

**Saskatchewan Cattlemen’s Association
Board Meeting
Thursday March 23, 2017
Ramada Saskatoon, SK – 8am**

Ryan Beierbach, Chair (Director, District 1)
Joe Jackson (Director 2)
Laurie Disney (Director, District 3A)
Keith Day (Director, District 3B)
Rick Toney (Director, District 4)
Garret Hill (Director, District 6)
Paula Larson (Director, District 7)
Michael Spratt (Director, District 8)
Arnold Balicki (Director, District 9A)
Dean Moore (Director, District 9B)
Brad Welter (Director, SCFA)
Chad Ross (Director,SCFA)
Harold Martens (Director, SSGA)

SCA Staff:

Ryder Lee (CEO)
Leann Clifford – (Executive Administrator)
Marianne Possberg – (Production)
Christina Patterson – (Policy)
Tom Jordens – (Communications)

Regrets:

Levi Hull (Director, District 5)
Bill Jameson, Past Chair
Bill Huber (Director,SSGA)

Ryan Beierbach called the meeting to order at 8:03am

1.00 Approval of Agenda

MOTION 2017-034: Spratt/Toney

“To accept the agenda as presented”

Motion Carried

1.01 Review of Minutes*

February 23,2017
Lee reviewed the minutes.

MOTION 2017-035: Martens/ Larson

“ To accept the February 23,2017 minutes .”

Motion Carried

Introductions of Tom Jordens and the board.

1.02 Chair Report

- Beierbach read his report.
- Participated in a meeting with the Ag Ministry on sustainability in livestock production and the future of extension services.
- Met with APAS cattle committee, the main purpose was to discuss the recognition of cattle producers for the carbon grasslands sequester. Keep them in mind when we are trying to advance issues.
- During the Weeds Act discussion, trespassing came up, they seem to think hunters should have permission to hunt. They would like to align their position with ours on recognition on carbon sequestration and think we should use the same research so that we are talking about the same T/ac amounts when talking to government – speaking with one voice.
- Attended the budget announcement yesterday. Sask pastures program being transitioned to private. Consultations are coming quickly, 5% of herd use those pastures and about 13% of producers.
- PST up to 6% and added to insurance
- Plan for property tax to cover 40% of education costs, values on farm land increases can likely mean ag paying more of the share.
- Eliminated capital funding for irrigation bridges.
- 1\$ million for rural enforcement was difficult to understand exactly.
- The federal budget touched on research funds. SCA can work to make sure that is accessed to help industry.

MOTION 2017-036: Beierbach/ Hill

“To accept the Chair report as presented.”

Motion Carried

1.03 CEO Report

- Lee presented the written report.
- Attended CCA’s AGM – provided a good review of national and international issues.
- Canada Beef seems to be opening up and looking to better work with provincial organizations.
- LSS is making progress on their project to move from paper to electronic.
- Importance of VBP+ success is important. As industry moves toward a brand that can be marketed credibly a successful VBP+ is the vehicle needed to deliver that brand
- We have signed contracts with the federal government for research projects.
- Went to the Ministry Stakeholders meeting and talked about sustainability.
- Saskatoon Home Show was well received – do need to have producers present at the booth.
- Regina home show is next.
- The LFCE steering committee also met and discussed governance. A structure is coming together with a sub group working up a proposed strategic advisory board makeup for consideration later this month.

MOTION 2017- 037: Disney/ Toney

“To accept the CEO report as presented.”

Motion Carried

1.04 Financial Report

- Reviewed

MOTION 2017-038: Martens/Jackson

“ To accept the financial report as presented.”

Motion Carried

9am – Reg Schellenberg, Pat Hayes, Lynn Grant, Les Johnson

Regrets: Mark Elford

CCA Report

Pay Hayes-CCA

- Duane on Foreign Trade, Environment and Domestic Ag. Reg on Animal Health and Care and Value Creation. Lynn on Foreign Trade, Domestic Ag and Environment, Pat on Animal Care and Domestic Ag.
- Since CCA meeting Pat received a letter out of Health Canada talking antimicrobials and pushing to have vets control all drugs. Pat has not heard anything more.

CCIA

- 6th & 7th meeting is coming up. Tags and TB?
- Report to Animal Health & Care committee took a strong swipe at community pastures and tagging.
- Pat spoke to Bob Lowe about traceability and how industry is aiming to move trace forward.
- CFIA will not let the manufacturer change the backing because it is considered a “new tag” and have to pull all in the channel.
- CCIA is in talks with CFIA about just changing the back.
- CCIA is doing trials in lab with heat and cold to see if it can be improved to last better, have to add animal oil into the mix.
- Some talk of UHF vs VHF tags. Cost is more. Made for different applications. Changeover of all would be very expensive.
- CFIA coming from two sides of commingling mouth about not liking community pastures but wanting more rest stops.
- ATQ gets 3.5 million data hits going into their system and about 10% of animals in country. If CCIA does the rest, 35 million hits per year is a fair extrapolation. Pushing Ag Canada about filling those gaps and funding.
- Reducing or relaxing requirements on mature cows? Any news?

Reg Schellenberg:

Animal Care resolution – That CCA take the lead lobby role on funding and implementation on traceability. Make it clear that the industry has invested over \$350 million in trace through tags. They continue to throw trade up as a reason for trace – which is not what it is for.

Lynn Grant:

- Relatively quiet at Domestic Af and Environment committee meetings.
- Renewing membership in Canadian Agriculture Human Resources Council for \$5,000. That Council has been working hard to push the workforce issues forward.
- Environment – Motion - “That any future Carbon related policies not have a negative competitiveness impact on the cattle industry.”
- Do we change the Carbon conversation to good vs bad? Food is good.

Les Johnson:

- CRSB is a bigger challenge and more complex than thought a few years ago.
- Working hard on the audit cycle. Wants to keep the cycle the same
- Board could send a letter saying we are concerned with the cost of a quickly recurring audit. Industry would like their product all wrapped up nicely. That is not what is being delivered by audits, audits are to verify what is going on.
- Trying to acknowledge operations that are in and not in. Privacy Laws are an issue with names, will be numbers instead.
- CRSB is aiming for web based training. Not in person. Seeking partnerships to “build producer capacity.”
- Chain of custody is another conundrum. CRSB set requirements and have others look after it, BIXS? “Birth to Beef”
- What do you do when an on program outfit buys in cattle from someone off program?
- Terry and Les facing a fight to keep the audits simple and cost controlled.
- Les had not planned to go to Guelph. If Terry feels it is of value, he can make a point of getting there. Harold is not going. Ryan is calving.
- Les feels he is making some headway in the point that it starts by having a cow calf operation on the program. Otherwise feeders do not have inputs. Nobody down the line does either.

BIXS:

- CFIA tag has a bunch of numbers. Spot on there for your protocols for your farm.

Production Specialist Report:

- Met with the provincial veterinarians to discuss everything from emergency responses for livestock to disease surveillance and premise ID.
- Holos meeting – Holos uses whatever research that meets their criteria. Marianne encouraged them to apply to ADF. IPCC cannot change until they have research that encourages change. Holos follows IPCC and would work to influence it.

MOTION 2017-039: Hill/Disney

“ To accept the Production Specialist report as presented.”

Motion Carried

Animal Welfare Report

- Report presented discussion on:
- Emergency response due to transport accidents.
- Transport regulations.
- Report any animal abuse.
- Antibiotic use.
- Funding for animal welfare for growing forward
- Disease surveillance
- Disease investigation unit/program
- PID numbers

MOTION 2017-040: Welter/Disney

“To accept the animal welfare report as presented.”

Motion Carried

Sean MacKenzie visit:

- gave a review of the investment portfolio. There was a question and answer period.

VBP+ Report:

- Arnold presented report
- Keep hearing it is not going anywhere and producers are not going to change without seeing money in hand.
- Need producers on board on VBP+ and on BIXS so packers and processors can access that product and get it to market.
- Transition from funding by government to NCO and consolidate? Adding Virgil in will bring some coordinating capacity.
- Plan is not need the VBP+ transition management group that Arnold is on
- CRSB is leaning toward VBP+, need to nurture that along.

MOTION 2017-041: Balicki/Moore

“ To accept the VBP+ report as presented.”

Motion Carried

LUNCH BREAK 12-1pm

NCO Allocation and Business Plan

- Business plan is a requirement under the Act. This is the first time it has been done since the merger in 2011. Farm Products Council is happy to see this happening.
- This is the high level document of each and their plan to link back to the National Beef Strategy.
- It is up to the Agency to vet provincial activities as fitting in the Act before they present the plan to Council. The Council asked the Agency to make sure provincial activities link back to the Strategy.
- Planned \$2.5 million deficit, how long is that sustainable? Getting that question a lot. Right now, the Agency holds about \$8 million in reserve. There was acknowledgement in the past that Legacy Funds were ending and Cluster was ending /starting and that some reserve dipping would happen.
- Anticipation is that with NCO increase across Canada those dips into reserve will not be needed.

- Reserve is broken down \$4 million restricted, would be needed to wind down the Agency including foreign offices. Another \$4 million is unrestricted.
- If increase is not done, reserves will be burned and programs will need to be changed to fit the budget.
- Did not anticipate the increase would take this long. This is the only year of being able to run a deficit.
- Agency and CB meetings are held separate. Budget is for four face to face meetings per year.
- Agency has discussed a small legal reserve. Regulatory changes. Agreement changes.
- \$70k per board meeting? Brought on site. 16 directors from across Canada. \$285k is not just for meeting. Chair travel, exec travel, per diems.
- Chair receives monthly stipend. Directors after time get per diems and expenses.
- Allocations – one year wait if taking funds away. The table is based on net allocations, without administration of the agency. The chart is based on \$2.50 provincial and \$1 import levy.
- Can import levy go up without Quebec? YES. They pay higher rates in their province. QC leaves 3% for admin and takes back 97%
- AGM is in August at CBIC. Full day instead of half day. Delegate packages should be on their way.
- Allocation decision from SCA by March 31 will become operational April 1, 2018.

MOTION 2017-042: Toney/Larson

“ That SCA allocate national check off 65% Canada Beef, 30% BCRC, and 5% CCA/Issues Management effective April 1,2018.”

Motion Carried

Hiring process is very close on a new Canada Beef lead staff. Encourage everyone to join “The League” and follow on social media. The Round Up App is also a growing engagement tool.

Environment Committee Report

- Five priorities and some added.
- Work with SARM regarding invasive species prevention. Also highways and railways and gravel pits.
- Investigate methods to have invaders added to noxious weeds list.
- Work better with PCAP, SODCAP and grazing clubs in better ways. Grazing clubs are seen as covering too variable of situations. Use video and blogs instead and leave district specialists.
- Holistic Farming? Focus must be on good management not just “holistic” management.
- Additional support for CRSB and finding producers to join the trial assessment. Social media and meetings. Testimonials and videos. Tom is working on finishing up Arnold’s video.
- Meet with Coy, Terry and Arnold to get VBP+ going better in Sask.
- Research needed to increase understanding of cattle and the environment. Not on feed efficiency, but yes on sequestration. Find a way for Vote 10 funded research to be able to collaborate with U researchers. Find ways to engage with others?.
- Dealing with non-permission access to lands. Work with SARM and NGOs on this.
- Non reversionary land was discussed.

MOTION 2017-043: Toney/Hill

“That SCA lobby the provincial and federal government to keep the non reversionary lands, which are part of the PFRA transitions, in an environmentally stable state by grazing of cattle of the producers and patrons that have been grazing it in the past, and that the lease be similar to provincial leases that have been transitioned from PFRA pastures.”

Motion Carried

If it leaves PFRA, AAFC gets first refusal, then Environment and all departments get first go.
Next is First Nations, if no interest then selling it.
Committee will have a call in the next while based on the pastures being phased out.

Old Business

SSGA Funding

- Rather than funding through a travel grant where results may be lobbying counter to SCA or paying for people travelling where SCA does not pay directors to go, Can SCA channel funding to SSGA through magazine advertizing?

MOTION 2017-044: Balicki/ Welter

“ That in lieu of travel grants to SSGA that SCA purchase at least \$20,000 worth of space in Beef Business magazine.”

Motion Carried

LUNCH BREAK 12-1pm

LMS Funding

- They requested 3 cents per head funding. Suggestion is their members advertise in exchange for some organization funding, Don't forget screen adverts as well as board adverts.
- Also ask their operators to make announcements of SCA district and AGMs in the weeks leading up. Print advertisements of fall sales.

AITC Funding

MOTION 2017-045: Balicki/Spratt

“To pay AITC's membership at the \$25,000 level.”

Motion Carried

Forage Network Proposal

- Basically is hiring Janice B to promote forage and collaboration. Work is to merge this model into the LFCE.
- Concerned about Saskatchewan Milk backing down on the funding levels. Okay for one year bridge not for a going own way for a long term. Nobody should have a seat at the table if they are not funding it.

MOTION 2017-046: Spratt/Hill

“To fund the Saskatchewan Forage Network for \$25,000 for one year.”

Motion Carried

VBP+ Strategic Planning

- Meeting coming up. Built awareness of the board.

LSS Meeting/ Remittances/Orders Timeline

- Gave board a tour of what has happened.
- Some question regarding reconciling. Question on should we refine who pays levy in the industry. Covering the whole.

- A lot of events that do not pay the levy at all.
- The move is towards invoicing, not just of dealers but also of financiers.
- LSS is open to discussion on the cost of invoicing keeping in mind the seed funding for CHIPs
- If we are going to pay LSS to collect, do we get rid of the dealer rebate?

LMS

- Meeting with LMS – get a feeling from them on how much extra cost would it take to get them to submit names?
- That would help the board make that decision. Worth the cost to get it?
- Need to be partners with LSS moving forward for sure so the levy slippage does not come from refunds.

Economics Research

- Any loss to research in our industry is a loss.
- We are a different industry than hogs or chickens and we take a lot less subsidy than the grain industry. Don't measure without remembering crop insurance.
- Better integrate extension with research like what Kathy Larson does.

Meat Inspection

- Christina shared a draft letter that came from Regulatory WG discussions
- Facilities pay \$6.60/hour or a part of the rate, and some overtime.
- To move ahead with some changes

Road Maintenance

- Two parts: pre inspect and post inspect and pay for cost of fix and loss of use. Option two is pay for it all. A Formula exists.
- First piece is better but can you do the repair yourself?
- You can haul feed on roads even during road bans, to your own cattle.

Governance Committee

- Code of conduct circulated
- Get Arnold a hard copy of the Motions back to 2009.

Vision Statement Discussion

- Maximize? Optimize? Business climate? Create a business environment? Maximize production opportunities?
- “ A competitive advantage for Saskatchewan cattle producers.”
- A competitive advantage for Saskatchewan cattle producers through Beef producers? Cattle producers?
- Ryder to look into this and bring back to the board.

Committees

- Forage Insurance WG – they have been dragging feet as they knew this budget was not going to be good for change.
- Aside: What is going on regarding predator loss compensation levels?
- Change it to Insurance WG.

MOTION 2017-047: Balicki/Martens
“Approve committees as presented.”

Motion Carried

Carbon Tax Proposal

- Aim is to understand the impacts of a carbon tax on the cattle industry and the tools that could be used to reduce the impact on the industry.

MOTION 2017-048: Hill/Disney

“To support the “ Implications of Carbon Pricing for Canada’s Beef Sector: Quantitative Analysis and Assessment of revenue Policies” research for \$8,000.”

Motion Carried

Craik Ag Committee

- Does not fit our mandate. Give them a call.

Judging Team

- No support

Lobby Points

- Bring up the positive things we like along with the things we want to change.
- Primary producers cannot pass things along.
- The changes brought forth in this budget cannot be passed along.
- Lobby introduction.
- We buy from a protected market for so many things, service providers and products, labour is protected but we sell world price beef into that market.

Next Meeting April 27, Ramada Saskatoon

In Camera

Adjourned 4:20pm

MOTION 2017-49: Beierbach
“To adjourn.”



Board Chair – Ryan Beierbach

Recording Secretary – Leann Clifford

April 27, 2017 _____ Date approved