1. **Call to Order**

Melanie Wowk called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. and welcomed all new and returning delegates, adding there are still positions available in Central and NW zones. Wowk recognized the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, letting everyone know the Canadian Government was matching Red Cross donations. Introduced Cecilie Fleming and Howard Bekkering, past delegates and directors.

1. Approval of the AGM Chairs:

Motion by Melanie Wowk / Sheila Hillmer:

**“That Cecilie Fleming and Howard Bekkering be approved as Chairs for the 2022 Annual General Meeting.”**

Carried

1. Rules of Procedure:

Cecilie Fleming thanked everyone and recognized the fact that people were finally together again. Asked attendees to please turn phones on silent, and to be hard on issues, soft on people.

1. Introduction of Delegates

Fleming introduced the new delegates: Bernie Doerksen, Kaylee Chizawsky, Melissa Downing, Doug Roxburgh, Kyle Lemmer (absent), Nanita Blomquist, Scott Schiffner. Also asked each Zone for introductions.

Provided a reminder that delegate nominations will take place for ABP, CCA, BCRC, with the time of the final calls for each.

Asked everyone to refer to the Rules of Procedure in the AGM package.

1. Review and Approval of Agenda:

Motion by: George L’Heureux / Cathy Sharp

**“That the agenda for the 2021 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented.”**

Carried

1. Approval of 2021 AGM and Semi-Annual General Meeting Minutes:

Motion by: Fred Lozeman / Jay Hager

**“That the minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting and the 2021 Semi-Annual General meeting be approved as presented.”**

Carried

1. **ABP Chair Report**

Melanie Wowk provided an overview of the year, from COVID-19 to drought to border blockades. Cited optimism that returning to in-person meetings will solve some issues, such as open delegate positions. On drought, Wowk described ABP’s working with AFSC to secure financial assistance through AgriRecovery, and providing a tour to the Premier and key MLAs to demonstrate the severity of the drought. Added that ABP continues to monitor the moisture situation, and water is the number one concern right now. ABP is working with stakeholders on a competitiveness study. And the BOD has decided to discontinue funding the CCA on gross marketings. ABP will continue to work with other cattle organizations, including ACFA, WSGA, AGLA. Wowk thanked the staff for their quantity and quality of work.

Motion by: Craig Lehr (SE) / Melissa Downing (NE)

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

Carried

1. **Finance Report**

Brodie Haugan, Finance Chair, presented the 2020-2021 audited statements to the delegates. Described the refunds at $3.3 million, slightly less than $3.4 the year previous. Provided an overview of the difficult decision to decrease funding to key industry groups such as Cows and Fish, AFAC, Ag Safe Alberta. Haugan recognized the producers that make up the organization, and thanked the staff for making it possible.

Motion by: Brodie Haugan / Gary These

**“Be it resolved that the 2021/2022 ABP audited financial statements and auditor’s report be accepted.”**

Carried

Motion by: Brodie Haugan / Melanie Wowk

**“Be it resolved that the firm of Kingston Ross Pasnak chartered accountants be appointed as auditors for 2021-2022 year-end audit.”**

Carried

Motion by: Brodie Haugan / Melanie Wowk

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

Carried

1. **ABP Review and Producer Meeting Input**

Brad Dubeau, General Manager, presented on ABP’s strategic objectives, and gave the delegates an opportunity to discuss each of those objectives. Proposed the thought that Zones might use this document at meetings more regularly, and that ABP dedicate more time at the AGM to it as well. Dubeau also gave background on the mailing list, and read through the legal team’s draft proposal to add and amend sections of the regulation.

Motion: Rod Carlyon / Sheila Hilmer

**“Be it resolved that the Delegates approve the proposed amendments to the Alberta Beef Producers Commission Regulation, and the ABP Board of Directors immediately proceed with the next steps to complete the amendment of the Alberta Beef Producers Commission Regulation.”**

Carried.

1. **Final Call for Director Nominations**

Fleming made the final call for nominations for ABP Director positions.

1. **Production and Extension Report**

Karin Schmid, Beef Production and Extension Lead, provided a run-down on what’s new in production and research at ABP. Explained that ABP considers national strategies/goals, and tries to maximize investment.

Current work is primarily in feed, forage, animal health, knowledge translation and transfer (KTT). Recognized the importance in working with other funders to ensure not too much overlap. Gave a snapshot of recent research projects, reminding everyone that summaries are posted on the .org website. We share fact sheets, write articles, help develop several interactive tools, videos, podcast.

On the horizon: updates to Cowbytes, incorporating pasture school modules in BCRC site, supporting animal health and nutrition podcast. Schmid also provided an update on Living Labs, an overview of Squeal on Pigs, and a mention of the current transport requirements, including record keeping and Transfer of Care documents.

Schmid advised that if we do see another drought year, producers watch for toxic plants, try to allow ample rest in grazing lands, and take advantage of early spring moisture if seeding annuals.

1. **Government Relations and Policy Report**

Mark Lyseng, Government Relations and Policy Lead, gave an overview of key issues, and explained the role of the new Issues Management Committee.

On drought, Lyseng outlined ABP’s work in lobbying for $350 for pairs, $150 for feeder calves. The ultimate decision ended up lower, falling in line with U.S. While AgriRecovery is normally a post-disaster receipted program, ABP was strong in its stance that that wouldn’t work for this situation. Also didn’t want producers to be penalized for preparedness. ABP also worked with AEP, WSGA, AGLA, to get expedited water approvals, open Crown Land for haying/grazing and relaxing subletting rules.

Additionally, ABP’s Executive has met with AFSC regularly on moisture deficiency insurance. ABP provided research input, and AFSC has changed the index.

Lyseng detailed other areas ABP is actively involved in, including the vet shortage, wildlife management (and CWD), Crown Land grazing, moisture deficiency insurance, and the 2022 border blockades. Added ABP is also currently working on orphan and abandoned wells, livestock price insurance, coal policy, mandatory entry-level training, packing plants, undeveloped road allowances, ag plastics, etc.

Lyseng is also reviewing and updating ABP’s policy manual.

1. **Break**
2. **Marketing and Communications Report**

Lindsay Roberts, Marketing and Communications Manager, spoke about the goals as outlined in the mandate: continual growth in communications and engagement with producers, industry, govt, and the public. Increase pride in branding. Build producer knowledge about what we do at ABP.

Roberts gave an overview of the different tools, including ABP Magazine, ABP Daily, the app, The Bovine, social media platforms, monthly minute newsletter, education and events, consumer campaigns, and stakeholder communications.

Goal for the magazine is to become revenue neutral within two years. The app will see updates that will differentiate it from ABP Daily, including user accounts, saving articles, alerts based on preferences, and discussion. The podcast has seen over 450 total downloads since launch. In terms of social media, trends in follower counts continue to grow across all channels.

In lieu of events, ABP was able to update some digital resources, and took the opportunity to re-create the tradeshow educational material.

The consumer campaign saw seven-second commercials on prime time and non-digital ads like billboards.

Roberts continues to engage with Ronald McDonald House to participate in “Home for Dinner” events in Red Deer and Edmonton. This will be a partnership with Centre for Excellence. Cooking class and educational opportunities. Hoping to involve youth in 4-H in those regions.

Media relations – Katelyn Laverdure continues to be busy with media request. Weather, feed prices, industry funding, vet shortage, spring conditions. Also trying to communicate these things with producers and consumers.

1. **Delegate In-Camera Session**

Fleming asked staff and guests to step out. Reminded everyone that no decisions are made In-Camera, but it’s a place for frank discussion.

Motion by: Sheila / Jim Bohay

**“That the meeting move to in-camera.”**

Carried

Motion by: Jim Bowhay / Sheila Hilmer

**“That the meeting move out of in-camera.”**

Carried

1. **Lunch**
2. **Speeches for Director Candidates**

Howard Bekkering acknowledged guests in attendance. Called for ballot counters.

Motion: Melissa Downing (NE) / Jason Hale (SE)

**“That Clint Dobson, RDAR and Brent McEwan, Marketing Council, be approved as ballot counters.”**

Carried

1. **Director Election**

Bekkering announced 2022 ABP Board, with speeches.

George L’Heureux

Jay Hager

Nanita Blomquist

Sheila Hilmer

Gary These

Melanie Wowk

1. **Final Call for CCA and BCRC Nominations**

Bekkering reviewed the list of nominations, and made the final call for nominations.

1. **CCA Report**

After a brief update on the tenuous CP Rail situation, CCA President Dennis Laycraft, provided highlights from the year, including: the move to negligible risk status for BSE, the UN Food Systems Summit (which he said was a huge win for CCA, as it started with a negative narrative around cattle production, but ended positive), and set a new record for export volume.

Through its work, the CCA developed a good working relationship with senior management at CFIA.

Laycraft said we will constantly face mCOOL.

Will continue to work on: prep for animal health crises, satellite image-based forage insurance, getting rid of the cap in AgriStability, getting government to recognize cattle industry as part of the solution to climate change, EGS compensation, pushing front of package labelling on ground beef, and simulated meat guidelines.

CBIC will be in Penticton.

1. **Speeches for CCA Candidates**

Cathy Sharp

George L’Heureux

Melissa Downing

Doug Roxburgh

Sheila Hilmer

Miles Wowk

Brad Osadczuk

1. **CCA Election**

Cathy Sharp

George L’Heureux

Melissa Downing

Doug Roxburgh

Sheila Hilmer

Miles Wowk

Brad Osadczuk

1. **Speeches for BCRC Candidates**

Fred Lozeman

1. **BCRC Election**

Fred Lozeman

1. **AGM Resolutions Debate**
2. Motion by: Melanie Wowk / Melissa Downing

**“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the government to see that ranchers get a more equitable portion of revenue through all sectors.”**

Defeated

1. Motion by: Jay Hager / George L’Heureux

**“Be it resolved that RFID tracking scans are used to manage incoming cattle at sales, scanning information should correspond to sale weight and pricing.”**

Defeated

1. Motion by: Melissa Downing / Melanie Wowk

**“Be it resolved that ABP will work towards tax incentives for beef producers to invest in sustainable technology.”**

Defeated

Bekkering stepped aside due to conflict. Fleming took over.

1. Motion by: Kaylee Chizawsky / Melissa Downing  
     
   **“Be it resolved that ABP request CCA to investigate the opportunity to use CCIA reserve funds and/or tag revenue to fund the FMD vaccine bank and/or a voluntary cease movement fund.”**

Carried

Turned back to Bekkering.

1. Motion by: Melissa Downing / Kaylee Chizawsky

**“Be it resolved that ABP continues to fund CCA at the full assessment reflecting Alberta’s percentage of the Canadian Industry.”**

Defeated

1. Motion by: Melanie Wowk / Jay Hager

**“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Government of Alberta to develop an emergency or disaster compensation plan that is automatically triggered when counties declare an agricultural emergency (or state of agriculture emergency or disaster).”**

Carried

1. Motion by: Melissa Downing / George L’Heureux

**“Be it resolved that Alberta Beef Producers support mechanisms where producers can financially or otherwise benefit from their management of grasslands and ecosystems.”**

Carried

1. Motion by: Fred Lozeman / Sheila Hillmer

**“Be it resolved ABP encourage the removal of all SRM regulations that no longer serve meaningful risk management purposes.”**

Carried

1. Motion by: Fred Lozeman / Sheila Hillmer

**“Be it resolved that ABP lobby the Alberta government to provide livestock producers and landowners with damage permits, allowing them to kill a problem grizzly bear. This permit would be issued to producers who have a confirmed livestock kill, constant property damage (e.g. silage bags, grain bins, buildings), or personal safety in yard.”**

Carried

1. Motion by: Lee Irvine / Jim Bowhay

**“Be it resolved that ABP work with other provincial beef organizations to identify and lobby for the removal of all barriers to interprovincial trade between the four (4) western provinces, so beef can trade freely between jurisdictions.”**

Carried

1. Motion by: Jason Hale / Scott Schiffner

**“Be it resolved ABP establish a plan to be funded by a one–time, non-refundable check-off payable at slaughter and export.”**

Defeated

1. Motion by: Brodie Haugan / Craig Lehr

**“Be it resolved ABP lobby provincial and federal governments, along with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), to allow export inspection for product shipped to the U.S. to take place at the federally inspected processing facilities, eliminating the need for re-inspection at border crossings.”**

Carried

1. Final two resolutions deemed redundant by Bekkering and Fleming:

**“Be it resolved ABP continue to support CCA at Alberta’s gross, per head assessment as determined by CCA henceforth.”**

Redundant

**“Be it resolved SRM requirements be removed to reduce waste, increase competitiveness with other countries and increase producer profits.”**

Redundant

1. **Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

Bekkering thanked everyone for their involvement and invited Melanie Wowk up for parting words.

Wowk askedt Board members to stay in the room for quick Board Meeting. Concludes the meeting with thanks to all invited guests, AGM chairs, BOD, Delegates, and staff at ABP.

Wowk moved the meeting adjourn at 3:37 p.m.

Sheila Hillmer seconded.