

**Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association
Board Meeting
Thursday March 19, 2020
Conference Call
8am**

Arnold Balicki Chair (Director 9A)
Rick Toney, Past Chair
Kyle Hebert (Director 1)
Leigh Rosengren (Director 2)
Keith Day (Director 3B)
Randy Stokke (Director 4)
Levi Hull (Director 5)
Paula Larson (Director 7)
Brian Cole (Director 8)
Brad Welter (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:

Brent Griffin (Director 6)
Kelcy Elford (Director, SSGA)
Roger Meyers (Director 3A)
Dean Moore (Director 9B)
Garret Poletz (Director, SCFA)

Arnold Balicki called the meeting to order at 8:07 am.

1.0 Approval of Agenda

- Additions added

MOTION 2020-21: Larson Welter

"To accept the Agenda as presented"

Motion Carried

**1.01 Review of Minutes
February 20,2020**

MOTION 2020-22: Hebert / Cole

“To accept the February 20, 2020 minutes as amended.”

Motion Carried

1.02 Chair Report

- Attended CCA AGM. Thank you to the Sask. reps as they were a big help in showing the ropes.
- Minister Bibeau addressed the group. States not a miracle worker so do not expect changes to the transport regulations. Was quick to answer industry will have to build the rest stations.
- Northern Livestock are not shutting down sales aside from maybe consolidating sales. They were hand delivered an order restricting gathering to less than 50. Bull sales usually draws a crowd of 200. Uncertainty over how to handle that and the six feet of separation.
- Minister Marit says the province is asking for a cash infusion from the federal government during the Ag Minister’s briefing before the fiscal update. Provincial government has asked the feds for a cash injection as well.
- Irrigation was highlighted. \$5M for analysis, an encouraging step.

MOTION 2020-23: Balicki / Moore

‘To accept the Chair Report as presented.’

Motion Carried

1.03 CEO Report

- SCA on good financial ground. Received reimbursement from the federal government for the satellite research project. Some work on that is continuing with a Canadian Cattlemen’s Assoc. project and I will be part of that process.
- CCA meetings were last week. It is a bit overwhelming taking in all the information at those meetings over the course of two days. The need to get rid of reference margin limiting was a clear recommendation from MNP along with strong messaging that with that change it is a good program that works for cattle producers, and even for diverse operations that triggered payments last year.
- Coming is a agriculture and food immigration pilot project. It sounds like a good bit of progress to making it easier to bring willing workers into Canada when we cannot find willing Canadians. Service Canada is taking Labour Market Impact Assessments in online and approval turnaround is reportedly just days. This pilot project needs to be successful.
- How the world is taking the COVID news and reacting points to the need for our industry to be “ready” for an event. Good to have people working on the Animal Health emergency M arrangement project. We will hear more about this year including training aimed to leadership. To date everything is up in the air.
- Transport regulations shoes continue to drop. We have work to do in providing tools and information to producers and others in industry to help with compliance. Hope the paperwork part can be helped by an updated manifest. CFIA is not very helpful on the ground and we are engaged with them to get through this transition period and make sure flow is not impacted more than the regulations already do. There is also a national working group working with CFIA to see how this can work.

- SCA's goals for price insurance were brought forward and supported at the CCA meetings. One was to make WLPIP permanent and the other to expand to have a calf settlement in spring.
- A good research forum unfolded since the last meeting. Thanks to directors who took that in and who were on the road for other SCA items this past month.
- Talked about the scene in Regina regarding COVID19 and the industry responses thus far.

MOTION 2020-24: Toney/ Stokke

“To accept the CEO report as presented.”

Motion Carried

1.04 Financial Report

MOTION 2020-25: Day/ Martens

“To accept the Financial Report as presented.”

Motion Carried

- Talked about Affinity account

1.05 Governance

Who do I represent on the board?

From the Governance Manual section on fiduciary Obligations:

The obligation to act “with a view to the best interests of the organization” requires directors to:

- a) Place the organization interest above their own personal interest; and
- b) Act in the interest of the organization as a whole rather than in the interests of any stakeholders, no one person’s interest being permitted to prevail over the others. The law recognizes that the best interests of the organizations will not always align with that of the stakeholders, with the organization’s actions affecting different stakeholders differently.

Communications Report

- Working to synchronize national voice with our voice.
- Rick, Arnold and Glenn met with SK Ministry referencing educational space. Quotes are inhand.
- Creating a public space service type of video.
- Website analysis has cell numbers by board members. Request to have Director cell numbers but not Director emails on the site.
- Ads on the radio. Rick has been getting some feedback. Lots of comments. Producers like the ads, like the beef focused. Good way to get our message out, to negate the negative.
- Have had producers saying what about beef and the immune system? Need verified proof that links the two together. Something that we can back up and include while this whole COVID thing is unfolding. Need verification, the science. If we have the facts to back it up we need to take advantage of immune boost in next few weeks.

Research Report

- Research forum update.
- Continue to grow the number of researchers that know SCA is there to fund beef and forage based research. Need to hear form directors that were there on their feedback.

- Karin Tanino peer review still waiting. Facial recognition research is looking for cooperators. They are looking for an auction mart. Could replace branding? RFID? Diagnose lameness? Plant Id? Poundmaker will be involved.

New Business

Impacts & response regarding COVID19

- Discussed several areas of impact of decision making, of a possible request.
- Cash flow? – They keep eating.
- What should be the base? Acres is easy to deal with. Need a firm base. Number of cattle is tough to track but is better for cattle feeders who would have numbers.
- AgrInvest is a good mode as it is cash in the pocket and not a loan. Simple thing to go off income. Producer had to put something int here. Has been talk of using it for an environment injection.
- Programs in the past had people come and count, as it is the most accurate way to do it.
- Price Insurance is not a national program so that will lead to different treatment nationally. Programs over the year have had audit components. Who does the counting? LSS has been called on in the past and it has a cost. Only do random audits, have done in the past. Provincial Feeder Finance Co-op could be contracted to audit.
- What qualifies anyone for a payment? Across the board? Depending on numbers of cows. How do you qualify?
- Acres for cattle Is pretty out of whack. Productive acres vs other.
- Pick a day and record that inventory. Bureaucrat will want to pick just calves or just cows. Or, do you pick saleable inventory as at March 1? Then you'd be able to have sales receipts since then. Top up? Feed assistance? Set aside? Marketing assistance. Would have to class them in weight classes. Cow vs Grasser vs Finished.
- Concern with markets not coming around, worry about price insurance program paying out massively.
- This would be viewed as a cash input to help producers with spring expenses. It would be interesting to know what Minister Marit is thinking. Preference is payment per cow-calf unit per Dec 31 AgriStability numbers like in 2003 and pay through AgrInvest. What did they do in 2011 when it was wet? Helped with transport and some custom feeding cost. Some are in a situation where holding inventory for longer. Some cost to transport and other costs including death loss and yardage. Cost per head per day can be found pretty easily.
- Concern about any ask at this point - what if we get what we ask for and we ended up needing something far greater. How do we come up with the number today? Feeding side would be a flat out guess with not much to back it up.
- Concern about plants shutting down. Then what? Backlogging fats and feeders becomes worse. Will we compound the problem later on in life of these cattle.
- Cow/calf guy hasn't got much impact right now. Backgrounder and feedlot is where the hurt is. Will this blow over? Monitor
- Do we talk about Phase I now for backgrounders and feeders that sell into this market? That would leave an opening for a Phase II later in the year.

Canadian Cattlemen's Association Rep

- To replace Reg Schellenberg

MOTION 2020-26: Martens/ Hull

“That SCA appoint Ryan Beierbach to Canadian Cattlemen’s Association board until the next SCA AGM.”

Motion Carried

Youth Retreat

- Olds and Manitoba did theirs in Feb 2020. We would aim for the same timing in 2021.
- Looking to work with Holly Thompson to build something attractive and of value.

Animal Health and Care Committee

- Move this to next month. AHEM meeting has been cancelled.

Weston Foundation and SSGA

- Randy has read the proposal and feels we should support it with a letter of recommendation.
- Leave the door open to further cooperation is a good idea as they are not asking for specifics as of yet.

MOTION 2020-27: Day/ Martens

“That SCA support the Weston Foundation application from the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Foundation both in principle and as a potential future collaborator.”

Motion Carried

Culinary Federation

MOTION 2020-28: Rosengren/ Welter

“That SCA fund up to \$6,500 on the Culinary Federation event as long as we can get that funding back if the event is cancelled.”

Motion Carried

External Call

Duane Thompson

Sits on three committees for SCA. Foreign Trade. Parliament pushed CUSMA through CPTPP was very successful, probably bigger than even hoped. CETA is an ongoing concern as is what happens with Britain. Can we start with a template like CPTPP?

SARPAL appears to continue for three more years.

PMRA pulling strychnine for Richardson ground squirrels in three years. Looking at challenging based on scientific approach. They cherry picked the science. Cost of that would be about \$25,000. Too much. Many different commodity groups and Ag groups are coming together on this one. SARM is leading something out of SK.

Fisheries Act changes. Implementing the Act and committed to working with stakeholders. They seem willing to work with us. Minor work orders is coming together as far as what is and is not navigable. They are working with and listening to industry.

Working with Nature Conservancy. Now have a list of potential programs of working together that have been circulated to the committee. That should go to Randy Stokke too.

RM of Maple Creek research on gophers was ignored by PMRA.

Met with Parliamentary Secretary for environment. Terry Duguid from Winnipeg South. They are looking at some restriction of water functions of PFRA. Well received/ lots of questions.

Reg Schellenberg

CCA’s priority continues to be the continuation of business.

Working group on OIE status change, CFIA has reassured that is still a priority ahead of July.

Congrats and Thanks were extended to Reg for his new role with CCA.

Pat Hayes

Duane ran for Executive/ Directors. Pat and Duane sit there. Ask that Ryan coordinate with the other directors to keep covering all the committees at CCA. Need to fill some holes there.

Executive: the 53 cents per head was to build up a reserve over a five year plan. Wants some feedback on what should be done if someone wants to deviate. Minister asked to meet. Will listen on science.

Animal Health and Care. VP attended.

Ramp angles. No truck has a ramp that complies right now. What do we do?

No packing industry in the east, how to deal with lactating dairy cows.

They don't understand cows /calf pairs going to pasture.

Things the working group is working on, trying to soften it.

Ryan Beierbach - BCRC

BCRC met at SBIC, most were there for a tour of the LFCE.

Attended meetings at NCBA. Origin labelling talked about quite a bit. Voluntary but maybe still a problem.

Met with University researchers in San Antonio. How funding is allocated. Check off dollars are just used for product research, not production research. They seem to like our producers driven research that benefits producers.

Cattlemen's College showed some interesting content.

U of S frustration over not having lifelong funding for a chair. They are more open to it if industry money is not just there for 5 or 8 or 10 years. Province and BCRC need to talk more about this.

Andrea and Reynold are involved in several teams with COVID.

They are wondering about effects on research projects, will it mean needing delays in funding?

Christina - NFCA

In Ottawa with NFCA for meetings and lobby day. Wide array of meeting, all good. Some MPs appeared unaware of some of the files that will affect industry.

Holly Thompson – YCC

YCC met up in Ottawa during CCA's AGM lobbying day taking forward the issues facing young producers in the industry.

Attended Question Period on Tuesday.

Looking forward to CBIC in Penticton.

Working on structural changes before then.

Harold Martens -F&FC

Several cancellations to deal with.

Arnold Balicki – AITC

Pushed back the AGM. Several bylaw changes coming up. Lost a finance employee.

Thought they'd be short on funding, so they cut some programs, maybe too many as they ended up in a positive \$36,000. This will become the base for future.

CALM presentations cancelled / postponed.

Keith Day – SODCAP

Tom Harrison states National fish and wildlife Foundation has awarded SODCAP \$300,000 matching grant for SW activity around species at risk.

Arnold Balicki – VBP+

Meetings with government cancelled. Asking Krystal Tendler where they are at, there is an agreement tentatively in but was waiting on yesterday’s fiscal update.

Harold Martens – CRSB

Meeting scheduled for late April are moving online. Still looking for refund on early registration and the hotels.

Harold Martens – LSS

Conference call meeting coming up on March 25th.

SCFA

Feedlot school was a success.

Old Business

Morneau’s mandate letter regarding succession & taxation

Christina updated the group.

LMS Letter & Names

Discussed the letter and the plans to move forward.

Calendar Synchronized

In camera.

Adjourn 11:24am

MOTION 2020-29: Balicki

“To adjourn.”

Motion Carried



Board Chair – Arnold Balicki

____Leann Clifford____ - _Recording Secretary

Date approved