

**Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association  
Board Meeting  
Thursday February 20, 2020  
The Atlas, Regina, SK  
8am**

Arnold Balicki (District 9A)  
Rick Toney, Past Chair  
Kyle Hebert (District 1)  
Leigh Rosengren (District 2)  
Roger Meyers (District 3A)  
Keith Day (District 3B)  
Randy Stokke (District 4)  
Paula Larson (District 7)  
Brian Cole (District 8)  
Arnold Balicki (District 9A)  
Dean Moore (District 9B)  
Brad Welter (Director, SCFA)  
Garret Poletz (Director, SCFA)  
Harold Martens (Director, SSGA)

**SCA Staff:**

Ryder Lee (CEO)  
Christina Betker (Policy)  
Marianne Possberg (Production)  
Leann Clifford (Executive Administrator)  
Glenn LaPointe (Marketing and Communications)

**Guest:**

Holly Thompson

**Regrets:**

Levi Hull (District 5)  
Brent Griffin (District 6)  
Kelcy Elford (Director, SSGA)

Arnold Balicki called the meeting to order at 8:02 am.  
Introductions around the room were made.

**1.0 Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION 2020-08: Rosengren / Day  
"To accept the Agenda as presented"**

**Motion Carried**

**1.01 Review of Minutes  
December 12, 2019**

**MOTION 2020-09: Moore / Hebert**

**“To accept the December 12, 2019 minutes as presented.”**

**Motion Carried**

**January 30, 2020**

**MOTION 2020-10: Martens / Larson**

**“To accept the January 30, 2019 reorganization meeting as presented.”**

**Motion Carried**

**1.02 Chair Report**

- Smalley interview regarding industry issues. CETA. China, NAFTA, Carbon Tax. Beyond meat.
- Attended the Guardians of the Grassland screening at the U of S.
- Participated in the policy & stakeholder engagement webinar, hosted by CCA’s Amie Peck. Went with Producer eyes.

**MOTION 2020-11: Balicki / Moore**

**“To accept the Chair Report as presented.”**

**Motion Carried**

**1.03 CEO Report**

- Attended NCBA conference
- There is a tough balance being sought in the U.S. right now. There is a loud and persistent voice calling into question packer and processor practices and profits. Some people seem to believe mandatory country of origin labeling will fix all the issues. Those aren’t the people we met with but they do have a loud voice. And it seems recognized that the President is willing to act on a whim. This combination has NCBA and others looking to find a way to answer the concern about use of Product of USA labels on imported meats with minimal processing and the concern about what the President could do on any given day to “fix it.” Whatever “it” might be that day.
- The motion put forth is concerning but they did try to strike a balance. They see many processors using a Product of USA claim or sticker on packages “because they can” not because they are marketing it. This includes in mixes like grind or other minimally processed products that don’t necessarily include only U.S. product. Canada has a list of minimal requirements that have to occur before something can convert to Product of Canada through work in a plant. They want anyone using a Product of USA claim to have to go through a Process Verified Program. The thought is this will cut out the ones that don’t want to do the work and keep it voluntary. The concern is what the process will be for conferring origin on live animals. As long as origin stays with where the live animal became beef then it should stay away from sorting. Anything else will go to sorting and we will be back to the effects of mandatory country of origin labeling even though it is “not the same.”

- Of all the state groups we met with and in discussions and presentations with NCBA there was no stated desire to effect live cattle trade. There was a high level of awareness and even appreciation for Canadian buyers in U.S. markets. Caution was suggested in this whole proposal as what is proposed as a policy solution is not always what comes out the other end. It bears watching with a close eye and careful advocacy.
- Other than that issues we face and they face overlap to a strong degree. Shortage of workforce supply, public support, urban disconnected decisions makers, predators and the people who want more of them, land cost and land conversion away from agriculture. The ministry cost shares this advocacy activity for the duration of CAP. It will be good to introduce Arnold to the event next winter.
- AGM 2020 successful.

**MOTION 2020-12: Day/ Stokke**

**“To accept the CEO report as presented.”**

**Motion Carried**

**1.04 Financial Report**

**MOTION 2020-13: Moore / Hebert**

**“To accept the Financial Report as presented.”**

**Motion Carried**

**1.05 Governance**

Committee work divides the board’s work into manageable tasks. Committees are smaller groups with a tight focus on a particular issue. Having too many committees can bog down the work of the board. To get the best value from committees, boards should form as few committees as they need to address critical issues. Committees should be clear in their directives and scope of work. SCA’s committees follow the regulatory requirements (Finance and Audit, Executive and Governance) and Strategic Plan (Communications, Government Advocacy, Research, Animal Health and Care).

**New Business**

**Strategic Plan**

- Reviewed and discussed

**LFCE Advisory Board**

- Discussed some names (Spratt, Thompson, Beierbach, Hull)

**Beef Chair Advisory Committee**

- Brian Cole

**National Allocations**

- Currently at 65-30-5. National roll up at 56-26-5-13 provincial.
- Chad Ross joined the conversation
- Agency reducing one meeting per year and moving one around per year.

- Ramping up inspections. Mainly education focused.
- Gatepost communications. Thinkbeef.ca is generic levy promotions that Joyce Parslow does.
- Got the recommendations to get the agreement one with them, Veal has agreed to changes and hope to have signed in next month. This gives them a member on the Marketing Board.
- Want them representing national check off interest, not just provincial.
- No change to allocations for rest year.

**CDC Building Proposal**

- Discussed goals of research and the request. Need for breeding space and other space that attracts the researchers.

**MOTION 2020-14: Marten/ Larson**

**“That SCA contribute \$100,000 to the CDC Plant Growth Facility over two years.”**

**Motion Carried**

**Membership Review**

- CRSB and Farm & Food Care are up for renewal. For information as already part of approved budget.

**PNWER**

- Discussed what the event is and how it has worked in the past.

**MOTION 2020-15: Welter/ Toney**

**“That SCA sponsor PNWER at the \$5,000 level for 2020.”**

**Motion Carried**

**Saskatchewan Country Music Assoc.**

Received info

**Diabetes RCMP Charity Ball**

**MOTION 2020-16: Hebert/ Cole**

**“That SCA support the 2020 Diabetes Canada RCMP Gala for \$5,000.”**

**Motion Carried**

**SunWest Farm to Fork**

**MOTION 2020-16: Welter/ Stokke**

**“That SCA support the SunWest Farm to fork 2.0 event for \$1,500.”**

**Motion Carried**

**SSGA**

**MOTION 2020-17: Martens/ Cole**

**“That SCA fund the SSGA convention 2020 for \$2,500.”**

**Motion Carried**

**STARS Night w/the STARS Gala**

No doubt STARS delivers value to rural living.

**MOTION 2020-18: Martens/ Stokke**

**“That SCA sponsor the STARS Night with the STARS Gala for \$5,000 for 2020.”**

**Motion Carried**

## **Research Priorities**

- Research committee met last night and reviewed priorities.
- Testing going on in Texas for individual tags that go off when body temperature drops.
- Rubbing going on near Val Marie and no lice, vet suspects deficiency.
- Discussed the idea of a targeted call for proposals.
- What management system can get more from native grass?
- What about two crops in a year?

## **AGM Review**

- Support staying in Saskatoon every year.

## **Resolutions from the AGM**

### **AGM Motion One**

That SCA lobby the government to add additional WLPPIP calf premium tables for 650 weight calves that is available to purchase in fall for spring settlement. – Carried

### **MOTION 2020-19: Hebert/ Day**

**“That calf price insurance coverage for spring market settlement be added to that program.”**

**Motion Carried**

### **AGM Motion Two**

That SCA petition the government of Saskatchewan and relevant Crown corporations to acknowledge and credit class 1A driving trainees (in time and cost) for skills and competencies existing prior to entering the training process. Carried

**“That Saskatchewan Class 1A drive training include a skill recognition and test challenge aspect similar to other trades accreditation programs.”**

**Motion Carried**

### **AGM Motion Three**

That SCA lobby to increase the Canadian Agricultural Loans Act loan limit from \$500,000 to \$2 million. – Defeated

Noted by the board

### **AGM Motion Four**

That SCA lobby the provincial government to allow producers the right of refusal for the sale of Crown land, subject to clarification by the SCA board. – Carried

Referred to Government Program and Policy committee.

### **AGM Motion Five**

That SCA lobby government and conservation groups to develop policies and programs using current and future funding that would recognize the environmental value of grasslands to Canadians and assist the ranching industry to aid in the succession and expansion of grasslands. – Withdrawn

Buying land is not helping succession or expansion of grasslands. Should have to turn land NCC is buying back to the ranching industry.

Intent of the motion is that none of what they buy should stay in their management. CCA has asked Randy to sit on a committee about this. Wait on this issue to see what that committee delivers.

NCC does a lot of 1-year permits which can and sometimes does lead to overstocking.

Not like DU churning land they buy, reclaim or put easements on. This money is earmarked for land securement. DU even gets money from NCC.

### **AGM Motion Six**

That SCA petition the Alberta and Canadian governments to reduce the number of elk from the Suffield block. – Carried

A future board meeting will include a guest discussing wildlife management.

### **External Call**

#### **Reg Schellenberg**

Producer tour NCBA – two projects on the go

- 1) Wagyu cross beef, feeding the OTM to achieve 1700 - pound target finished weight. Contracts with retail and steakhouses.
- 2) Deal with dairy farmers to buy beef cross steers. Doing well on feed and doing well to retail. This could be a big competitor / influx of supply into the beef market. Born year round. They also qualify for Certified Angus Beef.

Chief vet gave a presentation on supply of vaccine for FMD. NCBA was successful in getting a \$30 million commitment in the last Farm Bill to expand, BUT they will look after themselves first. Need for Canada to take care of our own preparedness.

Will be discussed in March at CCA AGM and committee meetings.

Traceability is much further back than Canada. China has indicated they will accept the current U.S. regulations to be the standard to go by. So, all the full traceability regulations Canada is discussing are not needed for China access.

FMD vaccine lives around 5 years in storage. Lots of strains that require their own vaccine. Cannot know what the draw will be and how much supply you need, also need productive capacity post event.

#### **Lynn Grant**

Upcoming CCA meetings. ON asked for federal help on their lack of slaughter capacity. One plant has been closed so do not see that reopening any time soon.

Reg and Jack Chafe and others met with Cargill at NCBA to discuss Ontario, conveyed the need for expansion or improvement to speed up the numbers they can process there. They were receptive to the idea and were looking into it.

#### **YCC – Holly Thompson**

A few conference calls. Attending Ottawa for CCA AGM. Gathering information. Did a survey with young producers about struggles and challenges regarding following in family farms or start new? Most is cost of land and financial challenges.

Each provincial rep's homework is to research best options for loans and programs for young producers.

### **AITC – Arnold Balicki**

Arnold's director position is up for renewal. Kathy from Cargill and Heather from Wingfield United do a lot of work and would be good to see them back on the board.

AGM is April 8 in Saskatoon.

Arnold would like one more two- year term at AITC and that would end his time.

### **SODCAP – Keith Day**

Working on a deal Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) who has committed \$50,000 to SODCAP to focus on the SOD area. Help pay for the services they are providing.

Still waiting on SARPAL funding renewal.

### **VBP+ - Arnold Balicki**

Met with Ministry of AG, looking for a multi- year contract to go until the end of CAP by April 1.

17-18 \$122,500, plus bonus for trained producers of \$12,500. Last year \$100,000.

This year's offer is \$75,000, which means another ask is coming to SCA. They are firm on that level. Met with Krystal Tendler, Roxie MacLeod and Theo Bryson and Arnold represented both the employee side and the VBP+ Board member.

This year, everyone who has been trained will need to be trained again. This is same as BQA. That means a lot of people to retrain. Over 2,000 people.

Would have to train 700 people per year in a three - year cycle.

VBP+ funding goes to training only, nothing else.

Talking this through, they opened the door a little to maybe some more funding.

National does online training and charges \$50. None goes to SKVBP+.

Sees a revenue squeeze coming as this might move to national more as people move to online.

Any extra money they need to have on hand to deal with wind down or other prudent reserve needs.

Three years ago, the government provided about \$240,000 which was all the funding.

Year two of the proposal is \$65,000. Year three is \$55,000.

They are funding a lot through the Assurance Program. In 18-19 was \$300,000. This year it will reach \$1 million. This includes supporting audits.

Nation VBP+ meeting is coming up. Arnold has a LOT of reading to do ahead of that. Bringing in a liability company has changed things around privacy, pricing, appeals, compliance resolutions. Have a rejig the master policy document.

### **CRSB – Harold Martens**

1225 producers certified. JBS has come on board as Certified which will increase the opportunity for those that ship there. One year ago, there were 358 people in line to be certified. 254 audits are pending. Goal for 2020 is to hit four retail partners using the logo and 1 more retail added to QSRs.

Need is there to get plants paid for having those lines in there.

Did 4.9 million pounds of beef. Think they can get to 7 million.

Two places that is sold. Harvey's and McDonald's. Grocery cannot because not enough supply.

Won't see the logo unless there is adequate supply.

Community aspect of sustainability is an untapped piece. It plays a lot more than may be realized, how much people put back into their communities.

**LSS – Harold Martens**

Strategic Planning sessions just passed. Real good provider, Harvey Lidden. Talked of delivery of services. Starting on e-manifest by spring. Would be slick for manifests. Printing manifests is a huge expense to LSS. Traceability remains uncertain and will wait for the rules.

**SCFA**

Feedlot school was a success.

**Wildlife Advisory Committee**

Not a lot of happiness there about new trespass rules. Working is going space on an app. Not totally against the change but Keith explained what has been gone through even for people that post phone numbers and with permission.

Seemed like there isn't much advising going on. The decisions have been made already and the "advisors" were just told.

For example, wanted more hunter uptake so approved lighter caliber guns. Causes problems when they only wound target animals.

In camera.

**Adjourn 2:50pm**

**MOTION 2020-20: Balicki**

**"To adjourn."**

**Motion Carried**



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Board Chair – Arnold Balicki

\_\_\_\_Leann Clifford\_\_\_\_ - \_Recording Secretary

Date approved