

**ALBERTA BEEF PRODUCERS**  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – 8am – 5:00pm – In Person**

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**Present:**

Brodie Haugan	-Chair, SE
Doug Roxburgh	-Vice Chair, CT
Kent Holowath	-Finance Chair, SE
Aydon Alberg	- @ Large
Colin Rice	- @ Large
Kent Holowath	- @ Large
Bernie Doerksen	- @ NW
Miles Wowk	- @ NE
Brad Mappin	- @ Large
Brenda Rosadiuk	- @ Large
Sheila Hillmer	- @ Large
Fred Lozeman	- @ Large
Lee Irvine	-@ Large

**Regrets:**

**Staff:** Brad Dubeau - *General Manager*  
Donald Poitras - *Controller*  
Kathy Jardine - *Executive Assn*  
Kaley Segboer-Edge - *VBP +.*

**Guests:**

- (a) Alberta Cattle Feeders Association – Adams
- (b) Western Stock Growers Association - Wilson
- (c) Feeders Association of Alberta – Bowhay
- (d) Alberta Veterinary Medical Association – Dr. Kutryk

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:06am.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

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Additions to the agenda:

Discussion Animal Slaughter

Motion by Wowk / Hillmer:

**“That the agenda be approved as presented / amended.”**

Carried

(a) Conflict of Interest

6 (d) Lozeman – Crop Innovation Decision Item

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

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- (a) Minutes of the March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Board of Directors meeting.

Motion by Doerksen / Hillmer:

**“That the minutes from the March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Board of Directors Meeting be approved as presented.”**

Carried

- (b) Issues arising from the minutes.

**3. Financial Report**

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- (a) Financial Reporting ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

- Ended the 2023/2024 year with 87.43% in expenses of our expected budget. We ended the year under budget after all known expenditures were regarded.
- Ended with a strong year in interest income of over \$573k and Realized Gains on some of our investments of almost 35k. Interest and Realized Gains were over \$608k this year compared to \$487k last year. Expect the interest rates to star pulling back going forward.
- Some GICs under 1.25% coming due in 2024 that should still be able to get a better rate on.
- ABP investment strategy remains on track with the Equity / Guaranteed Income split as per the Board direction. Ended the year 20% in Equity and 80% in Guaranteed Income.
- Continues to have a strong balance sheet.
- ABP has a strong cash position, currently earning 5.22% with RBC.
- With \$18.5M in Assets, we have \$5.2M in liabilities.

Motion by Holowath / Rosadiuk:

**“That the ABP March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, financial statements be approved as presented.”**

Carried

- Received Refund report from 2023

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

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##### (a) Staff Update

Kaley Segboer Edge – VBP+ Sustainability Resilience Grants.

- Project #1 - Producer Incentive Program GOA Funding approved for \$1,250,000 April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 2028.
- Alberta Beef Producers has secured funding to incentivize Alberta beef operations to participate in the VBP+ Program.
- Producers will be able to receive \$5000.00, based on a 50/50 cost share of approved activities which include audit fees, livestock handling equipment etc.
- Project # 2 – VBP+ Extension Project GOA funding approved for \$624, 900 for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 – Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 2028.

Motion by Lozeman / Hillmer

**“That Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors and Staff may not apply for the VBP+ funding for 10 days after the target opening of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.”**

Carried

4 (b) ABP’s March 2024 Staff Operations reports are included in the board package.

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

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##### (a) ACFA Update:

- Successful ABIC.
- BRM advocate that Cap to increase to 15 million under AgriStability.
- Potential rail strike concern.

##### (b) Western Stock Growers Association

- Ongoing issues with Grizzly Bears in the SW corner.
- Discussions with CCA on the Grasslands.

##### (c) Alberta Grazing Leaseholders Association

- No report.

##### (d) Feeders Association of Alberta

- No report.

##### (e) Alberta Veterinary Medical Association

- National Veterinary Medical Association has considered a stance against the Horse Export Legislation.

- In discussions with rural municipalities on how to retain vets in their area.

##### (f) Alberta Auction Markets Association

- No report.

##### (g) CCA Update:

- Minimal communication reported between CCA and ABP
- Discussions were held by the board.

##### (h) Research Committee & BCRC

- Lozeman provided an update on BCRC and ABP Research.
- Craig Lehr was elected to Chair for a 1-year term.
- Letter to go out mid June to confirm letters of intent.

#### **6. Decision Items**

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##### 6 (a) Draft Budget 2024 / 2025

Motion by Holowath / Hillmer

**“That Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors approve the 2024-2025 budget as presented.”**

Carried

6 (a,1)

Motion by Holowath / Almborg

**“That Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors approve \$ 707,335 from unrestricted net assets to the ABP operations budget.”**

Carried

6 (a,2)

Motion by Holowath / Mappin

**“That Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors approve \$ 220,013 from unrestricted net assets to Unrealized Nesbitt Burns.”**

Carried

6 (a,3)

Motion by Holowath / Irvine

**“That Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors approve \$ 297,000 from unrestricted net assets to Operating Reserve Fund future years.”**

Carried

6 (a,4)

Motion by Howarth / Wowk

**“That Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors approve \$ 364,000 from unrestricted net assets to Trade Advocacy Fund.”**

Carried

6 (a,5)

Motion by Holowath / Doerksen

**“That Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors approve \$ 589,137 of CCA Carry over from contributions in unrestricted. ABP will be assessed on these dollars in the next fiscal.”**

Carried

6 (b)

Motion by Roxburgh / Hillmer

**“That the Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors approve Dorothy Thengs as a delegate representing the SW zone.”**

Carried

6 (c)

Motion by Rice / Irvine

**“That the Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors approve Assar Grinde to the Audit Committee.”**

Carried

6 (d)

Lozeman excused himself due to a conflict of interest with the Western Crop Innovations motion at 4:12pm

Lozeman came back in the board room at 4:20pm following discussions and ABP vote on WCI.

Motion by Holowath / Almborg

**“That the Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors approve the request to providing funding to Western Crop Innovations (WCI), formerly Field Crop Development Centre (FCDC), in the amount of \$300,000 paid in increments of \$100,000 over three (3) years, fiscal ending 2025, 2026, 2027, provided that they have an acceptable business plan in place by March 2025.”**

Carried

6 (e)

Motion by Mappin / Wowk

**“That the Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors designate \$200,000 in the Operating Reserve for project funding.”**

Carried

## 7. Discussions Items

### **Presentations**

1) Practical Ranching School – Ryan Schmidt CEO Strathmore & District Agricultural Society

- The Western Events and Cultural Centre are an influx of projects and economic activity in Strathmore and Wheatland County to include a practical ranching school.

2) Ag Plastics Recycling – Assar Grinde

- The pilot is running smoothly. Had a second pilot extension to take us to fall of 2025. Grain bag collection volumes are higher,

both because they are a large item that is used all at once, hence easier to recycle, and there is more comfort/awareness of recycling them.

- Increasing participation in the twine recycling side of the pilot is a big goal for the next year.
- The hope is that we will not need any more extensions to the pilot and that the government will begin the process of bringing ag plastics into the EPR regulation sometime this year.

3) Agri. Operation Practices Act (AOPA) – Sean Royer NRCB

- The NRCB sets out requirements for confined feeding operations and has consistent standards across the province.
- Discussions were held by the board on Mr. Royer’s presentation.

4) Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) – Tom Lynch-Stauton

- NCC presented to the ABP board and guests outlining their purpose, values, and strategic plans for the future.
- Discussions were held by the board.

**Discussion Items**

(a) Review CCA AGM

- CCA AGM well attended.
- Discussions were held by the board on the lack of communication between CCA / ABP.

(b) Grasslands

- Discussions were held by the board on moving forward with the grassland policy in Alberta.

(c) Canadian Wild Pig Summit

- Great networking with Animal Health Canada and Dr Jansen from the U of C.
- Discussions on disease transfer to cattle, high path influenzas, African swine fever and the crossing of barriers.

(d) Auction Market Update

- Secured agreement with auction Markets Association to move forward with an increase from 0.5 to 0.10.
- ABP to meet with Auction Markets Association if ABP plans an increase in checkoff.

(e) ABIC / ABP AGM

ACFA has signed a 3-year contract which, holds pricing and keeps the cost down. ABP has committed to 2025 with a further motion to be considered.

Motion by Hillmer / Almberg

**“That the Alberta Beef Producers Board of Directors commit to hosting the 2026 ABP AGM at ABIC.”**

Carried

(f) Producer Meetings 2025

- A copy of the proposed adjustments to Producer Meetings and the AGM were included in the board package.
- Overview provided - further discussion at the next board meeting.

(g) CRSB

- CRSB’s Annual General Meeting, is scheduled to take place in Calgary on September 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Haugan has applied for a CRSB council position.

(h) Review ABP Summer Schedule

- Fly Ins – June 4<sup>th</sup> – June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
  - Roxburgh / Haugan to attend.
- Stampede Summit - July 7 & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
  - July 7<sup>th</sup> – Westway Farms tour
  - July 8<sup>th</sup> – Summit
  - More details will be sent closer to the date.

CBIC – August 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – Saskatoon

- Haugan / Dubeau to attend.

(i) PNWER Update – July 21 – 25, 2024

- Wowk / Lysend to attend in Whistler, B.C.
- Schmid to attend FMD exercise held at PNWER.

(j) Animal Slaughter

- The RCMP closed business selling uninspected meat in Alberta. Investigations continue.

**8. Zone reports**

**Northeast Zone**

- Zone is engaging in sponsorships.

**Northwest Zone**

- Trade Show in Tarsdale
- Zone meeting with new delegates

**Southwest Zone**

- Annual zone supper meeting
- 4 delegates up for election, working on succession plan
- Open discussion on producer meetings

**Southeast Zone**

- Working on several sponsorship requests
- Craig Lehr is the new zone chair.

**Central**

- Reorganizing zone and making decisions are several sponsorships.

**9. In Camera**

(a) The Board went in-camera at 4:20 pm.

Motion by Lozeman / Wowk:

**“ABP Board to go into In Camera.”**

Carried

**10. Reading Material**

The reading material is included in the Board package and was reviewed as part of the Board meeting.

**11. Next Meeting and Upcoming Events**

June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Virtual

July 9<sup>th</sup> – In Person- ABP Board Room

September 18<sup>th</sup> – In Person – ABP Boardroom

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion from Holowath at 4:55 p.m.