

South Dakota Brand Board
Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2024

The South Dakota Brand Board met on March 27, 2024 in Rapid City, SD. Members present were Scott Vance, Myron Williams, Lyle Spring, and Haven Stuck. Jake Longbrake was absent. Brand Board staff and others present were Debbie Trapp, Tim Quinn, Adam Masters, Matt Clair, Jim Wenning, Amy Hatheway, Kathryn Rich, Bob Mercer, Doris Lauing, Tom Costello, Vaughn Meyer, and David Smith.

Pres. Vance called the meeting to order.

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

Oath of Office - Myron Williams took his Oath of Office.

Open Comments: Doris Lauing commented on letter sent by SD Stockgrowers requesting Ad Hoc meetings, information listed on Brand Board's website, audit, and suggested increasing brand renewal fees to generate additional revenue.

Motion by Williams to approve the Regular Brand Board Meeting Minutes of the February 21, 2024 meeting, second by Spring. Motion carried.

Director Trapp presented financial information as of February 29, 2024. Fund Balance - Brand Fund \$1,656,223.14; Brand Inspection Fund \$363,903.45; Theft Prevention Fund - Ownership to be established - \$257,742.93, Unrestricted – \$198,667.87. Motion by Spring to approve Financial Report as presented, second by Stuck. Motion carried.

Brand Enforcement – Investigator Wenning presented the following: Assisting on resolving Holds; Thank you to Highway Patrol for donation of vehicle light bar; Working on Criminal Justice Information Services application so the livestock investigators may access records to obtain information; Assisted Sheriff's office with neglect and seizure of cattle case; Attending reciprocity law enforcement training 4/15 - 4/19/24; Working on misuse of a brand case; Scheduling road checks; Attended Western States Livestock Rural Enforcement conference. Investigator Quinn reported currently has 4 cases pending with States Attorneys' offices. Investigator Masters reported 2 cases filed with States Attorneys' offices; issued violation warnings and some cases resulted in being classified as civil.

Director Trapp gave the Brand Inspection Report for February 2024: Livestock Markets –83,208 head, Locker Plants 544 head, Locals – 73,153 head, Lifetime Horse Permits – 96 head, for a total of 157,001 head. Year to date inspection numbers continue to rank the lowest out of the past seven years. Inspector Clair reported several applications have been received for part time/ local brand inspector positions.

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Director Trapp gave the Director's report: Thank you to David Paul for his years of service on the Brand Board; Meet with the Brand Inspector District Supervisors - discussed upgrading clippers, Increased number of owners not rebranding livestock which requires additional staff to conduct inspections, Local inspector pay and Training workshops; Now able to make remote check deposits to Brand Board's local bank account, Remotely attended North Dakota Stockmen's Association meeting to discuss Reciprocal Agreement for Open Markets, Revising Livestock Release forms.

Motion by Williams to approve North Dakota Reciprocal Agreement, second by Spring. Motion carried.

With the passage of HB 1060, discussed the changes in how the mileage reimbursement and lodging rates will be set. The Bureau of Finance and Management will publish the travel reimbursement rates as set forth in HB 1060.

As ownership was not established and no owners came forward to prove ownership within one year or more from sale date, motion by Spring to escheat the following from Amount Held for Others to Unrestricted in the Theft Prevention Fund: BB#382 - Belle Fourche Livestock - one black bull - \$1,341.30; BB#482 -Philip Livestock- two calves - \$1,425.50; BB#450 - Bowman Livestock - one black cow - \$890.11; BB#460 - Ft. Pierre Livestock - one calf - \$535.50; BB#475 - Philip Livestock - two heifer calves - \$251.13; BB#500 - St. Onge Livestock - one black cow - \$631.41; BB#524 -St. Onge Livestock - one black steer calf - \$169.62; BB#553 - Gordon Livestock - sorrel gelding/roan gelding - \$821.16; BB#614 -Philip Livestock - one black yrlg bull - \$776.40; BB#636 - St. Onge Livestock - one cow/one calf - \$1,505.03, second by Vance. Motion Carried.

Mobridge Livestock installed new exterior lights which were certified to meet Brand Board requirements for inspections during hours of darkness by an electrician on 10/10/23. The Brand Board approved Mobridge Livestock for inspections during hours of darkness at the November 8, 2023 Brand Board meeting. As brand inspectors started inspecting under lights on 10/11/23, they requested the higher day wage retroactive to 10/11/23 as it had been applied starting 11/09/23. The total amount is \$620.00 for 10/11/23 to 11/8/23. Motion by Stuck to approve the higher day wage rate retroactive to 10/11/23, second by Vance. Motion carried.

Possible budget amendments may be needed due to increased expenses in purchasing and installing state radios in vehicles used by livestock investigators.

Administrative Rules process was discussed for proposed Lifetime Horse Permits fee increase.

Next Brand Board meeting set for May 22, 2024 in Rapid City at 10:00 am MT.

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Motion by Spring to enter executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1 & 3) personnel and legal at 11:25 a.m., second by Williams. Motion carried. Came out at 12:58 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 _____.

Unapproved