

South Dakota Brand Board

Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2025

The South Dakota Brand Board met on June 5, 2025, in Rapid City, SD. Members present were Scott Vance, Lyle Spring, Haven Stuck and Jake Longbrake. Member Jarrod Johnson attended the meeting remotely. Brand Board staff and others present were Debbie Trapp, Bob Haivala, Adam Masters, Amy Hatheway, Cindy Longbrake, Matt Kammerer, Raydelle Sperle, Tom Costello, Doris Lauing, Garrett Miller, Cletus Miller, Matthew Bogue, Dusty Ginsbach, Floyd Miller.

Pres. Vance called the meeting to order.

Motion by Johnson to adopt agenda, second by Spring. Motion carried.

Motion by Longbrake to adopt the Regular Brand Board Meeting Minutes of the March 28, 2025 meeting, second by Johnson. Motion carried.

Director Trapp presented financial information as of May 31, 2025. Fund Balance - Brand Fund \$2,897,590.64. Brand Inspection Fund \$238,920.25. Theft Prevention Fund - Ownership to be established - \$330,631.20; Unrestricted – \$81,799.30. Year to date total revenue and expenditures amounts for the Brand Fund, Brand Inspection Fund, and Theft Prevention Fund were also presented. Brand Inspection Fund year to date expenses for personnel, travel, contractual services, supplies, and capital outlay were reviewed. Motion by Spring to approve Financial Report as presented, second by Longbrake. Motion carried.

Brand Enforcement: Investigator Masters reported on the following: Working with Forest Service to ensure those pasturing cattle, with out of state brands, are getting grazing permits; Preparing training material for meetings with Sheriffs and Deputies; Attended the Sheriffs' Spring Conference in Deadwood; In the process of making schedule for road checks. Stuck reported there was a good exchange of information at the meeting held in Wall by the Pennington County and Meade County Sheriffs' office for producers.

Brand Inspection Report: Director Trapp presented the Brand Inspection Report for May 2025 as follows: Livestock Markets – 51,717 head, Locker Plants 424 head, Locals – 42,784 head, Lifetime Horse Permits – 102 head, for a total of 95,027 head. Year to date inspection numbers rank the 5th lowest out of the past seven years.

Director Trapp reported on the following: Brand renewals processed 25,544 and of those, 4,142 were paid online – hope to increase that number during the 2030 renewal; Number of brands that have been recorded is 281; Processing high volume of brand transfers; Thank you to the SD Cattlemen Association for the informational article on the Brand Board; Pres. Vance and I presented the Brand Board's annual report to the Government Operations and Audit Committee.

Open Comment: Matt Kammerer commented on the brand re-record fee and Raydelle Sperle commented on the brand renewal process.

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Garrett Miller presented information regarding ownership dispute on proceeds from sale of livestock and stated the main issue has been resolved. Miller also asked about other livestock ownership and brand violations. Disputed funds are currently held by the Brand Board in the Theft Prevention Fund as "Restricted". Motion by Stuck to have attorney, Bob Haivala, use procedure "Rule 67, to transfer disputed funds, in this case, to the Harding County Clerk of Courts, second by Vance. Motion carried.

States Attorney Dusty Ginsbach provided additional information regarding charges for brand violations.

Cletus Miller commented on cattle sold privately he hasn't received payment for.

Open Market Reciprocal Agreement with Nebraska was reviewed. Motion by Spring to approve Nebraska Reciprocal Agreement for Open Markets, second by Stuck. Motion carried.

Discussed policy of not issuing superimposed brands as an application had been received for a superimposed brand that was registered several years ago by applicant's relative.

Motion by Spring to adopt the State's 1.25% salary policy increase, as set by the legislators for FY 26, for full time employees, second by Johnson. Motion carried.

Motion by Longbrake to amend the FY 2025 Budget by \$550,000 due to the operating transfer outs from the Brand Fund to the Inspection Fund, second by Spring. Motion carried.

Pres Vance declared a 10-minute recess at 12:20 p.m.

Pres Vance declared the meeting back in session at 12:30 p.m.

Next Brand Board meeting is set for July 9, 2025, at 11:00 am MT in Rapid City, SD.

Motion by Longbrake to enter executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1 & 3) personnel and legal at 12:55 p.m., second by Spring. Motion carried. Came out at 2:52 p.m.

As no other business came before the board, Pres. Vance declared the meeting adjourned.



Scott Vance, President



Debbie Trapp, Executive Director

These minutes were filed for the record on July 9, 2025.