

South Dakota Brand Board
Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2020

The South Dakota Brand Board met on December 16, 2020. Members present in person were Scott Vance, Myron Williams, Bart Blum, and Dave Koupal. Lyle Spring and Legal Counsel Bob Haivala attended the meeting via of remote access. Brand Board staff present were Debbie Trapp, Dan Bothwell and Shorty Zilverberg. Others present via remote access or in person were Dani Hanson, Secretary of Tribal Relations Dave Flute, Marc Garcia, Tom Leonhardt, Emmylu Hill, Rozen Hill, Nicole Schneider, Rodney Vollmer, Skyler Anders, Brian Fox, Mellette County Sheriff Mike Blom, Bob Mercer, Eric Gropper, Robert Whipple and Baxter Anders. The meeting was available via Zoom in keeping with the recommended social distancing for COVID 19.

Pres.Vance called the meeting to order.

Motion by Williams to adopt the agenda, second by Blum. Roll call vote: Blum - Yes, Williams - Yes, Vance - Yes, Spring - Yes, Koupal - Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Williams to enter into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1 & 3) personnel and legal at 11:15 a.m., second by Blum. Roll call vote: Blum - Yes, Williams - Yes, Vance – Yes, Spring - Yes, Koupal - Yes. Motion carried. The meeting came out of executive session at 12:40 p.m.

Pres. Vance recessed the meeting until 1:30 p.m.

Pres Vance called the meeting back to order after the recess.

Motion by Williams to approve minutes of the September 30, 2020 meeting, second by Blum. Roll call vote: Blum – Yes, Williams – Yes, Vance - Yes, Spring - Yes, Koupal – Yes. Motion carried.

Trapp presented financial information as of November 30, 2020. Fund Balance - Brand Fund \$2,161,698.11; Brand Inspection Fund \$454,508.95; Theft and Prevention Fund \$231,513.33. Motion by Blum to approve Financial Report as presented, second by Koupal. Roll call vote: Blum - Yes, Williams - Yes, Vance - Yes, Spring - Yes, Koupal - Yes. Motion carried.

Zilverberg reported on the following: Conducted a Multi-State Road Check with Nebraska and Wyoming – One citation was issued and 5 verbal warnings; Working on reports of missing livestock.

Bothwell presented the Brand Inspection Report for November 2020: Livestock Markets – 200,725 head, Locker Plants 537 head, Locals – 49,525 head, Lifetime Horse Permits – 2 head, for a total of 250,789 head. Year to date numbers are down 38,798 head from last year at this time – FY 21 is #6 in comparison with the last seven years.

Director Trapp gave the Director’s Report: Condolences to the Family of Matt Dean – Matt was a part time brand inspector as Platte Livestock; The Brand Book will be sent to the printer this

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week; Bothwell, Zilverberg and Trapp participated in the Committee on State-Tribal Relations meeting to discuss the agenda item “Stolen Cattle on Reservations”.

Hold Hearing BB #485 Philip Livestock – Six calves. As an individual, who was participating remotely in the hearing, was having difficulty in hearing the testimony, Motion by Williams, second by Koupal to table the hearing. Roll call vote: Blum – Yes, Williams – Yes, Vance – Yes, Spring – Yes, Koupal – Yes. Motion carried.

Robert Whipple presented a letter to the Board from Rodney Bordeaux, Rosebud Sioux Tribe President in regards to cattle rustling in South Dakota and on Indian Reservations.

Secretary of Tribal Relations Dave Flute spoke on jurisdictional issues regarding cattle theft on tribal ground and offered suggestions such as a short-term Memorandum of Understanding.

Tom Leonhardt had questions regarding the investigations of cattle theft and stray livestock.

Open Comment: Eric Gropper and Brian Fox commented on concerns of cattle theft on tribal ground. Bruce Mack stated a verbal complaint on the investigation of his missing cattle.

Special meeting set for January 6, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. CT.

Motion by Blum to enter into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1 & 3) personnel and legal at 3:37 p.m., second by Koupal. Roll call vote: Blum – Yes, Williams – Yes, Vance – Yes, Spring – Yes, Koupal – Yes. Motion carried.

The meeting came out of executive session at 4:45 p.m. Motion by Williams to table Dan Bothwell’s resignation, second by Blum. Roll call vote: Blum - Yes, Williams – Yes, Vance - Yes, Spring - Yes, Koupal – Yes. Motion carried.

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 _____.