

South Dakota Brand Board

Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2025

The South Dakota Brand Board meet on December 10, 2025, in Rapid City, SD. Members present were Scott Vance, Lyle Spring, Haven Stuck, and Jake Longbrake. Member Jarrod Johnson was absent. Brand Board staff and others present were Debbie Trapp, Bob Haivala, Amy Hatheway, Cindy Longbrake, Tom Costello, Doris Lauing and Cheyenne Tant.

Pres. Vance called the meeting to order.

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

Motion by Longbrake to adopt the Brand Board Meeting Minutes of the October 8, 2025 and November 21, 2025 meetings, second by Spring. Motion carried.

Director Trapp presented financial information as of November 30, 2025. Motion by Spring to approve the Financial Report as presented, second by Longbrake. Motion carried.

Fund Balance:

- Brand Fund \$2,887,400.21
- Inspection Fund \$288,741.02
- Theft Prevention Fund – Restricted - Ownership to be established - \$302,408.95
Unrestricted – \$107,020.36

Year to Date Revenue/Expenses/Transfers:

- Brand Fund: Revenue - \$228,555, Expenses - \$167,141
Transferred Out to Inspection Fund - \$400,000
- Inspection Fund: Revenue - \$539,608, Expenses - \$861,811
Transferred In from Brand Fund \$400,000
Expenses: Personnel - \$701,813
Travel - \$72,847
Contractual Services - \$71,242.3
Supplies and Materials - \$15,908
- Theft Prevention Fund: Restricted – Received \$21,733; Paid Out \$26,236
Unrestricted – Received \$25,321; Expenses \$100.

Brand Enforcement Report: Investigator Masters reported receiving more missing reports as is typical in the fall – If owner of missing livestock requests to be contacted, they also do a follow up call to verify if any livestock have been found; Shipper Permit violations are down due to investigator follow-ups; Investigator Olson reported on sale barn visits, road check, States Attorney charged out case he submitted; Director Trapp reported that Brand Inspection Supervisor Brindley has been assisting Motor Carrier, at the Tilford Port of Entry, with verifying correct livestock ownership inspection documents. Also discussed ongoing training requirements.

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Brand Inspection Report: Director Trapp presented the Brand Inspection Report for November 2025 as follows: Livestock Markets – 219,674 head, Locker Plants 216 head, Locals – 82,895 head, Lifetime Horse Permits – 35 head, for a total of 302,820 head. Year to date inspections are 542,097 head which ranks the 2nd lowest out of the past five years.

Director Trapp reported the following: Deepest condolences to Full time Brand Inspector Logan Vogt in the loss of her husband; Governor Rhoden presented his FY 27 Budget – no salary increases proposed; Bureau of Information and Technology (BIT) phone line cost will be increasing from \$41.00/line to \$47.00/line; BIT has done a great job making progress on the new webpage; Mitten Software is continuing work on resolving issue of data synchronization with the electronic inspection program; Thank you to the brand inspectors for their dedication to the program; Attended Ad Hoc Meetings and SD Cattlemen's Annual Convention; Brand Book – making modifications to column size due to numerous brand owners names listed on some brands

Open Comment: Doris Lauing asked about the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Draft Concept for structure of the Brand Board and Brand Board leasing new office space, Cheyenne Tant commented the draft was to gather industries' thoughts. Tom Costello asked about proposed legislation.

Director Trapp presented information on individual holds where ownership had not been established in at least 12 months for date of sale: BB 506 Belle Fourche Livestock – One Bull - \$1,192.19; BB 615 Belle Fourche Livestock – One Calf - \$807.43; BB 623 Ft Pierre Livestock – Two Black Steer Calves - \$2,532.92; BB 664 – Philip Livestock – One Black Cow - \$613.20; BB 670 Presheo Livestock – One Horse - \$295.90; BB 672 Presheo Livestock – One Horse - \$620.57; BB 681 Belle Fourche Livestock – One Cow - \$1,169.39. Motion by Spring, to transfer funds as presented, from Restricted to Unrestricted in the Theft Prevention Fund, second by Stuck. Motion carried.

Pres Vance explained legislation to increase the cap on livestock ownership inspections will be an agency bill for the 2026 Legislative Session. Legislative Research Council has prepared a draft, to SDCL 40-18-16, which proposes to increase the cap from \$1.00/head to \$1.65/head.

Director Trapp presented information on SD Open Markets regarding number of head inspected and cost of providing inspection services. SDCL 40-20-28 allows for the Brand Board to charge a fee if the current revenue from inspections at the open market does not cover the cost. Motion by Spring, to charge in-state open markets a quarterly fee, if expenses exceed revenues at their in-state open market, second by Stuck. Motion carried.

Next Brand Board meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2025, at 11:00 am CT in Pierre, SD.

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

Discussed Salary Policy for Part-time and Local Inspectors. No action taken.

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 _____.