

Manitoba Sheep Association Board Meeting Minutes
Portage la Prairie, MB

DATE:
September 7, 2021

PRESENT: Morgan Moore, Lee Hurton (Staff), Bethan Lewis, Guy Bouchard, Simon Atkinson, Arik Lindal, Linda Fox (MB Ag, via Conference Call)

REGRETS: Wray Whitmore, (Mb Ag), Rob Berry (MB Ag), Angela Pynne

ABSENT: Tina Shaw

Mission Statement

To initiate, support and conduct programs and activities designed to stimulate and improve the economic
Well-being of all segments of the Manitoba sheep industry.

TOPIC	DECISION/ACTION	ACTION REQUIRED
1.0 Call to Order and Agenda Review	The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. <i>Moved by Guy Bouchard and seconded by Ralph Borst that the agenda from the September 7, 2021 meeting be approved. Carried.</i>	
2.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes	<i>Moved by Simon Atkinson and seconded by Bethan Lewis that the minutes from the June 7, 2021 be approved as presented. Carried.</i>	
3.0 Round Table Updates	Round table updates from Board members.	
4.0 Financial	4.1 Monthly Report Monthly Financial Report was presented. 4.2 Financials as of August 31, 2021 <i>Moved by Ralph Borst seconded by Simon Atkinson that the MSA board having reviewed the Financial Report including bank statement, balance sheet and Profit and Loss vs Actuals as of August 31, 2021 be approved as presented. Carried.</i>	
5.0 Office Mgr.'s Report	Distributed in advance.	
6.0 CSF Report	As of September 7 th , Simon will be replacing Morgan as the Manitoba representative on the CSF Board. Morgan will stay on the Board for the next few meetings to ensure a smooth transition. Have been working with Adrienne Waller (Legal Counsel from Alberta) regarding the legal challenge with Ontario Sheep— she has found that there is a clear-cut case that can be made that Ontario has been collecting check off improperly from out of province producers. She will be sending a letter, including a cease and desist to quit collecting from out of province producers. A class action suit could follow depending on response. Corlena presented the new Agri Ledger which is fully functional and ready to roll out now after being worked on by summer students. CSF has requested to be the administrator of the CSIP program rather (could save \$250K/year). National Goat Body and CSF are working towards rolling out a program that would be functional to both organizations.	

TOPIC	DECISION/ACTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE/DATE
	Discussion with Linda whether or not there is interest amongst Manitoba producers to undergo large scale testing of flocks.	
7.0 Committee Representatives	<p>CCWG – Morgan is up for re-election and has put his name forward for another term. Looking to find an opportunity for processing raw wool. AGM will be held virtually this fall.</p> <p>Predation – Report was distributed prior to meeting.</p> <p>KAP – Work on the drought has been the focus lately. Regular weekly meetings were taking place between commodity organizations – from these they have lobbied government on behalf of commodity groups. Patty Rosher has moved on and is replaced by Breanna Mahoney. Morgan has had conversations with Brianna regarding services that KAP can provide and would like to see her attend a meeting in the future if possible.</p> <p>MFGA – Getting ready for November seminar, speakers are being brought in from all over the world. Will be a hybrid approach of speakers attending electronically but both in person and electronic options for attending. Money from Federal Government is available for various projects – looking at pointing towards conservation districts to run. MSA could potentially apply for rotating fencing – association has to apply on behalf of membership.</p> <p>Animal Care – No report.</p>	
8.0 Old Business	<p>8.1 Show & Sale Update Will not take place for 2021 by virtue of survey of membership.</p> <p>8.3 Scholarship Winner Will request that scholarship winner attend AGM but understand that he is going to school in Lethbridge and attendance might be limited (unless AGM is offered virtually).</p>	
9.0 New Business	<p>9.1 September/October SheepSense Linda will provide a 3-page summary of the program for SheepSense. Simon will draft a market report, Morgan will draft a chairperson report.</p> <p>9.2 Ag Days 2022 Lee will register MSA for Ag Days – 10x10 foot booth. Will need to develop a pamphlet for distribution at show.</p> <p>9.3 District Meetings & Elections Guy Bouchard, Morgan Moore and Bethan Lewis will be up for election. Guy's position will need to be a one-year term as he is one year away from maxing out his term on the Board.</p>	

TOPIC	DECISION/ACTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE/DATE
	<p>District meeting will be offered virtually – one combined meeting for all districts where government presentation on Government feed aid will take place. District meeting will take place on Monday, September 27th at 7pm. Linda will pre-record the presentation and attend live for questions.</p> <p>9.4 Annual General Meeting Planning – Saturday, November 13th Suggestion to offer a hybrid approach to AGM, offering both in person and virtual. First choice of location will be Elm Creek Hall. Ralph will look at booking the hall. Lee will discuss with Terry Betker whether or not he would be available for a presentation. Morgan will contact Breanna at KAP regarding the stress line. Bethan will contact Mark Humphreys.</p> <p>9.5 Government Feed Aid Discussion Priced matched province to federal 60/40. Limited on producing females – for animals that are maintaining productive capacity. Sheep that qualify would be mature ewes, rams and bred lambs. No feed lot types. Deductible required - \$10/animal, comes off of compensation. Receive up to \$50/productive animal. Producers would buy feed first – example, you pay \$100/ewe on feed (includes grain, concentrate, straw, hay). \$10/ewe is removed from that \$100 so funding application is now for \$90/ewe. Cost shared at 75% between producer and government. That number that you come up with – the max that you get is \$50/ewe. Working backwards if you want to max out the \$50/ewe of funding you would want to spend about \$77/ewe on feed.</p> <p>If a farmer files separate taxes on a hay business vs sheep farm you could claim the costs of the hay but not if they are not separate entities. Reasoning is because this is a government assistance program to assist producers who do NOT have feed, not those that have access to feed.</p> <p>Application deadline is April 15th, 2022. Expectation that this program will be fully subscribed. Producers can apply multiple times. Eligible expenses for feed start on June 1st, 2021. Transport portion (livestock to feed or feed to livestock or both) – above and beyond the per head limit, when delivered the transportation should be broken out so it can be claimed separately. When animals are trucked, they have to stay for a minimum of 30 days or the trucking is not applicable. When trucking – 0.16 cents a long tonne for first 100 km, 0.10 cents after that up to 600km.</p> <p>9.6 Facilitator Position Lee will help facilitate the calls/questions from members regarding the government feed aid program.</p> <p>9.7 Fall/Winter Programming (lambing school, shearing school, getting started in sheep) Lee will send eblast/survey monkey to gauge interest of which courses membership would like to see offered in the fall of 2021. Location would be in Simon’s yard in Brandon. Instructors will be recruited.</p>	

TOPIC	DECISION/ACTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE/DATE
10.0 Next Meeting	The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m.	
11.0 Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.	