

**Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Thursday June 18, 2020**  
**Conference Call**  
**9:45am**

Arnold Balicki Chair (Director 9A)  
Rick Toney, Past Chair  
Kyle Hebert (Director 1)  
Leigh Rosengren (Director 2)  
Roger Meyers (Director 3A)  
Keith Day (Director 3B)  
Randy Stokke (Director 4)  
Brian Cole (Director 8)  
Brad Welter (Director, SCFA)  
Harold Martens (Director, SSGA)  
Kelcy Elford (Director, SSGA)  
Garret Poletz (Director, SCFA)  
Holly Thompson (YCC)

**SCA Staff:**

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

**Guest:**

**Regrets:**

Levi Hull ( Director 5)  
Brent Griffin (Director 6)  
Paula Larson (Director 7)  
Dean Moore (Director 9B)

Arnold Balicki called the meeting to order at 9:50 am.

**1.0 Approval of Agenda**

- Additions added

**MOTION 2020-45: Day / Welter**

**"To accept the Agenda as presented"**

**Motion Carried**

**1.01 Review of Minutes**  
**April 23,2020**

**MOTION 2020-46: Hebert / Martens**

**“To accept the April 23, 2020 minutes as presented.”**

**Motion Carried**

- Martens going to look into transport regulations. Would that fit in manifests or permits? It represented another form that needed to be filled in. It was kind of approved by CFIA. Their form is basically for ON. They can be made available on those manifests. Working group still going on to deal with federal regulations on transport and compliance tools for all. Brady Stadnicki is on that committee for CCA

**1.02 Chair Report**

- Have been on AAFC calls for COVID responses.
- Disappointed in the federal response for agriculture due to COVID.
- CCA commissioned MNP to provide a comprehensive argument as to how AgriStability just does not & can not work for cow/calf producers. That report has been a long time coming & still is not available. It appears that the FPT July meeting has been push to the fall.
- Producers have had a long wait for the CCGA cash advances. The lack of Federal response pushed some producers to the cash advance route. 1600 applications are the norm, to date 4200.
- Have had positive interactions with the Provincial government.
- Participated in a webinar last night suggested that the markets are volatile.
- Had sent out a couple of letters to the round table , one has been acknowledged thus far.

**MOTION 2020-47: Balicki / Rosengren**

**‘To accept the Chair Report as presented.’**

**Motion Carried**

- Rosengren suggested that SCA put together a campaign called “I didn’t know....” TFSA. AgriInvest, Price Insurance etc....

**1.03 CEO Report**

- Went over COVID event planning. Will follow the provincials lead on all COVID related news.
- Christina is on mat leave. Working on a temporary fill.
- Set aside looks to be close to a roll put. Any of the next steps will have to be data driven.
- There is some frustration with the level of communications from our federal ministers. While our provincial minister may not have meet all of our request’s, but our government has done more than other provinces for their cattle sectors.
- Changes to AgriStability are needed and a lack of getting that done is making increasing uptake unlikely.
- With the federal government finally saying “no” clearly to participate with WLPPI, while the province has moved on accepting SCA’s pledge to help with premium costs due to COVID 19. This has allowed for one more communications push before the calf program deadline and should help many cattle producers. I do expect it to get quite a bit of conversations so be ready to have the talk of why SCA would do this.
- On the communications side SCA has increased radio advertising and will be renewing some equipment for when we do get back to being able to engage with people directly.
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**MOTION 2020-48: Hebert / Meyer**

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

**Motion Carried**

**1.04 Financial Report**

**MOTION 2020-49: Day / Stokke**

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

**Motion Carried**

- How are we to handle the transfer of funds to the government for the insurance rebate. Will need to see how it can be done between the two entities.
- There is no refund in canceling a WLPIP policy.

**1.05 Governance**

In camera sessions challenge boards to assess whether the motivation for a closed or private deliberation is tied to the need for confidentiality and/or secrecy. While confidentiality is important to good board governance, secrecy can, and will, undermine it.

Good organizations usually encourage communication among board members between meetings, so issues get resolved or narrowed to save time at board meetings. Inevitably, such communications among board members will include contentious issues discussed at in camera sessions. Such discussions must be limited to those who had the right to attend the in camera session. Oral discussions must be held where no one else can hear, and electronic discussions have to stay confidential.

**New Business**

**Sponsorship**

**S2020-01 – Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Assoc. - SSCA Carbon Support Group - \$1,500.**

**MOTION 2020-050: Rosengren / Martens**

**“That SCA sponsor the SSCA Carbon Support Group in the amount of \$1,500.”**

**Motion Carried**

- Massive growth in interest in livestock on the land. How much of this is on native grass.
- This is less about research, and more about advocacy.
- Good to be at the table.
- Kyle will be our person at the table.

**S2020-02 – Carrot River Watershed Assoc. – Burgers & Fries - \$2,000.**

**MOTION 2020-051: Cole / Poletz**

**“That SCA sponsor the Carrot River Watershed – Burger & Fries Event in the amount of \$2,000.”**

**Motion Carried**

**S2020-03 – Saskatchewan Cattle Feeders Assoc. – Western Feedlot Management School 2021. - \$20,000.**

**MOTION 2020-052: Martens / Hebert**

**“That SCA sponsor the SCFA Western Feedlot Management School 2021 in the amount of \$20,000.”**  
**Motion Carried**

**S2020-04 – Saskatchewan forage Council – Soil Health and grazing Summit - \$5,000.**

**MOTION 2020-053: Martens / Rosengren**

**“That SCA sponsor the Sask. Forage Council – Soil Health 7 Grazing Summit in the amount of \$5,000.”**  
**Motion Carried**

**Diabetes Funds**

- SCA funded the RCMP ball in the amount of \$5,000 (2020-016) which has been cancelled due to COVID. They have come back with 3 options to spend the funds.

**MOTION 2020-054: Cole / Martens**

**“That the funds be split between the 3 proposed projects.”**

**Motion Carried**

**SBIC Management**

Support there for SCA / Leann to take over the management of the conference.

**FRWIP Regulations Modernization**

- Review the information.

**Veterinary Retention**

- Is there still room for SCA to advocate that techs do more. Get SVMA to a future meeting to discuss?
- Student retention program does apply. Maybe pump it up for rural vets? For rural living people?
- The retention program has been reduced over the past two years. Maybe have the sliding scale on years of education.
- Budget input of future – letter out – to include:
  - What is the apprehension of paying tuition for people dedicated to being rural vets?
  - Large reason is academics play a significant role – what is the difference between a 91 and 95 average? Need a rural capacity?
  - If we pay a teacher to stay rural with 4 years education, have that for veterinarians.
  - Red Seal program had tuition paid to become a heavy technician. Federal government paid.
  - One vet in rural area gets so swamped in one calving season it leads to overwhelm and burnout. Just getting one vet in a rural area is not the solution.
  - Demand is the “solution” but in Kyle’s area there is money and demand, but it is not a sought-out spot for vets.
- What about a dedicated location seat? Funded at full cost.
- Ask for SCA to have input into flexibility options at that point.

**LSS**

**MOTION 2020-055: Martens / Hebert**

**“That SCA renew Brad Welter to hold position as LSS Director for SCA. This is a two-year term.”**

**Motion Carried**

- Brad is on board he runs a large feedlot and brings a lot of practical perspective to the LSS discussion. Harold voiced his desire for Brad to be there as they move to e manifests. It is a two-year term.
- Representative? As it is virtual make the same person be the representative.

**MOTION 2020-056: Martens / Day**

**“That Brad Welter be SCA’s representative at the LSS AGM.”**

**Motion Carried**

**External Call**

**Ryan Beierbach - BCRC**

- Had a May call about the status of research projects. Many are on hold because of the restrictions at Universities and Ag Canada. Trying to get cluster funds rolled into next year as right now it is “not spent = lost”.
- COVID projects – remote grading with cameras. Maybe it could work in smaller plants as well. Looking at what shields installed for COVID will do to air flow movement. There is Eastern goals Canada price insurance research as well.
- Goal setting work is different priority areas of the National Strategy. Working group combining priorities of that with CRSB too.
- Calls for research chairs soon.

**Mike Spratt**

- Added a Finance chair to the BCRC executive.
- Calls were high about transfer from animals, also about robotics but tough to make work in cool damp environments.
- Mike’s term – he will stay on if the board supports him.

**Ryan Beierbach - CCA**

- Had a call regarding Food Policy. Discussed advocacy on front of package labelling. Requirement for ground beef to have a warning. Labeling requirement for fake meat / alternative proteins and trademarks.
- Canada Beef also talked of demand swing to grocery products.

**Pat Hayes – CCA**

- Can drive to Calgary in August if not then virtual meeting.
- In March, ands branch sent out an invite to all lease holders. It was cancelled. What was it for?
- No agenda – Concerns: they are going to try to take all the WHPA land and roll into the EPO in the South of the Divide.
- Now anyone with Lease Land has to apply to put up new fence on their lease land with top and bottom wires being smooth. That will have a huge effect.

**Will Lowe**

- SK Landing provincial park has seen a change. They want to give the land a rest for five years.

**Duane Thompson**

- The environmental Stewardship Award will be awarded in two stages. On line July 29<sup>th</sup> will feature everyone. During CBI will present virtually.
- Continuing the push on Department of Fisheries and Oceans to consult around prescribed works.
- Heifer holdback – overview. If the dollars don't make sense, how will it work? WLPPI would have covered heifers.

#### **Chad Ross- NCO**

- Now moving to being proactive, which is good to see. One of the goals was to work on relations with stakeholders like SCA. Working through some areas of grievances. Good to see the collaboration through OVID challenges.
- Presented to BFO last week – positive response.
- Presented to Farm Products Council of Canada. They are happy with what is being done. Cattle are the only ones collecting check off this way. Pork still working on it.
- March signed an agreement with Veal Farmers of Ontario. A huge milestone. Since that date veal had not been collecting checkoff. Got to national compliance. VFO sitting on national marketing committee.
- ON is staying at \$1 check off until BFO increases and then will increase.
- Marketing committee is in year two and working well.
- During COVID times need the Provinces – SCA to spend some time on policy, and promotion. Talk about what your check off does.
- Melinda, Tayla and Chad met with the Beef Board at NCBA. A good connection.
- AGM will be virtual this year. September 24.
- Chad will be completing his first year as Chair. It is an annual position able to fill for three years and he is happy to put his name forward for another year.

#### **Will Lowe – NCFA**

- Cargill is buying weeks out. JBS is not very active either. Cleaning up march cattle this past week. There is a definite backlog.

#### **Pat Hayes – CCIA**

- Held a virtual meeting. He was elected chair again. It is normally two could be three-year position. Waiting to see where legislation on trace goes whether he would stay for another year.

#### **Holly Thompson -YYC**

- Governance training for group over three day on a webinar. Open for 2020 elections for those spots that are open.
- YCC has created a nominations committee. Reaching out to the provincial organizations for delegates.

#### **Harold Martens - Farm & Food Care**

- Restructuring staff. Shifted services form AgriBiz to Penny Eaton and Shauna Hill who work for F&FC. Changing how they do things.
- Have had to cancel several events, including some sponsored by SCA. Ag in the city postponed. Student Farm tours will be done differently. Ag month still want to do as it is mostly virtual.
- Farms at the Table Conference online November 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Significant increase in social media – Food- what's good in food?

- Penny Eaton has stepped out on her own away from AgriBiz. Transition flows over June, July, August. That will be a savings of \$20-425K annually.

**Arnold Balicki - AITC:**

- Cybercriminals encrypted their website with ransomware and were demanding payment of \$8800. They backed it up. They could download a new landing platform.
- Bad guys got into AITC Canada and were demanding ransom there as well.
- Working to have structure in AITC similar to SCA with committee working on relevant items.
- Conference between Marianne, Arnold, Chandra about a producer's take on COVID impacts on producers.

**Keith Day - SODCAP:**

- Lorne Scott now the chair. Tom Harrison there until October. Staff monitoring projects.
- Have received approx. \$170K over two years from Habitat Stewardship Program to improve riparian habitat for mountain sucker.
- National Fish and Wildlife Federation has \$4 million of new grant money that will go toward 15 projects in Northern Great Plains including one in SK. SODCAP will receive some of that.
- Mountain suckers are little fish that spawn in Frenchman River and Battle Creek in Cypress Hills.

**Arnold Balicki – VBP+**

- 5 pre audits this month.
- Corral Talk with Janelle Smith.
- 20 operations assigned audits and waiting to be completed. 24 pending. National is waiting for forms or payment before assigning an auditor.
- Holly will do pre audits and training. Erika key on government relations.
- Talked of VBP+ redoing the Strategic Plan via IODP funds through SCA. Support is there.

**Ryan Beierbach - CFRC**

- No communications from them as of late.

**Ryan Beierbach – CRSB**

- Had a call May 26<sup>th</sup>. Annual meeting virtually on September 16<sup>th</sup>. There are two new members.

**Harold Martens – LSS**

- AGM end of the month.
- Audit went well.

**SSGA Update**

- Trying to figure out when AGM is going to be in light of COVID. Murray Linthicum on set aside committee.

**SCFA Update**

- Feedlot School plans to go ahead in February.

Question – how are we making out with SK Science? Updated that we not getting home runs but are still engaged.

### **Grazing Lease Fees – Randy Stokke**

- Large amount coming due in December. Due to COVID and the uncertain economy can we ask Lands Branch to defer payment for 90 days penalty free?
- Write a letter? We have an election coming this fall. After August nothing will happen until after the election.

### **MOTION 2020-057: Stokke / Martens**

**“That SCA request a 90- day deferral on Crown Lease fees without penalty.”**

**Motion Carried**

#### Discussion

- What about property taxes? Federal pasture in SW corner will follow provinces fee.

### **BCRC**

#### **MOTION 2020-058: Martens / Day**

**“That SCA appoint Michael Spratt to BCRC for a three- year term.”**

**Motion Carried**

### **Heifer Holdback**

- No policy standing. Call it a set-aside program and have it apply to any sex. Leave it to the market.
- The discussion does not sound very supportive of this. The waves of calves / yearlings have their own way of managing the market. Should be room out there for calves to get backgrounded / put on feed.
- Could insure heifers at a profit. Any time we influence the market we need to be very cautious.

### **Canada Emergency Business Account**

- NCFA board told their staff to go forward in applying, some don't want fed money. Support for that view from the group.

### **Animal Health Canada**

- Information shared

### **SCA Election Update**

- Four incumbents committed. One still deciding.

### **Fall Meeting Setup and Content**

- What would engage producers before supper?
- Amie Peck from CCA would come out on messaging to consumers. Arnold would like her at his meeting.
- Kyle has worked with Logan Bourhis. Would like to adapt their cost of production to fit with MNP to offer to customers.
- Figuring out my break even.
- What can you expect from the next five years of the cattle business? SBIC content.

### **Dome Project**

- Updated the group.



- Meeting the ministry on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Rick and Arnold engaged in meeting.

#### **NW floods**

- Brent Brooks for Meadow Lake Stockyards called Dean and Arnold. Meadow Lake to Paddockwood to Duck Lake. Beaver river and Meadow River have flooded to join each other. Cattle separated from calves. Working to get cattle to higher ground. Just a mess.
- Ducks have said no to some land. Would the government open up land?
- Looking for transportation assistance. Cash not there.
- Get those RMs declared a disaster area which triggers a PDAP emergency fund. Payments go to those things that cannot be insured.

#### **Update on CFA/CCA Communications Report**

- New ads are out to make people aware. Coverage on saskatoon news as well.
- Radio ads had positive feedback in Garret's area too.

#### **AHEM MOU**

- For information

#### **Mental Health First Aid**

- Board members take part? Have had calls from people that are in trouble.

#### **MOTION 2020-059: Hebert / Poletz**

**"That SCA cover the cost for board and staff taking the mental Health first Aid Course."**

**Motion Carried**

#### **Old Business**

COVID response.

#### **Calendar Synchronized**

In camera delayed until a face to face meeting. To be held in Saskatoon July 16, 2020

#### **Adjourn 1:42pm**

#### **MOTION 2020-60: Balicki**

**"To adjourn."**

**Motion Carried**



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Board Chair – Arnold Balicki

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

Date approved