

**Minutes of the QUARTERLY MEETING
NEBRASKA BRAND COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday March 14, 2023
9:00 a.m. CST
Arrow Hotel
509 S 9Ave., Broken Bow, NE 68822
Video Meeting by registration**

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Duane Gangwish at 9:01 am

Roll Call

Duane Gangwish Present
Chris Gentry Present
Tanya Storer Present
Marie Farr Present
Steve Stroup Present

Open Meetings statement was read by Chris Gentry

Adoption of Agenda

Steve Stroup moved to adopt the agenda as presented

Marie Farr seconded the motion

No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes
Chris Gentry Yes
Tanya Storer Yes
Marie Farr Yes
Steve Stroup Yes
Motion Passes

• **Current Business**

1. Introduction of Attendees

Tanya Storer
Chris Gentry
Duane Gangwish
Marie Farr
Steve Stroup
John Widdowson
Tom Hughson
Becki Vineyard
Dean Anderson
C. J. Fell

Danna Schwenk
Merritt Barton
Melody Benjamin
Kayla Jesse
Jay Sloan
Eric Campbell
Mark Ryan

Remote Attendees
Spike Jordan
Shawn Hanks
Kortnie Shafer
Jacob Lever
Hilary Maricle

2. Approval of December 6, 2022, Meeting Minutes
Chris Gentry moved to approve the minutes as presented
Steve Stroup seconded the motion
No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes
Chris Gentry Yes
Tanya Storer Yes
Marie Farr Yes
Steve Stroup Yes
Motion Passes

3. Consideration and Acceptance of Financial Statements
Becki Vineyard presented the financial statements
Duane Gangwish discussed meeting with the appropriations committee
Jacob Leaver helped explain PSL changes and thoughts on budget passing
Marie Farr moved to accept the financial statements as presented
Chris Gentry seconded the motion
No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes
Chris Gentry Yes
Tanya Storer Yes
Marie Farr Yes
Steve Stroup Yes
Motion Passes

4. Legislative Updates
John Widdowson presented on LB 229 and conformation of new Committee Members.
No action taken

5. Nebraska Brand Committee Policy, Rules and Regulation Review and Updates

Staff recommended no changes to policy at this time

No action taken

6. Review and update pertaining to Open Markets

Dean Anderson presented the current open markets and explained the reasons for continuing these agreements.

Marie Farr moved to continue the open market agreements with Albion and Elgin sale barns and JBS packing plant.

Steve Stroup seconded the motion

No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes

Chris Gentry Yes

Tanya Storer Yes

Marie Farr Yes

Steve Stroup Yes

Motion Passes

7. South Dakota Reciprocal Agreement

Tom Hughson explained the importance and benefits of this agreement with South Dakota

Tanya Storer moved to continue the South Dakota Reciprocal Agreement.

Steve Stroup seconded the motion

No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes

Chris Gentry Yes

Tanya Storer Yes

Marie Farr Yes

Steve Stroup Yes

Motion Passes

8. Beef Council Contract

John Widdowson presented the Beef council contract and explained its need and importance.

Tanya Storer moved to approve the contract with the Nebraska Beef Council for 2023

Chris Gentry seconded the motion

No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes
Chris Gentry Yes
Tanya Storer Yes
Marie Farr Yes
Steve Stroup Yes
Motion Passes

9. Staff Updates, and Ratification of Personnel Changes

a. Ratification of personnel changes

Becki Vineyard presented the changes to staffing in the last quarter

Tanya Storer moved to ratify the personnel changes

Marie Farr seconded the motion.

No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes
Chris Gentry Yes
Tanya Storer Yes
Marie Farr Yes
Steve Stroup Yes
Motion Passes

b. Deputy to Chief Investigator

John Widdowson and Tom Hughson explained the need and duties of this new position.

Committee supported the creation of the new position but took no action

10. Estray Reports

a. Administrative Estray Expense

Dean Anderson explained the reason for and how the numbers were figured for the administrative expense for school fund cases.

Chris Gentry moved to approve the 23/24 Administrative Estray expenses

Steve Stroup seconded the motion

No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes
Chris Gentry Yes
Tanya Storer Yes
Marie Farr Yes
Steve Stroup Yes
Motion Passes

b. School fund cases

Dean Anderson Presented the cases to be sent to the school fund.

Tanya Storer moved to approve sending the cases to the school fund.

Marie Farr seconded the motion
No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes
Chris Gentry Yes
Tanya Storer Yes
Marie Farr Yes
Steve Stroup Yes
Motion Passes

11. Strategic Plan Review
Duane Gangwish Explained the reasons for the strategic plan.
No action taken
12. Fee Schedule Review and Discussion
John Widdowson Discussed the fee schedule and recommended no changes at this time.
No action taken
13. E Inspection Discussion and Direction
Duane Gangwish gave an overview of what has been done so far and the general steps moving forward.
John Widdowson presented the statutory obligations and the needs of staff, to move forward as well as the reasons for a separate background system for E-Inspection.
Jay Sloan, of Tyler Nebraska, explained the need for a separate developer for the back-end data base for E-Inspection. Stated that they would provide the front facing portion of the program. He then introduced Eric Campbell as a potential developer for the data base.
Eric Campbell gave a brief background of himself and his work.
Duane Gangwish asked if he had any advice or direction for the brand committee in taking the next step. Eric Campbell explained that the first step would be to supply a developer with the specs for the build so they could come back with a quote and a plan.
Danna explained that Tyler Nebraska would work with a third-party developer to build specs so that price points and timelines can be determined.
John Widdowson aske the Committee for direction to work with Tyler Nebraska, and Eric Campbell to work toward creating an outline to get a price point and ideas.
Tanya Storer moved to enter into preliminary discussions with Eric Campbell and Tyler Nebraska, to get preliminary framework of E-Inspection to present at June meeting.
Steve Stroup seconded the motion
No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes
Chris Gentry Yes
Tanya Storer Yes

Marie Farr Yes
Steve Stroup Yes
Motion Passes

14. Technology Report
Jay Sloan explained the grails update and its effect on the brand committee and updates.
Danna Schwenk expanded on her written report
15. Chief Investigators Report
Investigators Hughson, Fell and Barton expanded on their written reports
16. Chief Inspectors Report
Dean Anderson expanded on his and the supervisor's written reports.
17. Registered Feedlot Audit Updates
Dean Anderson presented that there was the loss of one registered feedlot over the last quarter and that the billing change for the feedlots has been going very smooth to this point.
18. Executive Session: To Receive Legal Advice Related to Potential or Anticipated and Current Litigation, Legislative, Personnel Matters and Review of Special Projects
Committee chose not to go into executive session.
19. Executive Directors Report
John Widdowson gave an overview of his time over the last three months and the most pressing issues he will have over the next few.
20. Public Comment
Hilary Maricle from Nebraska Department of Ag. Thanked the Brand Committee for the good work they do.
21. Adjournment
Tanya Storer moved to Adjourn the meeting.
Chris Gentry seconded the motion.
No Discussion

Duane Gangwish Yes
Chris Gentry Yes
Tanya Storer Yes
Marie Farr Yes
Steve Stroup Yes
Motion Passes

Meeting Adjourned at 12:08 pm

