

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS  
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23, 2019, 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*  
Garth Porteous - *Zone 1*  
Sheila Hillmer - *Zone 2*  
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3*  
Jesse Williams - *Zone 4*  
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*  
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*  
Gordon Graves - *Zone 8*  
John MacArthur - *Zone 9*  
Assar Grinde - *@ Large*  
Brodie Haugan - *@ Large*  
Fred Lozeman - *@ Large*  
Tim Smith - *CCC Chair*  
Ken Stanley - *CFC Chair*

**Staff:** Rich Smith - *Executive Director*  
Rosanne Allen - *Office Administrator*  
Katelyn Laverdure - *Communications*  
Laura Proconier - *Controller*  
Jeanette Kennard - *Mrktg & Comm Asst*  
Karin Schmid - *Beef Production*

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

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

(a) Additions and Adoption of Agenda:

Motion by Graves/Hillmer:

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

Carried

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

(a) Minutes of the December 3, December 4 and December 5, 2018 meetings:

Motion by Lozeman/Sekura:

**“That the minutes of the December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 Board of Directors meetings be approved with correction.”**

Carried

Motion by Campbell/Williams:

**“That the minutes of the December 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Board of Directors meetings be approved as presented.”**

Carried

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### **3. Financial Report**

(a) Financial Statement ending December 31, 2018:

Refunds, to this point, are on track with last year and the expenses are in line with the budget. Refund cheques should be sent out by the end of February.

Motion by Wowk/Israelson:

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

Carried

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

(a) Karin Schmid – Beef Production Specialist:

ABP is currently funding 7 projects from pasture rejuvenation to breeding and grazing management. After funding for these projects was allocated \$38,000 remained, after talks with Agriculture & Forestry ABP helped fund a grain processing project. Schmid is still waiting on a couple of final reports. There are four AMR/AMU projects that will wrap in November 2019; ABP contributed \$75,000 in funding.

The elastrator pain control project will wrap in March 2019. ABP was the applicant for the project but did not contribute any funds. The project will continue after our direct involvement is concluded.

ABPs one-year commitment of \$50,000 to the feed grains breeding at FCDC Lacombe is up in February 2019. ABP funding \$25,000 for the transport study looking at rest stops for cattle welfare with the Science Cluster III programming.

There are 6 projects that ABP are waiting for contracts that are not in place yet or were funding from other sources has not been confirmed.

Schmid also reviews proposals from other organization on a regular basis or as requested. This ensures she has a complete picture of the research activities of other funding agencies.

(b) Conclude Board Orientation:

The Policy and Governance Manual can be found in the front of the Directors binders under ‘General Information’. The regulations and the manuals have been labelled to make them easier to find.

The Policy Manual will be changing, and once the changes have been approved by the board, the directors and delegates will receive an updated copy to put in their binder. The Means Policy needs to become more detailed

and the Ends Policies needs to be filled out. Once this is completed the updated manual will be sent to all of the delegates. Christie did not believe this was something the Governance Committee needed to meet for but rather that a working group on the Policy Manual should be created.

Lozeman was volunteered and accepted; Graves suggested asking Lyndon Mansell; Fraser was tasked to Chair the working group;

R. Smith spoke briefly about the other information found in the director's binder. The Plan Review will be held again this year and will need to be approved at the AGM in December. R. Smith explained the Code of Conduct to the Board, the history behind it and the reasons why Directors are asked to sign the document.

R. Smith spoke briefly about the Strategic Plan and the new Directors Orientation and Governance the day before the January meeting.

There are several strategic actions that ABP does daily that run in the background and that need to be laid out. One example is the money that we invest for Trade Advocacy and money that is set aside for the next years budget. Directors asked for the consideration of putting board packages in Dropbox or Sharepoint.

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

### **(a) Cow Calf Council:**

The Council met on January 21<sup>st</sup>, they discussed the Terms of Reference; worked on the populating the watershed councils and several outside organizations; spoke about grazing leases; discussed the UN Convention and Canada's promise to bring protected land from 11% to 17%; discussed the budget for the next fiscal year.

The Council will be taking another look at the benefits to producers of Cow-calfenomics. They discussed the panel and the number of students that seem to be in attendance.

Haugan asked about the funds that the Board gives to Cows & Fish and the history behind it. As a founding member of the organization we have provided funding to maintain the staff, as they are more easily able to find outside funding for projects.

### **(b) Cattle Feeder Council:**

The Council has not met since December, but Stanley is planning a meeting in February.

Stanley attended the Intensive Livestock Working Group (ILWG) and one of the big discussions was exclusion zones for livestock operations in the Municipal Development Plans. Will be looking at hiring a consultant to look at consultation for a Public Trust initiative and a good neighbour strategy. They will be applying for a grant, but they will need to put some money upfront. The next meeting is on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The court has upheld the business tax against the feedlots in Lethbridge County. There is a worry that other Counties and Municipalities will also add this business tax to feedlots in their areas. There is value to ABP for participating in the ILWG, but some of the issues are being handled by ABP already.

### **(c) Research Committee:**

Lozeman briefed the Directors on the current research projects that are underway. The committee will be getting together soon to discuss new projects.

BCRC has business meetings before the next Board meeting.

## **6. Decision Items**

### **(a) Moving forward – plebiscite, ACFA, ABIDF, CILF, Plan Review:**

The ABP Board met with the ACFA Board and have discussed creating a working group to develop a draft collaboration agreement for presentation to the boards in March. Christie asked for three directors to populate the committee to work with three from the ACFA Board. Fraser was asked to head up the committee and Christie asked the Directors who would be interested. Stanley and Haugan agreed to sit. Stanley suggested having a conference call before they meet with ACFA.

Within our own organization ABP has an image problem with producers in Alberta. The executive discussed the issue and the Directors were asked if we need to rebrand. There is a possibility that the steering committee may come up with some ideas when they meet. Directors agreed that a change needs to be made. This is a Plan Review year and the committee with ACFA can make recommendations, but they need to be made on ABP terms. We need to figure out how to effectively get information out to the producers. We need to look at everything and some opportunities have come out of the plebiscite.

Can we get the auction marts to add an information sheet to the envelopes with their cheques to producers? The Executive will sit down with the auction marts to discuss the payment they receive for deducting and remitting the service charge.

There was the suggestion to change our communications campaign and Laverdure agreed that some changes could be made that would save money. We need to print an annual report and make it readily available to producers, but we may not need to mail it out.

The board asked for the communications and marketing staff to compile what ABP is doing and bring it to the March board meeting.

The directors discussed revising the refund form to allow producers to leave in the \$0.53 that goes to CCA as well as money for research and marketing.

Motion by Stanley/Graves:

**“That ABP have a column in the financials for Canadian Cattlemen’s Association showing producer funds collected and the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association is paid from those retained funds.”**

Motion by T.Smith/Grinde:

**“That the motion be amended to add ‘implemented by January 1, 2020.’”**

Carried

**“That ABP have a column in the financials for Canadian Cattlemen’s Association showing producer funds collected and the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association is paid from those retained funds only to be implemented by January 1, 2020.”**

Carried

(b) Plebiscite cost-sharing agreement:

R. Smith went through the costs for the plebiscite and the in-kind costs from the government. That leaves ABP with a bill for \$138,750 for our share of the plebiscite costs. We have some funds remaining in the Service Charge Campaign account but will need an additional \$95,000 for the total costs.

(c) Bighorn consultation:

ABP participated in a stakeholder meeting on the bighorn plan. Our representative expressed concerns about a lack of confidence in the commitment to grazing leases and the management of Parks and Public Land Use Zones (PLUZ). We also have issue with the differences between the Bighorn plan and the NSRP Regional Advisory Council recommendations. In the absence of public meetings, Alberta Environment and Parks was encouraged to consult more broadly with the grazing leaseholders.

(d) Zone meetings producer engagement:

Williams offered to compile the results of the producer engagement exercises from the fall meetings.

(e) Government Relations at Centre of Excellence:

Christie would like four or five directors to attend a luncheon on February 7<sup>th</sup> with Alberta Party at the Centre of Excellence, on February 13<sup>th</sup> with the UCP representatives and on February 14<sup>th</sup> with the NDP.

(f) AGM Resolutions:

The carried resolutions were in the package for the Directors to look through. The board needs to decide where the carried AGM resolutions go to be resolved. R. Smith has some background information for Resolution 21 that he will send to the directors.

(g) Board resolutions:

The Directors will need to debate these resolutions and either carry or defeat them.

(h) Next Board meeting:

Christie asked the directors to set the dates for the meetings for the year.

March 12<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting and will take place in Red Deer before the beginning of ABIC. The next meetings will take place on May 1<sup>st</sup> in Calgary, June 10<sup>th</sup> in Edmonton before the beginning of the Semi-AGM and July 17<sup>th</sup> in Calgary. The remaining meetings will be determined at the June or July meeting.

Conference calls can be called to handle any issue that arises between the meetings and to deal with any Plan Review issues that arise.

(i) Audit Committee Chair approval:

The Audit Committee has appointed Howard Bekkering as its independent representative. It is asking for the board’s approval to appoint Bekkering as the committee Chair.

Motion by Lozeman/Israelson:

**“That the ABP Board of Directors approve Howard Bekkering as the Chair of the Audit Committee.”**

Carried

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## 7. In Camera

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## 8. Discussion Items

(a) Allocation of Canadian Beef Cattle Check-Off (nco):

Christie told the directors that they need to consider ABPs allocation to Canada Beef and whether ABP should adjust the allocation to be consistent with the recommendation of the Canadian Beef Advisors. Currently, BCRC receives 44%, Canada Beef is 50% and Public & Stakeholder engagement is 6%. Any changes need to be made before the end of March 2019 and they would go into effect April 1, 2020.

From the Executive point of view, the management of Canada Beef is moving in the right direction, but we will need to make a final decision in March.

(b) Hargrave Coulee Natural Area:

Western Stock Growers Association approached ABP about supporting a change in the name of a coulee that runs through Hargrave land. They are seeking a letter of support from ABP on the name change.

(c) AgSafe and OH&S:

There were documents in the package for further information. Porteous represents ABP on the AgSafe Board. The business plan was completed and approved. Porteous attended a meeting in January. OH&S representatives at the meeting received a lot of feedback and questions. The definition for inspector and investigator was discussed; biosecurity; there is a lot of interpretation and adaptation in the manual. WCB requires reporting for any accident on farm.

(d) Ag Plastics Recycling:

There was a pilot program approval for \$750,000 and the money will be coming through ABP. There should be a meeting in the next couple of weeks and they are starting with twine and grain bags but hope to expand the program to include netwrap and silage bags. The three elements of the pilot project are collection, characterization and market analysis of ag plastics. The pilot project will look at the costs and benefits of an ag plastics recycling program.

(e) AFAC Advisory Council Representative:

Greg Bowie has been our rep on this council and Greg has been serving as chair and his term is up. Wowk said that she was interested in sitting.

Motion by Grinde/Hillmer:

**“That ABP approve Melanie Wowk as our representative on the Alberta Farm Animal Care Advisory Council.”**

Carried

(f) Montana Stockgrowers Association Meeting:

Fraser attended the meeting in January and found the experience beneficial. She spoke with the Executive Vice-President about wildlife. They spoke about the American Prairie Reserve and their attempt to accumulate 3 million acres for buffalo. Fraser included information in the package on the meeting.

(g) Zone Reports:

*Zone 1:* Nothing to report

*Zone 2:* MNP has not heard about anyone in their area pushing for producers to ask for a refund. The zone is looking at have more frequent delegate meetings.

*Zone 3:* Nothing to report

*Zone 4:* Nothing to report

*Zone 5:* The zone has been in talks with Summer Synergy programs about industry organization input. Received a text about supplying beef to the yellow vest convoy.

*Zone 6:* There is the Bull Congress in Camrose January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Zone 7:* Nothing to report

*Zone 8:* Communicating with new delegates about getting involved. Looking for time to have a zone meeting. Joining forces with LARA Farm on March 1<sup>st</sup> and partnering with Lakeland Agriculture Research Association.

*Zone 9:* Nothing to report

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## **9. Reading Materials**

(a) BOD Resolutions & Action items:

(b) Beef Supply at a Glance:

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## **10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events**

(a) Board of Directors Meeting – March 12, 2019 – Sheraton Hotel, Red Deer

(b) Alberta Beef Industry Conference – March 12-14, 2019, Sheraton Hotel, Red Deer

(c) Board of Directors Meeting – May 1, 2019 – ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB

(d) Semi-Annual General Meeting – June 10-12, 2019, Delta by Marriott South Hotel, Edmonton

(e) Board of Directors Meeting – July 17, 2019 – ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB

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## **11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Graves at 3:45 p.m.