

**Provincial 4-H Beef Advisory Committee (BAC) Meeting
June 17, 2014 @ 6:00 pm – Conference Call**

Call meeting to order @ 6:05 pm

On the call: Carey Kopp (South); Erin Wells (Northeast); Leisa Gallelli (Calgary); Dorothy Carlson (4-H Council of Alberta); Tami Gardner (Calgary); Greg Coleman (West Central); Cody Coleman (West Central); Jackie Blahun (Northwest); Lyndon Mansell (Northeast); Tracy Dietrich (East Central); Sid Livingstone (Northwest); Val Townsend (West Central); Stacy Murray & Yvonne Yaremco (4-H Branch)

Agenda – additions to the agenda:

- ✧ Insurance for hauling steers after the sale
- ✧ Beef Sale Prices
- ✧ Under finished steers

Dorothy moved the agenda be approved as amended. Seconded by Lyndon. Carried

Minutes – correction to the following:

Old Business #5:

- Three Year Old Cow – this is the final year the project can be **shown**.

Carey moved the minutes be approved as amended. Seconded by Erin. Carried

Reports

a. Regional highlights

South

- Average for sales in the Brooks area - \$2.75 / pound; Bassano - \$2.90 / pound; Medicine Hat - \$2.60 - \$3.50 / pound.
- Increases sales average from last year depending on show and location.
- Regional Heifer show is making progress. 29 members participated. 3 herd projects along with heifers.
- Also have the Regional Beef Learning Day with the Heifer Show.
- Promotion of the Female projects.

West Central

- Similar prices to the South
- Regional Heifer show has seen a steady increase in members participating.
- Need to address the marketing of animals

Northwest

- Similar prices. One club champion calf sold for \$10 / pound
- Revised record book marking guide
- Reviewing by laws in fall.
- Plans are underway for a beef learning day for the fall

Calgary

- 64 members entered the female show at 4-H on Parade in Calgary. There were 50 commercial heifer entries, 22 two year old entries, and 13 three year olds. There were also 32 purebred entries, with 18 heifers, 8 two year olds and 6 three year olds.
- 108 steer entries with 101 steers sold. The average sale price was 308.60/100cwt. The charity steer money of \$10,000.00 went the Ronald McDonald House.
- There was some concern raised as to the number of unfinished steers in the show ring.

Peace, East Central and Northeast

- no report available

b. 4-H Council of Alberta Liaison

- Dorothy read an email from Andy Pittman, Chair of the 4-H Council of Alberta requesting direction from BAC regarding high sale price for market steer project and if there needs to be a change to the policy and to provide some direction for options.
- Will be discussed later on the agenda.

c. Provincial Beef Heifer Show

- 88 members (27 Juniors; 30 Intermediates; 31 seniors) registered with 123 animals (80 heifers; 21 - 2 year olds and 12- 3 year olds); purebred breed shows for Red Angus, Black Angus, Simmental and AOB
- All BAC members are welcome to attend the Provincial Beef Heifer Show to watch and/or lend a hand.

d. 4-H Specialist

Webinars

- Can host 100 people at a time.
- Will need a subcommittee to assist with hosting – Greg, Erin and Carey volunteered.
- Stacy will share the plan in early fall
- Webinars will start at the beginning of November with how to feed into the winter.
- Possibly hosted in the evening or a Saturday afternoon.
- Will be recorded so that people can access the Webinars at alternate times.

Old Business:

a. Beef Project Resource

Development and production of the Member's eLearning Tool, the Leader's Guide and the Cow Pied game for the new Beef Resources continues. Digital copies will be disseminated in Fall to each 4-H beef project leader and family, prior to the beginning of the new club year.

At this time, the following Member eLearning Sections are available at www.4h.ab.ca/beef

- Choose A Project
- Selecting An Animal
- Animal Husbandry

Looking forward to hearing your feedback, and how 4-H beef project leaders and families in your area are liking the new resources. Looking forward to attending your next meeting as well as BUD! - Jalisa Barnett, 4-H Specialist – Leadership & Resource Development

b. Regional Beef Project Workshops

Funding is available for beef project workshops. Guidelines have been circulated previously.

c. BUD and Sheep Leaders Update 2014

Yvonne outlined the session that have been confirmed and asked for clarification on two of the proposed sessions.

Tasks will be determined at the October meeting.

d. Policy 6.05 update

Stacy received the updated policy from the 4-H Council of Alberta. This policy was approved at the last Council meeting and will be in effect for the 2014/2015 4-H Club year. Please review the policy and provide comments to Stacy by June 23rd.

Policy Notes as collected –

1. Project Options and Rules / Beef Breeding Projects / Two Year Old Cow Calf (continuation of the heifer project to a *“two year old cow calf project”*)
2. Project Options and Rules / Beef Breeding Projects / Three Year Old Cow Calf (continuation of the two year old cow calf project to a three year old cow calf *“project”*)
3. Project Options and Rules / Beef Breeding Projects / Three Year Old Cow Calf –Add *“This is the final year of the breeding project.”*
4. Remove ‘all three year old cow calf projects must have a completed two year old cow calf record book’. Replace with *“All heifer and two year old cow calf projects must have a completed record book in order to be eligible to move forward to the next year’s project. There is only one breeding record book, with pages for each year of the project.”*
5. 4-H Sales – remove the “or” that follows the third option “A single (1) beef breeding animal”
6. Events Beyond the Local Achievement Event / second bullet –More clear if worded “In the event a project animal(s) is *unable to be shown at the local level achievement event due to illness or injury* a veterinarian certificate is required for the animal to be shown at district, regional and provincial events.”

e. Beef sales / mobile butcher

Stacy provided updates on mobile butchers in regards to the beef sales. There were 2 exemptions, that we’re aware of, granted to mobile butchers this year. Two other mobile butchers did not complete the necessary paperwork for exemptions.

There will be information sent to all clubs in the fall regarding the legislation and legalities for using mobile butchers for slaughter and processing of meat. It was suggested that this information also go into the delegate packages at BUD along with a short presentation.

f. Project outline for leaders

This has been tabled until the new beef project resources are completed.

New Business

a. Insurance for hauling steers after the sale

- Discussed options available for insurance for after the sale
- 4-H Insurance covers leaders, members, volunteers, etc.
- Will need to provide information to clubs regarding hauling animals to abattoir after the sale. Do clubs need to hire a commercial hauler with adequate insurance?
- Stacy will research and distribute information to clubs for insurance options

b. Beef Sale Prices

- Discussed the sale in St. Paul district.
- Discussion regarding inflated prices for 4-H market steers in general
- Discussion about community support for the sales
- Charity sales – Stacy will have one of the summer students contact everyone on the livestock sales list to record the dollar amount of any animal sold and proceeds donated to charity. In 2013, a portion of the sales contacts were reached and the value was approximately \$250,000 donated to charities across the province.
- Dorothy and Greg will draft a letter to the 4-H Council of Alberta in response to Andy's email requesting guidance on sales prices. BAC is recommending no change to the policy regarding high dollar value sales.

c. Underfinished steers

- Several BAC representatives noted that there were a high number of under finished steers at 4-H sales this year.
- Need to promote nutrition section of the new beef project resource and the Webinars.
- Discussed that marketing a steer is a privilege and not an expectation.
- Discussion around carcass reports on the sale animals. JBS in Brooks does track the 4-H steers and sends reports to the clubs. Would other abattoirs send carcass reports?
- It was suggested that we research out video clips from various sources and have those links available for information.

Elections

Vice Chair, Recording Secretary & Provincial Beef Heifer Show representatives – postpone to the fall meeting

Set meeting dates:

October 14, 2014 @ 10:30 am - Stettler

February 3, 2015 @ 10:30 am - Stettler

June 2015 – will set this meeting date at the October meeting

Adjourned at 8:20 pm