

South Dakota Brand Board
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2023

The South Dakota Brand Board met on September 13, 2023, in Rapid City, SD. Members present in person were Scott Vance, Myron Williams, Lyle Spring, David Paul and Haven Stuck. Brand Board staff and others present in person or remotely were Debbie Trapp, Robert Haivala, Adam Masters, Doris Lauing.

Pres. Vance called the meeting to order.

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

Open Comments: None

Motion by Spring to approve the August 17, 2023 Regular Brand Board Meeting Minutes, second by Paul. Motion carried.

Director Trapp presented financial information as of August 31, 2023. Fund Balance - Brand Fund \$1,808,412.92, interest earned FY 23 \$43,678; Brand Inspection Fund \$346,374.97, interest earned FY 23 \$6,693; Theft Prevention Fund - Ownership to be established - \$213,111.39, Unrestricted – \$203,218.43, interest earned \$6,530. Motion by Spring to approve Financial Report as presented, second by Williams. Motion carried.

Investigator Masters reported the following: Investigator Quinn issued one warning; Masters had received 4 new reports, issued 2 warnings, Haivala and Masters met with Harding County Commissioners and State's Attorney.

Director Trapp gave the Brand Inspection Report for August 2023: Livestock Markets –18,450 head, Locker Plants 468 head, Locals – 35,895 head, Lifetime Horse Permits – 158 head, for a total of 54,971 head. Year to date numbers rank 5th out of the past seven years.

Director Trapp gave the Director's report: Welcome to Alisha Gonzalez who is currently training as a brand inspector, Six brand inspector training meetings have been held with positive discussions among the inspectors and supervisors, Map of Brand Inspection Districts and listing of District Supervisors is located on the Brand Board's webpage, Matt Clair and I went to Mobridge Livestock, Clair, Olivier, and I went to Burke Livestock – visited with inspectors and sale barn owners at Burke Livestock, the state radios ordered for the two investigators vehicles are not scheduled to be shipped until December, 2023, Myron Williams and myself spoke at the Livestock Marketing Conference in Rapid City on August 26, 2023, Williams, Vance and I attend the Ag Group Ad Hoc Meeting in Pierre, working on Road Check schedule.

After much discussion, Motion by Stuck to approve Open Market Application from Bowman Livestock Marketing LLC, second by Paul. Motion carried.

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As ownership was not established and no owners came forward to prove ownership, within one year or more from sale date, motion by Williams to escheat the following from Amount Held for Others to Unrestricted in the Theft Prevention Fund, BB#515 - \$343.76; BB#519 - \$548.59; BB#570 - \$317.15; BB#571 - \$417.40; BB#576 - \$1,328.27; BB#604 - \$790.23, second by Spring. Motion Carried.

Items for possible legislation were discussed. The following items had also been previously presented at the Ag Group Ad Hoc Meeting held in Pierre on September 6, 2023:

1. Recognize Freeze Brands on Cattle – currently recognized on horses only; 2. Allow for inspection of livestock on a trailer if adequate light and space; 3. Implement a Base Fee in addition to the per head fee for each inspection as current program costs exceed the revenue generated by the \$1.00/head inspection fee; 4. Horse Inspections – extend time a horse inspection of valid for – currently good for 24 hours – extend to 30 days; 5. Increase the \$1.00 per head inspection fee maximum currently set in statute. Vance and Spring will form legislation committee.

Discussed increasing Lifetime Horse Permit fee which is currently set in Administrative Rules. The increase was also discussed at the Ag Group Ad Hoc meeting in September.

Took a 5-minute break at 3:26 p.m.

Motion by William to enter executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1 & 3) personnel and legal at 3:34 p.m., second by Spring. Motion carried. Came out at 4:33 p.m.

Local Inspectors wage policy – Director to form committee to discuss options for rate of pay on local inspections to simplify the policy.

Next Regular meeting is set for November 8, 2023, in Rapid City at 1:00 p.m. MT.

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 _____.