Board

Carried

The number of producers attending fall meetings is falling every year. Delegates hope that a one-day meeting that informs the producers of everything that ABP has done over the year will give them a better grasp of how they check-off is used.

16. Motion by:

“Be it resolved that the zones/regions stay as they are (keep 9 zones) with multiple fall producer meetings per zone.”

Zone 9

Redundant

B7. Motion by Colin Campbell/Fred Lozeman:

**“Be it resolved that** there be a declaration regarding service charge refunds on all nomination forms for delegates and directors with answers disclosed to voters.”

Board

Carried

Producers who pay the check-off have the right to ask for a refund but if they ask for it they should declare it and let the producers decide if they want to elect them as delegates or directors.

17. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** the producers of the Zone 2 Fort Macleod meeting support the concept of the new ABP proposed structure.”

Zone 2

Redundant

18. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** Zone 2 Stavely meeting supports the concept of the planned structure changes.”

Zone 2

Redundant

19. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** the producers of the Cochrane meeting are generally supportive of the proposed ABP structural changes as presented. Recognizing that fine tuning may be required.”

Zone 3

Redundant

20. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** we support the proposed changes in principle as presented.”

Zone 3

Redundant

21. Motion by:

**“Be it resolved that** the Homestead Coulee Zone 4 meeting approve the ABP Regulatory Review recommendations in principle.”

Zone 4

Redundant

1. **Adjournment**

The meeting was recessed at 8:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 4, 2019**

1. **Call to Order**

Cecilie Fleming called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. **Grazing Lease Presentation**

Mike Alexander, Alberta Environment & Parks, spoke to the general assembly about the organizational restructuring of Environment & Parks; the operational grazing disposition holder committee; grazing lease modernization; tenure for exemplary grazing stewardship.

Tom Lynch-Staunton, ABP Government Relations & Policy Manger spoke to the delegates and guests about Other Effective Conservation Measures. Lynch-Staunton explained the background behind the OECM; qualifications for an OECM; how it effects landowners and rangeland; considerations that should be contemplated.

1. **AGM Resolution Debate**

1. Motion by Emil Dmytriw/Melanie Wowk:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP request Canadian Cattlemen’s Association to lobby the federal government to allow the maximum transport time for cattle remain at current regulations based on current science.”

Zone 8

Carried

2. Motion by Shawn Freimark/Regan Curry:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP and the Livestock Identification Services work on a proposal to modernize the current livestock manifest process.”

Zone 4

Carried

3. Motion by Shawn Freimark/Regan Curry:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby both the federal and provincial government for a per acre payment on native prairie and grasslands in regard to carbon capture.”

Zone 4

Defeated

4. Motion by Kelly Smith-Fraser/Cathy Sharp:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP and the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association find some high-profile social media influencers’ to work with and help promote Alberta beef in all aspects (e.g. food, environment).”

Zone 5

Motion by Colin Campbell/Lorrie Jesperson:

**“Be it resolved that we remove ‘Alberta’ from the resolution.”**

Carried

**“Be it resolved that** ABP and the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association find some high-profile social media influencers’ to work with and help promote beef in all aspects (e.g. food, environment).”

Zone 5

Carried

5. Motion by Kolton Kasur/Jill Burkhardt:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP do more on promoting the beef industry and keep communications more available in public eye.”

Zone 6

Carried

6. Motion by Erin Moskalyk/Mike Nadeau:

“Be it resolved that ABP broaden beef education to include and target urban schools, to bring awareness to the next generation. About the health benefits of including beef in their diets.”

Zone 9

Motion by Jill Burkhardt/Melanie Wowk:

**“Be it resolved that we remove ‘urban’ from the resolution.”**

Carried

“Be it resolved that ABP broaden beef education to include and target schools, to bring awareness to the next generation. About the health benefits of including beef in their diets.”

Zone 9

Carried

7. Motion by Adam Moseson/Joanne Solverson:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP actively and aggressively seek out and confront publicly the untruths regarding the beef industry and the environment.”

Zone 6

Motion by Kolton Kasur/Colin Campbell:

**“Be it resolved that we remove the words ‘and aggressively’ and ‘publicly’ from the resolution.”**

Carried

**“Be it resolved that** ABP actively seek out and confront the untruths regarding the beef industry and the environment.”

Zone 6

Defeated

8. Motion by Assar Grinde/Cecil Andersen:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby retailers to remove nonmeat protein alternatives from the meat section.”

Zone 6

Defeated

9. Motion by Rod Carlyon/Colin Campbell:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby the Alberta Financial Services Corporation to have regional splits to determine settlement prices for Alberta price insurance on calves and feeders.”

Zone 7

Defeated

10. Motion by Fred Lozeman/Darren Bevans:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP investigate and lobby for year-round options to purchase Western Livestock Price Insurance Program calf coverage with the target period remaining as it does currently.”

Zone 2

Carried

11. Motion by Ron Weiler/Mike Nadeau:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP work on developing more access to grass land for cattle, either by expanding and developing current community pastures, or by creating and developing new pastureland access in the form of new private grazing leases or more community pastures.”

Zone 9

Carried

12. Motion by Fred Lozeman/Trish Vachon:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP should approach provincial government that the provincial government has its own Agriculture Ministry.”

Zone 2

Defeated

13. Motion by Tim Smith/Shawn Freimark:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP lobby government to address the negative consequences to producers due to altered man-made water sources (e.g. power grid dams) that change the natural migration processes of waterfowl.”

Floor

Defeated

14. Motion by Fred Lozeman/Brad Osadczuk:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP advise federal and provincial governments to ensure procedures that will reduce the prevalence of chronic wasting disease and other animal health threats.”

Floor

Carried

15. Motion by Fred Lozeman/Brad Osadczuk:

**“Be it resolved that** ABP communicate the importance of reporting wildlife that appear to be diseased (e.g. chronic wasting disease in cervids) and invasive species (e.g. wild boar) in a timely fashion to the appropriate regulatory authorities.”

Floor

Carried

1. **Chair’s Closing Remarks**

Kelly Smith-Fraser spoke to the delegates about the decisions that were made over the last few days. Delegates were asked to call the Executive or office if they had any questions or concerns.

The board of directors will be meeting directly after the AGM for a few housekeeping decisions. Smith-Fraser thanked the media, government and other organizational guests for coming and participating. She thanked the ABP staff, Resolutions Committee and the AGM Chairs for all the work they did in producing a successful meeting.

1. **Adjournment of AGM**

The Chair adjourned the Annual General Meeting at 11:15 a.m.