

## Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association

### Board Meeting

Thursday, March 15, 2019

Sandman Inn, Regina 8am

Rick Toney, Chair (Director 4)  
Kyle Hebert (Director 1)  
Scott Greiner (Director 2)  
Keith Day (Director 3B)  
Levi Hull (Director 5)  
Brent Griffin (Director 6)  
Michael Spratt (Director 8)  
Arnold Balicki (Director 9A)  
Brad Welter (Director, SCFA)  
Chad Ross (Director, SCFA)  
Ryan Beierbach, Past Chair  
Kelcy Elford (Director, SSGA)

#### SCA Staff:

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

#### Regrets:

Roger Meyers (Director 3A)  
Paula Larson (Director 7)  
Dean Moore (Director 9B)  
Harold Martens (Director, SSGA)

Rick Toney called the meeting to order at 8:06 am.

#### 1.0 Approval of Agenda

**MOTION 2019-030: Spratt / Hebert**  
"To accept the Agenda as amended."

**Motion Carried**

1.01 Review of Minutes  
February 14, 2019 minutes

**MOTION 2019-031: Welter / Day**

**“To accept the February 14, 2019 minutes as presented.”**

**Motion Carried**

Reviewed and addenda noted.

**1.02 Chair Report**

- Calls with Duane Thompson and Emily from LFCE. Wants clear communications between SCA and LFCE. Was asked if the idea of donating land was still on the table and believed at this time the idea was still on the SCA table.
- Had discussions with Brent Griffins and Harold Martens regarding the resolutions to SARM and where SCA may have concern. They will represent SCA at the Convention.
- AB Cattle Feeders are taking the per head tax challenge to the next level of appeal. One thing that gets counties “upset” is low taxation on agriculture compared to acreages.
- Needs to address all of agriculture, not just livestock.
- Some farm land is not serviced, access is only seasonal. Whole policy issue around rural taxation that needs to be addressed.
- How about the calculation of what average tonnage damage is to a road? Traffic flows. How grain compares to cow calf to feedlot to pigs to chickens. Can run all those numbers. Pigs out, fats out. Can get to a decent number on traffic caused by each.

**MOTION 2019-032: Toney / Beierbach**

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

**Motion Carried**

**1.03 CEO Report**

- Participated in the Research Forum on March 8. This was the second year an was very positive in bringing together more than U of S researchers, building toward collaboration and fostering conversations between producer directors and researchers outside the Application/ Funding decision making relationship.
- The Communications and Education committee has met twice now with the goals of renewing the Communications Strategy for SCA. The goal is a guiding document that can be used for a number of years before renewal is needed again. The hope is what the committee brings to the board is earmarked to use some of the reserve. If this undertaking is successful then it would be a good method of starting a conversation about increasing the provincial check off in future to keep from sustained deficit financing.
- The annual crop insurance program announcement took place on March 26. Levi attended on SCA’s behalf. Once again improvements have been made to the forage insurance offering including rainfall insurance coverage levels and adding 55 rain stations. They also improved what is available for corn insurance by adding a rainfall insurance component along with the corn heat unit component. Continued work with SCIC and their continued openness to change is welcome and not to be ignored when talking to the Ministry and out things we see going well.
- As we look toward advocacy in the near future (March 26 MLA reception) or prime key message to be delivered with a little more force about the value of cattle to the land and agriculture as a whole in Saskatchewan. Annual crops and plant -based things have had a good run and it is time to push back. Specifically, 19 million acres of land in Sask. Grows hay and or grass. Canola is just 12.6 million acres. There are just 36 million acres of crop land, and a lot of the crops grown on those acres is grown either for feed or grades feed and depends on livestock to make it into a saleable good.

- Whether it is manure for fertilizer, an outlet for feed grade crops, a market for byproducts, or our preferred method of turning purpose grown feed grade crops into delicious beef, cattle and beef need to be recognized as the major piece of Saskatchewan agriculture that they are.
- This all goes before talking about the management of those 19 million acres (over a third of the arable land in SK) as habitat to birds and wildlife that need renewal through grazing to thrive. This also goes before discussing how cattle land is where wetlands persist providing that important habitat and environment asset.
- Interest pay on account on WLPIP? Has trade risk. It is a decent interest rate.
- More room to grow on feed insurance than on wining the interest on price insurance.

**MOTION 2019-033: Hull / Beierbach**

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

**Motion Carried**

Need to discuss LFCE and land at next meeting

**1.04 Financial Report**

**MOTION 2019-034: Day / Hebert**

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

**Motion Carried**

**1.05 Governance and Orders**

- Reviewed the Fiduciary Obligations

**New Board Member**

Brent Griffin was appointed as Director for Zone 6. Introduced himself and gave background. Calves/cows, councilor at RM of Huron, experience on SSGA and CCA boards.

**Old Business**

**Communications & Education Report**

- Tom ran thru the Draft Communications strategy.
- Does Cattlemen include an electronic version?
- Rawlco’s demographic? On 650 / 980 they are next only to CBC in footprint

**MOTION 2019-035: Balicki / Welter**

**“That the renewed Communication’s strategy continue developing with support for spending of the recent \$800,00 surplus over four years.”**

**Motion Carried**

- Support for the #BeefStrongSK

**AgriEd Funding**

**MOTION 2019-036: Balicki / Hebert**

**“That SCA add storage and administration to the AgriEd Project funding for a total of \$37,455 with storage costs prorated if it is not needed in the future.”**

**Motion Carried**

Request that the vote be by secret ballot

**MOTION 2019-037: Spratt / Beierbach**

**“That the ballots be destroyed.”**

**Motion Carried**

Have Sheri to budget for expanding and enhancing the program.

**Trucking Rules & Training**

121.5 hr. training requirement starts today. Costs about \$10,000 and takes about one month. F endorsement for farmers means can drive big rigs in province. Looking for a smaller refresher/challenge course for experienced drivers.

Concern raised about lower expectations for farm drivers.

Funding – Can- Saskatchewan Job Grant – 2/3 cost covered but for smaller firms (less than 50 employees) will cover more like 80% including wages. Will not for TFW’s. Can get up to \$10K per employee and max \$100k per business. not ending this year.

Provincial government has written to federal minister of education. To qualify for a student loan you have to be at least 200 hour program. Asking to allow student loans for this shorter program.

Concern that an owner does not qualify for the Can-Sask. Jobs Grant. For employees only. Some conflict in the information. Some have heard owners do qualify and some have heard they do not.

F endorsement is just less hours, will still have to do most of the test. Will still have to do written and other parts.

Red Seal Program – to have truckers be a trade – the Association to pursue.

**Canadian Cattlemen’s Association Exec.**

**MOTION 2019-038: Day / Hull**

**“That Reg Schellenberg be appointed to the CCA Executive.”**

**Motion Carried**

**CIPARS**

**MOTION 2019-039: Spratt / Griffin**

**“That SCA support the CIPARS project for \$4,357.28 for three years.”**

**Motion Carried**

**SODCAP Funding Request**

Looking for \$300,000 over four years. One of four “Priority areas of Interest” is the South of the Divide for the federal government. The aim is to offer Conservation agreements (not easements). The “results based agreements” are paid out only if those results are achieved. This is different from undertakings like Nature Conservatory of Canada that want to secure lands or “protect” ground. This proposal would reward producers for doing those protecting things. Milk River watershed and Frenchmen River valley are in the emergency protection order for the sage grouse which is very powerful in what is a fineable offence.

Aim is to get things done that would provide the answer that “we are doing the good things already”.

Aim is to get it qualifying for the Environment Canada funding. **Pursue more detail with SODCAP.**

**Agribition Plans**

The Check off Agency meeting will be there this fall.

Looking for guidance on continuing at the same level with the ways we are looking to advance the agribition event.

Support to continue on.

## **Tributaries Program**

Colby Elford and Andy Jansen joined the meeting.

Calling it the Proactive Stewardship Pilot program. It is "an innovative project to confirm the benefits of environmental programming by taking a focused approach. Working with multiple producers in one concentrated area will demonstrate the positive outcomes Beneficial Management Practices have on water quality."

Why that area? Water Security Agency wanted a place they can get good data, and an area where livestock are present so maybe changes can produce a movement in the data.

Local leadership was important too. RM and Old Wives Watershed and regional specialists were all part of it.

Aiming to start testing spring runoff by next week.

2019 is more scoping and baseline sampling. Implementing of BMP's more likely in 2020. Report after 2022 the results.

This has not been done before, so the Ministry is looking to learn from this pilot and see if there is value to producers and a move on the dial from doing it.

Q&A:

Monitoring water? Edge of property? Along waterway? Outlet? First year a lot including at the outlet. Nested sampling too upstream and downstream of the livestock areas, and some right at the farm site monitoring.

Impact of an individual farm is masked by all the other things around it when you go very far down stream.

They are not sure they will see an impact at the outlet.

Testing at field edge will help them estimate load etc. and if BMP's in place should be estimate change in N or P load going into the water.

Hard to look at all the questions such as riparian fencing or off - site watering or even grain farming.

Next if it works? Legislating? It is already there. This could inform changes if needed.

## **Fall Meeting Theme**

Talked about acronyms. Succession planning is an increasing piece. Tax implications and capital gains.

Simple strategies like joint ventures or partnerships.

Basing business around AgriStability. Year end structure. Payments timing.

Tax management, succession, and business structure options for farmers and ranchers.

Shea from MNP, others.

Nobody this winter is happy with their parasite control.

Watered down biomectin. Too cold this year. Too warm then lice aren't active either.

**Something to look into before fall meetings and maybe talk about it then.**

## **Saskatchewan Forage Council Rep**

Brent Griffin will be the SCA rep.

## **Prairie Conservation Action Plan Rep.**

Brent and Keith are both interested. Brent will be the rep. there too.

## **BVD Calves**

Buyer beware. Vaccinated means different things.

## **Winnipeg Prairie Conservation & Endangered Species Conference**

Keith and Chris attended.

Good news is the amount of people talking of cattle as a benefit to prairie ecosystems. People to be used to promote our message. Thinks there will be funding to support producers doing the right things for species at risk.

## **Alberta Beef Industry Conference**

Chad and Scott attended.

Noteables: Integration in trade show was very good. Two - hour lunch time. Good speakers and professionally done. Brad Wal was a highlight. TFW session, federal government has announced spending \$26 million into auditing LMIA's. Anyone in the program should be aware. E-tag/ Sustainability session: numbers have grown and need to keep growing to meet the demand. AB Cattle Feeders AGM – moving to supreme court of AB. Labour.

Rural Infrastructure, Farm Safety, Regulatory, Roller compacted concrete research presentation.

Any lessons to learn for SBIC? Did have an opening reception – free tequila and beer right amount the trade show and eat right in the trade show. Day 2, long lunch and all stayed in there. From 1-345 speakers, then again free beer in the trade show.

Banquet too. Really forced you to be together.

Order buying companies like JGL and Titan would lean in harder.

Boeringher Ingelheim, AllTech.

## **External Call**

### **Will Lowe - NFC**

National Cattle Feeders rep. Will Lowe is now formally on that board.

Was at the CIPARS meeting in Saskatoon and that surveillance program.

Plenty of talk at ABIC about transport rules and uncertainty of impacts.

Quebec guys say it may stop some cattle flowing there.

U.S. has backed off Electronic Logging Devices. Thought is to make sure our government does not disadvantage us in that way.

Pay Hayes – CCA

Went to IGAC meeting at Gatineau.

Reconfirmed how it operates. Less people around the table.

The Regulatory Implementation Committee took away from the usual people who would be there. Very poor show up from provinces.

Pork went their own direction on traceability. Received \$1.6 million from feds about four years ago. They will be out of money within six months and are not willing to go to producers for more money. They do not know what PigTrace will look like then. This is positive for the cattle position that cattle producers do not pay for all of it as pork is saying it is not sustainable with just industry funding.

Meeting set up with Ag Canada to talk money gaps in the traceability file. Nothing back from them since the last meeting. Six months ago. There is a meeting next week to talk about extra costs to CCIA, Movement documentation etc. Not a huge deal in provinces with livestock inspection, but in other provinces that don't have inspection, how do you work it? And at who's expense?

The transport regs unfolding how they did point to an issue with how trace regulations might come out?

May not get new trace regulations until 2020 as they may fall off the table with the election in the offing.

Carry forward capital gains increasing the lifetime exemption via Canadian Cattlemen's Association.

Deliver some information to Lynn and Duane.

### **VBP+**

Changes are coming April 1. Going to have increase support for communications and audits. Terry Grajczyk and Ricki Fleming have stepped up to help. Happening through national program.

At present completely caught up with audit report paperwork.

Audit fees: cow calf \$500, feedlot \$850.. A bit of a break on multiple sites, \$300 cost per site to put in database.

43 new audited operations. 800 and some trained. Should trigger a performance bonus from Ministry funds.

### **AITC**

246 communities, reaching lots of students and teachers (2000 and some teachers)

Main guy at the Canadian Feed Research Centre is no longer there. They are now hiring.

### **Check Off Agency**

NO formal comments from any provinces on business plans. Earliest to have them, ever.

Increasingly impressive how industry is working together. Public and Stakeholder engagement is also showing good early work.

November meeting will be at Agribition. Will cost some but were able to cancel an April meeting so should be net ahead.

Terry Weibe is new board member from B.C.

Added in Respect in the Workplace for board and employees.

### **Back to Trip Reports:**

#### **SARM**

Big trade show. Pretty usual meeting. ILO charging for per head failed. SO did mandatory APAS membership. NO pushback on trespass at the session.

#### **Beef Symposium**

They need to split the stream for older and younger kids next year. Super cold for the LFCE tour. Lots of comments from parents and leaders of just how big and impressive LFCE is. Worthwhile to put SCA's funding towards it. About 70 kids attended. Mike and Roger attended.

#### **Lipton School**

Good undertaking. Levi attended. Need more events like this. Good engagement especially for younger kids.

#### **Saskatchewan Hall of Fame**

Raised awareness of coming event so board knows.

#### **Mental Health**

Farm accidents and suicides and stress are easy to see when looking around communities.

There is a "Mental Health First Aid Course" is that something to pursue rolling into SCA events?

Steps to recognize what to do to help are not common.

There is an evening course, an all day course, they are out there.

There are wrong and unhelpful steps to take.

**Rallies**

We are present in Ottawa and Regina and use relationships we have rather than trying to create openings via rallies.

**Mission Zero****MOTION 2019-040: Welter / Hebert**

**“That SCA sign on to the Health and Safety Leadership Charter”**

**Motion Carried**

This doesn't relate to auction marts with safety equipment that is needed because training is not in place. Training is needed.

**Calendar**

Reviewed coming events.

**In camera.**

Adjourned 2:40pm

**MOTION 2019-041: Toney**

**“to adjourn”**



**Adjourn 6:30pm**  
**MOTION 2019-010: Toney**  
**“To adjourn.”**

**Motion Carried**

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Board Chair – Rick Toney

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Recording Secretary – Leann Clifford

\_\_\_\_\_ Date approved