

South Dakota Brand Board Meeting Minutes March 28, 2025

The South Dakota Brand Board met on March 28, 2025, in Rapid City, SD. Members present were Scott Vance, Lyle Spring, Haven Stuck, Jake Longbrake and Jarrod Johnson. Brand Board staff and others present were Debbie Trapp, Matt Clair, Bret Leigh Nance, Adam Masters, Isaac Cadet, Cindy Longbrake, Chuck Willard, 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 Spring to enter executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1 & 3) personnel and legal at 1:33 p.m., second by Johnson. Motion carried. Came out at 2:27 p.m.

Motion by Longbrake to adopt the Regular Brand Board Meeting Minutes of the December 19, 2024, meeting, second by Spring. Motion carried.

Director Trapp presented financial information as of February 28, 2025. Fund Balance - Brand Fund \$2,218,952.31 Brand Inspection Fund \$98,823.23; Theft Prevention Fund - Ownership to be established - \$277,994.55, Unrestricted - \$82,551.55. 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 there have been fewer late shipper violations, working on training material for meetings with Sheriffs, the Sheriffs' Spring Conference is in Deadwood in April. Investigator Cadet reported on one case, the individual took a plea deal.

Brand Inspection Report: Director Trapp presented the Brand Inspection Report for February 2025 as follows: Livestock Markets - 95,783 head, Locker Plants 391 head, Locals - 43,803 head, Lifetime Horse Permits - 64 head, for a total of 140,041 head. Year to date inspection numbers rank 7th lowest out of the past seven years.

Director Trapp stated a Thank You to the office staff for their dedication and hard work as each brand renewal year creates a high volume of phone calls due to questions on brand transfers and name changes, plus the receipting process; We greatly appreciate the "Thank You" notes brand owners have included with their renewal payments; 18,836 brand renewals have been paid for; Renewal payments are processed in our office and deposited with the State Treasurer's office - thank you to the Treasurer's office staff for their assistance; Brand Renewals payments are due by May 1, 2025; A list of Brand Renewal Notices, returned due to incorrect addresses, is posted on the Brand Board's website in hopes of finding the brand owners; Legislative session was busy.

Open Comment: Chuck Willard mentioned upcoming meeting the Pennington and Meade County Sheriffs' offices are having at the Wall Community Center on April 3rd to discuss

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livestock theft. Doris Lauing provided additional information on that meeting and stated Stockgrowers are reminding people this is a brand renewal year and including the Brand Board's Returned Renewal Notice list in their magazine. They have been contacting people they know on the list.

Legislative Session Review: House Bill 1213, as amended, to increase the amount allowable for livestock ownership inspections, did not pass; House Bill 1266, to attach the SD State Brand Board to the Office of School and Public Lands, did not pass; Senate Bill 170, to authorize the SD State Brand Board to enter a memorandum of understanding with any Indian tribe for the investigation of cattle theft, passed and will become effective July 1, 2025.

Brand Inspection Supervisor Clair presented information on Hold BB 578 which had been moved to unrestricted at the July 6, 2023, Brand Board meeting as ownership had not been established. Brand owner is now claiming. Motion by Stuck, to pay brand owner the proceeds from the sale of one sorrel mare, \$660.64, which had been Hold BB 578, second by Johnson. Motion carried.

Motion by Spring, to recommend a \$75.00 fine on 1-5 head and \$25/head fine on 6 or more head for violation of 40-20-18 (Failure to exhibit transportation permit upon demand), second by Longbrake. Motion by Johnson to amend the motion to include doubling the fine amount upon discovery of 2nd offense, second by Vance. Motion carried to amend motion. Pres. Vance called for vote on motion as amended - \$75.00 fine on 1-5 head, \$25/head fine on 6 or more head for violation of 40-20-18 and doubling of fine amounts upon discovery of 2nd offense. Motion carried.

Fiscal Year 2026 salary increase of 1.25% for state employees was approved by the legislators. Pres. Vance stated the Board will need to review salary policy.

Next Brand Board meeting is set for June 5, 2025, at 11:00 am MT in Rapid City, SD.

Motion by Johnson to enter executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1 & 3) personnel and legal at 4:14 p.m., second by Vance. Motion carried. Came out at 4:42 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 June 5, 2025.