

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS**  
**MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**THURSDAY JANUARY 11, 2018, 8:30 a.m.**  
**AT THE ABP BOARD ROOM, CALGARY, ALBERTA**

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**Present:** Charlie Christie - *Chair*  
Kelly Smith-Fraser - *Vice-Chair/Zone 5*  
Melanie Wowk - *Finance Chair/Zone 8*  
Garth Porteous - *Zone 1*  
Chris Israelson - *Zone 3*  
Jesse Williams - *Zone 4*  
Tim Sekura - *Zone 6*  
Colin Campbell - *Zone 7*  
John MacArthur - *Zone 9 (via phone)*  
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*  
Fred Hays - *Policy Analyst*  
Laura Procnier - *Controller*  
Karin Schmid - *Beef Production*  
Rosanne Allen - *Executive Assistant*  
Katelyn Laverdure - *Communications*  
Jeanette Kennard - *Mrktg/Comm Assistant*

**Absent:** Sheila Hillmer - *Zone 2*

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

### 1. Adoption of Agenda

(a) Additions and adoption of agenda:

Additions: 6(l) Audit Committee Chair; 8(f) Compromised Animals; 8(g) Promoting ABP; 8(h) Ducks Unlimited ads; 8(i) Alberta Environment & Parks;

Motion by Israelson/Osadczuk:

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

Carried

### 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s)

(a) Minutes of the December 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Board of Director meetings:

Motion by Fraser/Lozeman:

**“That the minutes for the December 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meetings be approved as presented.”**

Carried

### 3. Financial Report

(a) Financial Statement ending December 31, 2017:

Wowk presented the current financial statement to the directors. We are three quarters of the way through the fiscal year with 72% of the budget spent. Marketings appear to be up a little from last year, but Procnier is waiting for the year-end to confirm.

Motion by Melanie Wowk/Porteous:

**“That the financial statement be accepted as presented.”**

Carried

### 4. Policy and Governance Issues

(a) Conclude director orientation:

R. Smith concluded the orientation that began at the orientation dinner on Tuesday night by explaining how the various regulations and by-laws relate to ABP and how they give us authority to operate. The Commission Regulation is in the process of being amended by the government to show an increase in the National levy as of April 1, 2018. Until the amendment has been filed, ABP cannot communicate the change in the levy.

He talked about the board governance, director responsibilities and duties. He spoke briefly about the Code of Conduct and asked the directors to sign the agreement on the last page and give them to him or Allen.

For those who were new to the board and required an ABP shirt, there were samples for them to try on at noon.

### 5. Council and Committee Reports

(a) Cow Calf Council:

The list of EG&S programs available in Alberta will be on the ABP website soon. The Council has arranged for VBP+ training on the afternoon of January 29<sup>th</sup> for council members and anyone else interested and will be meeting on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

(b) Cattle Feeder Council:

There is a meeting scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup>. Had a short meeting at the AGM and created a working group to look into the changes with prescription medicine with Bryan Thiessen as the chair

(c) Research Committee:

Committee is set and will be setting a meeting soon. Are in the process of hiring someone to oversee a rancher pilot

extension project under Alberta Beef Forage and Grazing Centre.

## **6. Decision Items**

### **(a) Agency By-Law Amendments and ABP response:**

The Agency has eliminated the Check-Off Division and the Agency Board will oversee the check-off administration. The Executive of the Agency has been increased to 4 people. People on the Agency Executive cannot be on the Canada Beef Board. The Canada Beef Board will now have 8 members from industry and 4 people elected by the delegates at the AGM. The directors suggested that at least 50% of the Canada Beef Board be elected by delegates at the AGM. The Agency by-laws have been added to the board package for anyone interested.

When the Check-off increase goes into effect on April 1<sup>st</sup> we will have the ability to decide where the funds will be allocated. After that any changes will be effective a year after we make a change. If other provinces do not increase funding to BCRC and issues management, Alberta has pledged to make up the difference.

ABP needs to respond to the changes that Canada Beef has made by January 15<sup>th</sup>. The directors agreed on the response and a letter will be sent to Canada Beef.

Motion by Campbell/Lozeman:

**“That ABP request a Canada Beef Board that is at least 50% elected and we reserve the right to assign allocations by April 1, 2018.”**

Carried

### **(b) ABP-ACFA Next Steps:**

ABP met with ACFA on January 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss how a non-refundable service charge would be allocated, the Terms of Reference for the ABIDF, and the allocation agreement between ABP and ACFA. Producers will have the option to send the allocation going to ACFA to the Alberta Beef Industry Development Fund (ABIDF) instead. There will be a review period. The first review would be in two years and after that every five years. We agreed that a consultant would be hired to put together the ABP-ACFA agreement and the Terms of Reference for the ABIDF. The Working Group will be populated by Ryan Kasko, Martin Zuidhoff, Jake Bueckert and Colleen Mackey from ACFA and Charlie Christie, Kelly Fraser, Fred Lozeman and Ken Stanley from ABP.

Brian Rhiness was a general manager at Marketing Council and will be asked to consult on the project.

If the agreement is approved at the ACFA AGM in February, we will formally ask for a plebiscite

### **(c) Producer responses from fall meetings:**

The Board was looking to develop a working group to compile the results from the producer responses.

Fraser, Williams, Lozeman and Grinde will sit on the working group.

### **(d) R&D Advisory Committee representative and chair:**

After the new provincial government closed ALMA, a group of industry representatives met and developed a strategy for research and development in the livestock and poultry sector. The group is creating an advisory committee to meet with government officials to help steer industry research.

Leighton Kolk and John Knapp were instrumental in developing the committee and Kolk has been proposed to represent the cattle industry on the advisory committee.

Motion by Campbell/Lozeman:

**“That ABP recommend that Leighton Kolk represent the beef industry on the *Alberta Livestock & Poultry Research and Development Advisory Committee.*”**

Carried

### **(e) Winter Manure Management Issue:**

Recently ABP received a letter from cattle feeders located around the Edmonton area. They expressed concern over the difficulties they may experience in spreading manure over frozen or snow-covered ground. AOPA regulations do not allow feeding operations with nine months of manure storage to spread manure on frozen or snow-covered ground. Feedlots technically have nine months of storage in pens, but many operations spread manure in winter for management and animal welfare reasons. Some of the feedlots in the area participated in a 2-year project with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry to show that spreading manure in winter was a practical solution.

The group is looking for support from ABP and ACFA to move forward with a process allowing producers to file a manure management plan for spreading manure on frozen or snow-covered ground. The group is looking for consistency on how the regulations are interpreted. R. Smith has been asked if he would be a part of the group.

Motion by Osadczuk/Israelson:

**“That ABP participate in supporting cattle feeders in getting the Natural Resources Conservation Board to allow them to submit manure management plans that include winter spreading.”**

Carried

Garth Porteous agreed to represent the board on the group and ABP will establish a working group to collaborate with ACFA on this issue. Stanley proposed that his partner Wayne Forbes would participate.

### **(f) Wood Buffalo bison letter:**

Maartin Braat, a past Zone 9 delegate, has sent a letter to ABP and every director on the movement of bison from Wood Buffalo National Park. Schmid spoke to the directors about what has been done in the past regarding bison from the park.

There are two main herds that are outside the park and animals rarely are found in the agricultural buffers zone. When they are reported in that area, they are removed. Full eradication and repopulation does not seem to be an option that the federal government is willing to consider at this time.

The directors agreed to respond with Schmid's report and a letter. ABP never received any funds from GF2 or GF3 other than funds used for the project.

(g) Canadian Agricultural Program (CAP) Advisory Committee representative:

Israelson has been invited by the government to represent ABP on the advisory committee.

Motion by Porteous/St Stanley:

**“That the ABP Board of Directors approve the appointment of Chris Israelson as their representative on the Canadian Agricultural Program Advisory Committee and Tim Smith as the alternate.”**

Carried

(h) CCA priorities, budget, and director position:

Sharp is on the CCA Executive and passed around a list of budget priorities. CCA will create a budget using the cattle marketings and are asking for \$0.53 from each marketing over the next 5 years. With reduced marketings they need \$0.50 to run at their current budget but are asking for \$0.53 so that they can develop a reserve fund that will allow them to move with the industries highs and lows. When looking at the money that ABP gives to CCA, Sharp asked that we consider what we get out of the work that CCA does on behalf of the cattle industry and whether that work benefits us.

The directors discussed their opinions of the proposed changes. Sharp is looking for our approval of the concept.

Motion by Sharp/T. Smith:

**“That ABP approve the concept of a fixed assessment per marketing for the Canadian Cattlemen's Association budget.”**

Carried

When a CCA director is elected as the President or Vice-President, that individual sits in their own right and not as a member of their provincial delegation. There is a chance that an Alberta representative will become the CCA Vice President at the March AGM. If this happens, Alberta would have the ability to appoint another person to represent us as a

CCA director. In the past, we have held an election at the Semi-Annual meeting.

Motion by Stanley/Osadczyk:

**“That ABP hold an election for a Canadian Cattlemen's Association director at the 2018 Semi-Annual meeting if one of our current directors is elected as Vice-Chair.”**

Carried

(i) AgriRecovery for wildfire victims:

ABP has talked to the government about AgriRecovery for producers who lost their herds in one of the fires that broke out in southern Alberta during the summer. We have been told that the government will not be initiating AgriRecovery for Alberta producers who were victims of the fires. BC has given producers AgriRecovery but Saskatchewan and Alberta have not. The Board directed that ABP continue to pursue AgriRecovery for Alberta producers affected by wildfires.

(j) AGPAC Representative:

Darren Bevans attended the AGPAC meeting in December 2017. Bevans has declared an interest in continuing to represent ABP. Campell supported the nomination of Darren Bevans as the ABP representative.

Motion by Campbell/Israelson:

**“That the ABP Board of Directors approve Darren Bevans as their representative on the Alberta Game Policy Advisory Committee.”**

Carried

(k) Board of Directors Meeting Schedule:

Part of the board package was a proposal to the reduce the number of board meetings that are held each year. The proposal is for eight board meetings a year instead of ten. The directors would get operations updates and could hold conference calls for any immediate issue that arises.

Motion by Porteous/Wowk:

**“That the ABP Board of Directors reduce their meetings from ten (10) to eight (8) meetings a year.”**

Carried

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday March 7, 2018

(l) Audit Committee Chair:

Howard Bekkering has agreed to sit as the independent member of the Audit Committee. He has also been proposed as the Chair of that committee and his appointment needs to be confirmed by the board.

Motion by Campbell/Porteous:

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

Carried

## 7. In Camera

## 8. Discussion Items

(a) Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park Opportunity:

Israelson updated the new board members on the opportunity to work with John Copithorne and the Park to engage the public in understanding how the cattle industry works. Israelson believes it is a significant opportunity to get beef messaging out to the consumer.

(b) Issues Management update:

Tom Lynch-Staunton has been responding to issues of a meat tax, the Canadian Food Guide, and the Enviro Lethbridge Green Challenge.

(c) Working Group updates:

No updates at this time

(d) Premise ID position:

Jill Harvey was on a conference call regarding traceability. One of the topics was premise id and comments by the Alberta government officials caused some concern. R. Smith followed up on the information and confirmed that ABP and Alberta Agriculture & Forestry do not support multiple premise ids for a single operation.

(e) Wildlife Compensation Speaking Points:

Campbell briefed the board and new directors on the history of wildlife compensation and the problems that arise when producers are trying to get compensation for wildlife kills.

We have developed speaking points in consultation with Waterton Biosphere and we need to pursue a meeting with the Ministers of Environment & Parks and of Agriculture & Forestry and some of their senior officials to discuss compensation for wildlife kills and ungulate damage.

**DIRECTION: agree that Colin Campbell approach his MLA regarding wildlife predation and ungulate damage.**

Sekura spoke to the directors about a producer who is losing corn to deer.

(f) Compromised Animals:

Schmid and AFAC have created a brochure on shipping compromised animals for the purpose of educating producers on when not to ship cattle. These have been sent to the Alberta Auction Markets Association.

(g) Promoting ABP:

Sekura feels that with the increase to the national levy ABP should be promoting what the check-off dollars do for the industry. Grinde suggested having delegates provide information to their local papers on what ABP has done to help industry.

(h) Ducks Unlimited ads:

At a break in the meeting, the Board viewed new Ducks Unlimited ads that feature Clay Chattaway, Bob Lowe and Rich Smith.

(i) Alberta Environment & Parks:

MacArthur is having an issue with Alberta Environment & Parks related to a grazing lease transfer and has asked the board to call for a review of Alberta Environment & Parks.

Motion by Campbell/Osadczuk:

**“That ABP call for a review of Alberta Environment & Parks and their process for transferring grazing leases.”**

Motion by Porteous/Sharp:

**“That the motion be postponed until more information can be obtained for the directors.”**

Carried

(j) Zone Reports:

*Zone 1:* The Medicine Hat Pen Show was a success. Beth Castle attended and ran the ABP booth. They gave away BBQ steak to attendees.

## 9. Reading Materials

(a) 2017 Board of Director Resolution and Action Items

(b) Beef Supply at a Glance

## 10. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events

(a) ABIC – February 20-22, 2018, Sheraton Hotel, Red Deer, AB

(b) Board Meeting – March 7, 2018, ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB

(c) Board Meeting – April/May 2018, ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB

(d) Board Meeting – June 11, 2018, Delta South, Edmonton, AB

(e) Semi-Annual General Meeting – June 11-13, 2018, Edmonton, AB

(f) Board Meeting – July 2018, ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB

- (g) Board Meeting – September 2018, ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB
- (h) Board Meeting – October 2018, ABP Board Room, Calgary, AB
- (i) Board Meeting – December 3, 2018, Sheraton Cavalier, Calgary, AB
- (j) AGM – December 3-5, 2-18, Sheraton Cavalier, Calgary, AB

#### **11. Adjournment**

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The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Porteous at 3:15 p.m.