

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS  
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2018, 8:30 a.m.  
AT THE ABP BOARD ROOM, CALGARY, AB**

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**Present:** Charlie Christie - *Chair*  
Kelly Smith-Fraser - *Vice-Chair/Zone 5*  
Melanie Wowk - *Finance Chair/Zone 8*  
Sheila Hillmer - *Zone 2*  
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3*  
Jesse Williams - *Zone 4*  
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*  
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*  
John MacArthur - *Zone 9*  
Assar Grinde - *@ Large*  
Fred Lozeman - *@ Large*  
Brad Osadczuk - *@ Large*  
Cathy Sharp - *@ Large*  
Tim Smith - *CCC Chair*  
Ken Stanley - *CFC Chair*  
Bob Lowe - *Past Chair*

**Staff:** Rich Smith - *Executive Director*  
Rosanne Allen - *Office Administrator*  
Katelyn Laverdure - *Communications*  
Laura Procnunier - *Controller*

**Absent:** Garth Porteous - *Zone 1*

Chair called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

### **1. Adoption of Agenda**

(a) Additions and Adoption of Agenda:

Additions: 6(i) Agriculture Plastics project; 6(m) Bill 6;

Motion by Sharp/Hillmer:

**“That the agenda be approved with additions.”**

Carried

### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

(a) Minutes of the October 17, 2018 meeting:

Motion by Lozeman/Israelson:

**“That the minutes of the October 17, 2018  
Board of Directors meeting be approved as  
presented.”**

Carried

(b) Business arising:

National Conservancy of Canada (NCC) realizes that it needs to build more trust with producers and they would like to work with CCA and ABP in that area. NCC will be speaking at the AGM along with Ducks Unlimited Canada, Cows and Fish and ALUS.

### **3. Financial Report**

(a) Financial Statement ending October 31, 2018:

The funds allocated for the plebiscite were added to the budget two years ago, but the amount is lower than the estimated costs. R. Smith informed the board that the ABP share of the plebiscite costs likely will be \$150,000.

Motion by Wowk/Sekura:

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

Carried

### **4. Staff Reports, Policy, and Governance**

(a) Brad Dubeau – Marketing and Education:

Dubeau spoke to the board about what has been happening in the Marketing and Education department. Dubeau worked with Country 103 and Country 105 this summer and gave away tickets for the Big Valley Jamboree and Country Thunder. He is looking to expand to other radio stations across Alberta next year. Dubeau has increased the Beef in the Classroom it is revamped and online. Worked with Meal Share for 6 weeks and will looking to work with them in early 2019; Engaged with Boyle Street and Hope Mission; partnered with Elanco and went to Alex; working with Urban Farm at the Valley Zoo; still involved with Glenbow Ranch; pilot project at Farm Fair and AgriTrade where 4-H students helped with the booths; Dubeau would like to create a working group to discuss the Booth with the Zone Directors, how it will look; ABP has been approached to support a permanent exhibit at Heritage Park that shows how the history of vet practices have changed over the years.

Sekura suggested that Dubeau give a similar presentation at the AGM.

### **5. Council and Committee Reports**

(a) Cow Calf Council:

T. Smith, Grinde and Lynch-Staunton are discussing the content of the next council meeting.

(b) Cattle Feeder Council:

At the last meeting the members carried a motion to create another working group with ACFA dealing with the spreading of manure on frozen or snow-covered ground; they discussed the anti-microbial prescription issues. ABP will be sending a letter to the Alberta government and to ABVMA about their concerns with the new rules. Directors suggested that producers keep records of

transactions with their vet and submit problems to the ABVMA complaints line.

(c) Research Committee:

Had a conference call on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and went through the full proposals they had invited for the research projects. As a committee they went through the proposals and prioritized them in cooperation with Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association (SCA) and co-funded 5 projects for a total of \$75,000. In total there is funding for 8 projects. Some of the projects are contingent on them receiving other funding.

Lozeman gave a brief update on BCRC.

## 6. Decision Items

(a) Fall Meeting review:

A copy of the zone attendance was in the package and with the appointments made today there is only one zone that needs a delegate.

The timing of the fall meetings is key to the timing of the AGM. If we move the dates of the fall meetings the AGM would also need to be moved. The Directors discussed whether zones should continue with the producer engagement exercises; whether the board or zones should be deciding whether a meal be served before the meetings; the low delegate turnout.

The Zone Directors discussed their meetings and the challenges some of them faced.

Motion by Grinde/Israelson:

**“That the Fall Meetings be held in the last week of October and the first two weeks of November.”**

Carried

Directors agreed to leave the decision of providing meals to the Zones.

(b) Zone delegate vacancy appointments:

Motion by Osadczuk/Stanley:

**“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the 2-year appointment of Craig Lehr as the Zone 1 CFC delegate.”**

Carried

Motion by Wowk/Israelson:

**“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the 2-year appointment of Emil Dmytriw as the Zone 8 delegate.”**

Carried

Motion by MacArthur/Campbell:

**“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the 2-year appointment of Ron Weiler as the Zone 9 delegate.”**

Carried

(c) Plebiscite update and strategy:

Producers are still voting, and the numbers are going up. Voting will go through to November 27<sup>th</sup>. The potato growers had their AGM and 51% of their producers voted. Marketing Council set up voting stations at Farm Fair and made a number of announcements but only received a small number of votes.

Christie asked the directors to talk to producers about the plebiscite.

(d) Delegate actions:

One of the zone delegates has been actively working against ABP and a resolution that producers and delegates have voted in favour of a number of times.

There is a process where delegates can be removed by producers because they are elected by producers. This requires calling a special producer meeting with the motion to remove the delegate as part of the meeting notice.

If a director works against a decision of the board or demonstrates other unacceptable conduct, ABP has a clear Code that will allow the Board to remove the director. There was a question of whether there should be a similar Code of Conduct and removal process for delegates.

(e) Resolution committee report:

There was a copy of the resolutions in the package that the members briefly discussed. Two resolutions from Zone 2 were missed so the Directors decided where they should be debated, and they were added to the resolution form.

(f) AGM plans:

In the package was a draft agenda for the AGM. R. Smith went through the agenda with the Board and answered the few questions the members had.

R. Smith will find time on Tuesday afternoon for Dubeau to give a presentation on Marketing & Education activities.

Motion by MacArthur/Grinde:

**“That the ABP Board of Directors invite the Deputy Ministers and Assistant Deputy Ministers of the related Agriculture & Forestry and the Environment & Parks departments to the January Board of Directors meeting.”**

Carried

(g) U of A Animal Science mini-internships:

Frank Robinson is a professor at the U of A who is running a program that is getting students in the faculty of animal

science who come from the city to work on farms during their reading weeks in February and November. They are looking for \$5000 in funding to sustain the program. The money would be used to mitigate expenses for the students to travel and work on the farm.

Motion by Grinde/Sharp:

**“That ABP support the Animal Science Mini-Internship program in the amount of \$5000.”**

Carried

(h) Appointment to the Alberta Beef, Forage and Grazing Centre Industry Advisory Board:

Grinde has been on the board for two years and has suggested that ABP find another delegate to sit. The board usually meets about twice a year in Lacombe. Graeme Finn has said that he would be interested in sitting on the board. Directors suggested a few different delegates and the board will vote at the next meeting.

(i) Appointment to the ABQSH Board:

Cecilie Fleming has been our representative for a few years and sits as the board Chair, she has said that she would be interested in remaining.

Motion by T. Smith/T. Sekura:

**“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the appointment of Cecilie Fleming as their representative on the Alberta Beef Quality Starts Here Board.”**

Carried

(j) Board governance training:

One issue the members had discussed before was having Maggie Keil from MNP to come to a board meeting.

R. Smith asked the directors if they would be interested in participating in a Governance workshop with Jim Brown.

**DIRECTION: that R. Smith arrange a governance session with Maggie Keil the day before the January board meeting.**

(k) Dealing in livestock question:

A producer from southern Alberta, joined the meeting to talk about the 30-day ownership requirement for producers other than dealers for selling cattle. He believes it is out-dated and should be updated to represent current practices. Changes to the 30-day requirement would require amendments to the Livestock Identification and Commerce Act. We have not seen support from producers on this action.

He spoke about his concerns that the smaller producers are being penalized for speaking out at auction marts or against vets. He said that smaller producers need protection.

(l) Agriculture Plastics project:

Minister Carlier announced that there is a \$700,000 grant for an Ag Plastic Recycling pilot project. The government would like an organization such as ABP to administer the distribution of the funds. ABP has done this in the past.

Motion by Grinde/Osadchuk:

**“That ABP agree to act as the administrator of the Ag Plastic Recycling grant.”**

Carried

(m) Bill 6:

Stanley attended a meeting and was told that ABP is opposed to repealing Bill 6. R. Smith reviewed the ABP policy position on labour legislation that was created in 2016 and informed the directors about

ABP recognizes the need to improve farm safety and investigate fatalities and serious incidents on farms and ranches. We support a requirement for employees to have insurance for their workers, but do not support mandatory WCB coverage. There are many elements of Bill 6 that are contrary to our positions on safety and labour legislation so we would not oppose repealing Bill 6, but would hope it would be replaced with more reasonable and effective safety legislation developed in consultation with our industry.

## 7. In Camera

## 8. Discussion Items

(a) Animal health issue:

There was TB discovered in a cow from BC that was slaughtered in Alberta. ABP participated in some news coverage emphasizing that the cow came from BC and was only slaughtered in Alberta. So far, this case has had no impact on the Alberta cattle industry or export markets.

(b) Cattle Industry Leaders Forum:

When ABP was having their discussion with the auction markets and livestock dealers this spring, one of the points they made was a desire for ABP to have more contact with them. The Cattle Industry Leaders Forum was proposed during the 2014 plan review. It would be a high-level think tank with representatives from key industry organizations. ABP did make a commitment with the livestock dealers and auction marts to get together with them and that is a good reason to reinstate the forum. It is not a decision-making forum but a place to give direction for ABP and other organizations.

(c) Wildlife issues update:

Tom Lynch-Staunton has been working on this issue with the Miistakis Institute and the Alberta government with a view to develop more understanding of wildlife issues and better strategies for dealing with these issues.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Lozeman at 4:45 p.m.

(d) Vintage Veterinary Exhibit:

A group is proposing to develop a Vintage Veterinary Exhibit at Heritage Park in Calgary. This exhibit would demonstrate the history of the veterinary contribution to the cattle industry. ABP has been approached to provide funds and will consider it when we have more information.

(e) Animal handling/office signage at UCVM ranch:

ABP is in discussion with UCVM about developing a curriculum course for students on handling large animals.

(f) Zone reports:

*Zone 1:* Nothing to report

*Zone 2:* Received a plaque from the Lethbridge Regional 4-H club that will be displayed in the office.

*Zone 3:* Nothing to report

*Zone 4:* Nothing to report

*Zone 5:* Had a booth at AgriTrade that was run by 4-H students. In future there needs to be some consistency in manning the booths.

*Zone 6:* Nothing to report

*Zone 7:* Campbell attended the Royal Ag Society dinner and event that was held during Farm Fair. There were a few good presentations.

*Zone 8:* The zone had signs made up for Lyndon Mansell and Brian Chomlak in recognition of their long-standing work for ABP

*Zone 9:* Nothing to report

**9. Reading Materials**

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(a) BOD Resolutions and Action Items:

(b) Beef Supply at a Glance:

**10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events**

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(a) Staff Appreciation – Rosebud Theatre – November 23, 2018 – bus leaves office at 9:30 a.m.

(b) Board of Directors Meeting – December 3, 2018 – Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Calgary, AB

(c) Annual General Meeting – December 3-5, 2018 – Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, Calgary, AB

**11. Adjournment**

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