

Minutes – QUARTERLY MEETING of the NEBRASKA BRAND COMMITTEE

Tuesday June 15, 2021

9:00 a.m. CST

Location of Meeting

Mid -Plains Community College

715 East US -20

Valentine, NE

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 9:01am by Chairman Sawyer

- Terry Cone announced that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available in the meeting room and online.

- Roll Call

Adam Sawyer Present  
Terry Cone Present  
Chris Gentry Present  
Tanya Storer Present

- Adoption of Agenda

Terry Cone moved to adopt the agenda as presented

Chris Gentry seconded the motion

No discussion

Adam Sawyer Yes

Terry Cone Yes

Chris Gentry Yes

Tanya Storer Yes

Motion passed

- **Current Business**

1. Introduction of Attendees

Adam Sawyer	Chairman
Terry Cone	Committee Member
Chris Gentry	Committee Member
Tanya Storer	Committee Member
John Widdowson	Director
Dave Horton	Chief Investigator
Thomas Hughson	Investigator
Brent Deibler	Investigator
Christian Fell	Investigator

Kayla Jesse	Area supervisor
Kortnie Shafer	Area Supervisor
Shawn Hanks	Area super Visor
Cody Waite	Area Supervisor
Danna Schwenk	IT Coordinator
Becki Vineyard	HR Head, Office Manager
Dean Anderson	Business Operations Manager
Melody Benjamin	Nebraska Cattlemen
Bill Rhea	Nebraska Cattlemen
Scott Peterson	Nebraska Cattlemen
Brent Hoffman	Nebraska Interactive
Jay Sloan	Nebraska Interactive
Clint Verner	State Budget
Mark Fahleson	Legal Counsel
Kelsey Kingge	Inspector
Marie Farr	Nebraska Cattlemen (via telephone)
Spike Jordan	Reporter (via telephone)

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. March 16, 2021 Regular Meeting
- b. June 4, 2021 Special Meeting

Tanya Storer moved to approve both meeting minutes, as presented.

Terry Cone seconded the motion

No discussion

Adam Sawyer Yes

Terry Cone Yes

Chris Gentry Yes

Tanya Storer Yes

Motion passed

3. Consideration and Acceptance of Financial Statements

- a. Comp-Time Report

Becki and Director Widdowson gave a report on the percent used of current budget and explained mileage overages and how to look at mileage going forward.

Clint Verner explained how some mileage may be able to be reclaimed through ARP and that he would get us more information.

- b. Cash Payment Deposit Account

Director Widdowson, Becki and Dean explained the new plan for depositing cash by the inspectors directly into State accounts, and how that would work.

Tanya Storer moved to accept the financial reports as presented.

Adam Sawyer seconded the motion  
No discussion

Adam Sawyer Yes  
Terry Cone Yes  
Chris Gentry Yes  
Tanya Storer Yes  
Motion passed

4. Legislative Updates

Director Widdowson gave an update on the passing of LB 572 and the steps moving forward. Explained that the effective date would be August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Discussion was had on E inspections and the creation of the advisory group. Director Widdowson and Danna will give monthly updates to the committee about the progress toward E inspections on a monthly basis.

No action taken

5. Review and approval of the Revised South Dakota Reciprocal Agreement

Dave Horton explained that it was the same as past years with the change that the Nebraska Brand Committee would no longer do horse inspections for South Dakota. Terry Cone moved to authorize Chairman Sawyer to sign the South Dakota Reciprocal Agreement on behalf of the Committee.

Chris Gentry seconded the motion

No discussion

Adam Sawyer Yes  
Terry Cone Yes  
Chris Gentry Yes  
Tanya Storer Yes  
Motion passes

6. Staff Updates and Ratification of Personnel changes

Becki gave an update on new hires and resignations.

Dave spoke on the upcoming retirement and fifty years of service of Sterling Rust.

Chris Gentry moved to ratify the personnel changes

Adam Sawyer seconded the motion

No discussion

Adam Sawyer Yes  
Terry Cone Yes  
Chris Gentry Yes  
Tanya Storer Yes  
Motion passes

7. Estray Reports

Dean stated that there were no estray cases to be school funded at this time.

No action taken

8. Strategic Plan Review  
Director Widdowson gave an update stating that the team will work on changes to the strategic plan to reflect accomplishments and new goals.  
No action taken
9. Fee Schedule Review and Discussion  
Discussion was had on legislative changes to the fee schedule and potential changes in the future.  
No action taken
10. Review and Discussion of Committee Meeting Notice Postings and Advertisements  
Mark Fahleson addressed changes to the way public notice is advertised for Nebraska Brand Committee meetings.  
Adam Sawyer moved to publish public meeting notices on the Committee's website at nbc.nebraska.gov, Nebraska.gov's public meetings calendar as well as posted on the public bulletin board at the Alliance office.  
Terry Cone seconded the motion  
No discussion  
Adam Sawyer Yes  
Terry Cone Yes  
Chris Gentry Yes  
Tanya Storer Yes  
Motion passes
11. Executive Session: To Receive Legal Advice Related to Potential or Anticipated Litigation, Legislative, Personnel matters and Review of Special Projects  
No executive session occurred.
12. Technology Report - IT Coordinator Danna Schwenk  
Brent Hoffman gave an update of actions taken by Nebraska Interactive and future payment options.  
Danna Schwenk summarized her written report.
13. Investigators Reports
  - a. Tom Hughson summarized his written report.
  - b. C J Fell summarized his written report.
  - c. Brent Deibler summarized his written report.
14. Registered Feedlot Audit Updates.  
Dave gave report on the progress of audit by the supervisors.
15. District Supervisors Reports
  - a. Kortnie Shaffer summarized her written report.

- b. Cody Waite summarized his written report.
- c. Shawn Hanks summarized his written report.
- d. Kayla Jesse summarized his written report.

16. Chief Investigators Report – Dave Horton summarized his written report.

17. Executive Directors Report – John Widdowson

Director Widdowson discussed the all agency meeting and asked for any agenda Items to be sent to him. Also discussed the creation of the advisory team for E inspections, quarterly in charge inspector meetings, supervisor meetings and the end of the fiscal year. Lastly, he mentioned the need to establish an application process for the Chief Investigator position ahead of Dave Hortons retirement.

18. Public Comment

Melody Benjamin commented on the accomplishments and plans for the next legislative session.

Bill Rhea commented that he was glad we got something through the Legislature.

Director Widdowson thanked Clint Verner for the help he has given the brand committee.

19. Adjournment

Terry Cone moved to adjourn the meeting

Adam Sawyer seconded the motion

No discussion

Adam Sawyer Yes

Terry Cone Yes

Chris Gentry Yes

Tanya Storer Yes

Motion passes

Meeting adjourned at 12:20pm