

**Saskatchewan Cattlemen’s Association
Board Meeting
Thursday September 9, 2021
Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon
8am**

Arnold Balicki Chair (Director 9A),
Rick Toney, Past Chair
Kyle Hebert (Director 1)
Keith Day (Director 3B)
Randy Stokke (Director 4)
Levi Hull (Director 5)
Brent Griffin (Director 6)
Joleen Shea (Director 7)
Brad Welter (Director, SCFA)
Garret Poletz (Director, SCFA)
Kelly Williamson (Director, SSGA) – call in

SCA Staff:

Ryder Lee (CEO)
Marianne Possberg (Production)
Leann Clifford (Administrator)
Glenn LaPointe (Communications) – call in
Christina Betker (Policy)

Regrets:

Dean Moore (Director 9B)
Holly Thompson (YCC)
Brian Cole (Director 8)
Leigh Rosengren (Director 2)
Roger Meyers (Director 3A)
Garner Deobald (Director, SSGA)

Arnold Balicki called the meeting to order at 8:12 am.

1.0 Approval of Agenda

MOTION 2021-067: Griffin / Shea

“To accept the Agenda as presented”

Motion Carried

1.01 Review of Minutes

July 29,2021

MOTION 2021-068: Hebert / Poletz

“To accept the July 29, 2021, minutes as presented.”

Motion Carried

1.02 Chair Report

- Full length report from CCA meetings circulated.
- MLA meeting including Premier Moe via zoom – Good understanding of rural issues presented.

MOTION 2021-069: Hebert / Hull

“To accept the Chair Report as presented.”

Motion Carried

Any movement on FRWIP program to allow for old dugouts?

A number of people want to be able to remove water out of the old dugouts and out of mud. Doing a new one gets assistance, need to up the quality of the old ones.

Digging a well, looking for a 2” piezometer. Water comes up too close. If digging a well, can apply.

Without putting the right things on top, even though digging the well this year, cannot qualify by extending that “new” project into next year. All needs to be brought up with the Ministry.

1.03 CEO Report

- The MLA tour was a success. Thank you to Philip Lynn - Buffalo Plains Cattle Co, Brent Griffin – Elbow, and the crew at JGL for hosting at their locations. Rick, Keith, and Garner joined the day.
- Had a good meeting with Premier Moe and Northern MLAs at Arnold’s place. There is good understanding of our issues and desires at both levels.
- Premier Moe had positive indications around trespass. Time has passed but getting that proclaimed is not a dead issue.
- CCA meetings took place in Calgary in a hybrid format. It was smaller than usual due to the election and virtual format. Since the announcement of the federal match of the provincial funding there has been a lot of conversations about how it would work. Saskatchewan has been very good about facilitating things and making sure the funding announced is used to respond instead of finding ways to say it does not apply.
- We are on the edge of fall meetings. We will once again be doing the auto dial invites. There is no substitute for directly asking people to attend. WE have an election in District 6 and an open seat come February in District 8. The other districts have the incumbents coming back for another two years. Thank you for your commitment, both those leaving and those staying on.
- Concerned on claw back of funded programs.
- Discussed the breeding herd program. What is the deal on 15%?

MOTION 2021-070: Hull / Toney

“To accept the CEO report as presented.”

Motion Carried

Keith Day took over the meeting

1.04 Financial Report

- Reviewed last fiscal year vs month to date.
- Reviewed check off refunds. Dollars are comparable to last year .

MOTION 2021-071: Shea / Welter

“To accept the Financial Report as presented.”

Motion Carried

1.05 Governance

Talked about the importance of board getting to know each other ahead of time instead of when hard discussions are needed.

New Business

Emergency Call List

- Animal welfare committee is working to put together an Emergency Call List for incidents such as highway rollovers occur. Help to manage the scenes.
- Struggle is who to put on these lists. Who is the “right person.” Thought is to put all directors on it who can connect to local producers.
- Is it ok with the board to be on the list as long as they are Directors? Yes
- RCMP is more engaged and want to help when these incidents happen.

Manifests

- Does industry go to E-Manifests sooner than later, or do a paper-based transition along with extra costs that come with a bigger page.
- Marketers are probably most concerned with not having that paper. There are other ways to track movement.
- What is a manifest worth? When E-Manifest is available with no charge but stack of manifests available for charge.
- Probably don't switch to electronic right away.
- Need to transition and get that funding in place to help with it.

Fall Meetings

- Went through plan for fall meetings both before and after supper.
- Need someone that can speak to Drought Response Initiative. Someone who can talk to unfolding of the irrigation funding.
- Financial background – what is being done or available. Make sure people are talking to their financiers.

CCA Meetings Report

- Circulated the CCA report that was very thorough. The Chair and Vice Chair meeting kiked it off was worthwhile and should be continued.

Drought Response Initiative

- Community pasture patrons' own bulls, a lot of them, selling and starting over is not an option, not feeding them is not an option, there should be some assistance there. Ministry has heard this from us.
- The 15% heifers work on farms and ranchers but not in this situation.
- Asked about people that sold cows just before August 1, and grassers.
- Need to put an ask together.
- Change in management, will they qualify? The extraordinary cost is downsizing. That funding would help offset some of that.
- Those that sell yearlings and now sell them as calves to be able to keep cows – does that qualify as extraordinary? Not selling barley to keep all the cows they have may break some producers.
- Include foregone revenue or wildly different sales times. Usually yearlings in the fall, this year they sold in May. Not a feed receipt but it is extraordinary.

- Not including horses is also a concern. They work with cattle. Stock contractors too fall in the cracks.

Research – BCRC National Strategy Update

- Reviewed through how the BCRC Strategy was created and rolled up.
- The summary document was provided to the committee for their review and input at a later date.
- Also worked in how SCA's priorities and work folds into it.
- Board Members invited to look at both SCA and BCRC materials and provide feedback to Marianne.
- Are there others that should be approached and included as SCA's priorities evolve?
- Aim is to go to Research Committee with detailed comparison of SCA and BCRC documents.
- Will update SCA priorities based on BCRC work and recent SCA funding. Hope for board members to go through and highlight what is liked and not liked and get back to Marianne.
- Looking for feedback on whom Marianne should talk to in order to gather new ideas for research.
- Are there areas of research where someone is saying "that's enough digging"?
- Are results getting to people who need to know the answers? That as big or bigger than the issue of doing the research.
- Research coming in is not always helpful to producers. That must inform new research.
- Beef extension Working Group started this year. Doing more video production.
- There is also a challenge in the economics side. Getting econ research done means it has to be publishable. Cost of Production work will not get published so tenure track profs need to consider that. Does there need to be an HR spot added to supplement the work Kathy Larson does? That's being discussed at U of S. They maybe want to ask for funding but will maybe see that down the road.
- Room for research to inform consumers of the added food costs of carbon tax.

Growth Inhibitor in Grain Issue

- There are some counter trends to livestock aims.
- Funders will push as they see fit.

PST

- Difference for dugouts continues.
- Also going to look at whether it is worth pursuing a move to HST.
- Would that be better for businesses?

External Call

Ryan Beierbach

- Nothing new with BCRC.
- CRSB Council met August 17th. Talked GRSB launching global goals and how they are working in National Goals.
- Talked UN Food Systems Summit. Was a hot issue as activists were pushing to an anti-meat agenda, Public and Stakeholder engagement pushed to focus more on food security and getting countries and areas that produce food to do a better job.
- Example resource use in some areas vs others. Focus on those things to lift up productivity instead of anti-food. Looks like positive change in place.

- CRSB hired two new staff to keep up with expanding demand for Certified Sustainable Beef and strategic planning. Intercity Packers is now doing a Mass Balance claim. Chop has expanded to full menu.
- Aligning VBP+ requirements with CRSB? Right now VBP+ is way above CRSB on things like animal health. A similar audit to Where Food Comes From is sought by VBP+. Concern about “moving backwards” but there shouldn’t have to be two standards for a more “onerous” one in the marketplace. Ongoing.
- Canadian AgriFood Sustainability initiative is being engaged by CRSB and co-leading Health and Safety working group benchmark process.
- CCA Food Policy – talked about value of cattle in reducing food waste. Videos tested and good reaction. Pushing on good job feedlots do in using food that otherwise would be added to waste numbers.
- Canada Food Guide did a review. Consumers are misunderstanding the protein sections. Avoiding whole food and moving to highly processed. Need to push on the whole food aspect of animal protein.
- Front of Pack Labelling is on hold. Some concern about skewing results from small groups. Need to do more research that controls for who is making the input Canadian Centre for Food Integrity to get \$10K for research into food labelling and protein.
- Foreign Trade – Exports are up vs last year and more important vs five-year average as last year was COVID impacted. Border Carbon Adjustments are a concern to watch. USDA reviewing Product of USA. Not unrelated to mCOOL long time lobby. The US rules on Product of USA are minimal. There is continuing language that any new rule is compliant with international trade obligations, but it bears watching.
- Work ongoing to capture opportunity of negligible risk status, and to align SRM removal with the US, also pushing on removing CAN brand requirements.
- Pushing to leave beef out of FTA with India. No gain to see and downside to open trade. Looked at EU dumping case, not looking viable.
- Working on making it easier for feedlots to leave the restricted feeder program.
- Bill that looked to make it illegal to include supply management in future negotiations will bear watching in next parliament.
- Environmental Branding Strategy Committee – put a survey out for feel on change of name and logo. See where people are at. Still waiting for that to come back.
- Canadian Feeds Research Centre – amalgamated with Feeds Innovation Institute Worked together before but were “separate.” Now one entity.
- Struggle for staffing as project based.
- Looking for private funding. Majority is dairy work. Some for pigs and chickens. Tiny bit of beef work and working on some feed approvals. Pet food, insects, aquaculture feed that could be a revenue stream. Livestock feed not seen as a positive for future survival.
- Environmental Stewardship award with many nominees. Duane passed along thanks to all
- Mannings for Nova Scotia won this year. Congratulations.
- Viresco and CFGA leading a pilot on carbon storage and valuing. Pilot is on carbon left in soil due to not cultivating.
- Term easements discussed. Those are valued accordingly. Virtual fencing was also discussed.
- Minor works order of Fisheries Act are an ongoing concern. Can a culvert be put in for instance?

Chad Ross

- NCOA – executive stays the same with Chad going into final year as Chair. He is eligible to stay on the board until 2026.

- Goals for the coming year to make dollars go as far as possible and in the right places. Working with ON to get their national levy to \$2.50 to then be able to increase import levy to \$2.50. Good people working on that.
- Working on slippage. Especially across provincial borders. Some funds going to wrong places. Quite a bit happening between MB and ON.
- Remaining provinces that the allocation recommended by the National Strategy is needed. Administering the pork import levy when it comes to pass. Adds a revenue stream.
- Research tax credit is being explored.
- Communications is also being amped up aimed at producers. Webinars produced – perhaps used in fall meetings.
- Town Halls also done. Get the word out what service providers are up to.

Harold Martens

- CRSB Framework Committee- NSF International looks at how audits are done. Looking at all aspects of auditing.
- LSS - monitoring a couple of things. Established a new staff group. Working on pay schedule. Union is part of it. Work ongoing.
- Also monitoring volume of cattle going into markets. Higher in July and August. Mostly yearlings but cows too. That has tapered off.
- 10% cull is normal. May see another 10%. That's a long way from 40-50% predicted. Will still be some big cuts in some pockets but will roll up to less than that on provincial average.
- Purchased a building. Expense went from over \$100,000 per year down to \$50,000. May be able to reduce further if renting some space out.

Will Lowe

- Would like to see Canada's 60-day residency requirement removed from Canada's product of Canada rule. It is an irritant as we work to have the U.S. rules be amendable. We also do not direct to slaughter import many cattle.
- Working on convoys of feeder cattle to the U.S. Positive offsets some constraints due to paperwork issues.
- Electronic Logging Devices and transport regulations work continues. Want to keep Canada on a similar footing to U.S. Want an extension to some of the rules on the books but slow down enforcement as adjustment takes place.
- Restricted Feeder Program – changes in place to clean out protocols. Issues in play with lack of communication and costs that go with that. Brings into question the ability to bring in feeders and flex into Canadian feeders too.
- Working on record keeping requirements.
- Mandatory price reporting was also discussed again. Whether price reporting changes packer margins or not is unclear, but it is being pursued.
- Presentations of late – India FTA, Trusted Trader with CFIA, Finance Committee, MP outreach and tours, Goodale re UK FTA, Carra bd Ng on Carbon Tax with Ag Carbon Alliance.
- Arnold had a call from a veterinarian regarding transport regulations and the side effect they will have on the cattle industry. Need to keep engaged on this.
- Stats Canada Act Section 13 is being pursued for boxed beef pricing. Cattle sales data is there already or can be there more if producers will report.

Ag in the Classroom

- Developing an Investment Policy Statement. Chose a Credit Union advisor.
- Working on Governance.

Verified Beef

- Holly's term is ending with this month. She is taking an interim position with national for a maternity leave. Some in person presentations happening.
- November strategic planning sessions with a consulting group.

SODCAP

- Things are going well.
- Working with ALUS (Alternative Land Use Systems) who have generally been limited to specific projects but challenged for ongoing operations.
- Anonymous donation to SODCAP has been made to help manage those ALUS projects in the next year.
- Carbon sequestration project coming online and may lead to new hiring as lost one person and now more work.

PCAP & Forage

- Meeting coming in October. No news with Forage.

Hall of Fame

- No report

SSGA Update

- Strategic Research Initiative put out via Canadian Agriculture Partnership. Call with province, Viresco, CFGA. Talked about carbon mapping on grasslands. Where can this work in with U of S? Provincial scientists? Agriculture and AgriFood Canada-Iwassa? Still need more conversations about potential to unfold.
- That is a three-year \$2.5 million opportunity.

SCFA

- Recent meeting discussed drought quite a bit. A number of people at the meeting had comments about SCIC program. Barley write-offs doubling but it did not reduce what people tried to sell that salvage crop for.
- Freight on feed is a concern. Corn availability is an issue as we reach beyond North Dakota. A lot is going to come as logistics are worked out.
- How do you change future operation with crop write offs?
- Roll this into the next working group meeting with SCIC
- Research and communication work to do on what straw does for land and follow-on crops. By crop production? By soil type? Compared to what? There is a nutrient load in breaking down straw and turn into soil (its bound up, not available).

Letters Reviewed

Calendar Reviewed – next meeting October 14 – Regina

Board Round Table

Transport regulations are being strongly enforced at the Fort MacLeod horse plant. Compromised animals cannot be unloaded, also cannot put younger animals into the lot there. May lead to closing the plant. What are the ramifications for cattle? Something to watch.

In Camera

Adjourn 1:57pm

MOTION 2021- 072: Welter
“To adjourn.”

Motion Carried



Board Chair – Arnold Balicki

____Leann Clifford____ - _Recording Secretary

October 18, 2021
Date approved