

Meeting of the Board of Directors

250 – 32160 South Fraser Way
Abbotsford, BC V2T 1W5

Strategic: Identify key opportunities and systemic challenges and plan for actions to effectively manage risks and take advantage of future opportunities.

Accountable: Maintain legitimacy and integrity through understanding and discharging responsibilities and reporting performance.

Fair: Ensure procedural fairness in processed and decision-making

Effective: A clearly defined outcome with appropriate processed and measures.

Transparent: Ensure that processes, practices, procedures & reporting on exercise of mandate are open, accessible and fully informed.

Inclusive: Ensure that appropriate interests, including the public interest, are considered.

MINUTES of Board of Directors Meeting

Date: March 27, 2020

Location: Conference Call

BOARD IN ATTENDANCE: Gunta Vitins, Chair
Walter Siemens, Vice-Chair
Matt Vane, Board Member
Jon Krahn, Board Member
Jeff Regier, Board Member

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Katie Lowe, Executive Director
Julianne Cox, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Gunta Vitins, called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Board discussed any perceived conflicts of interest with the proposed agenda items.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was **MOVED** by Walter Siemens and **SECONDED** that the agenda be adopted as presented.

1.0 Meeting Schedule

1.1 Board of Directors Meetings

The Board discussed that all future meetings will be held via video or conference calls until further notice. In addition, the Board will meet weekly on Fridays to discuss COVID-related concerns and issues requiring immediate attention.

1.2 PMC Meeting Format

The PMC meeting scheduled for April 2, 2020 will be done either by conference call or video conferencing. A condensed agenda will be used that includes items of high importance and issues requiring immediate attention. All agenda items that were not addressed at this time will be discussed at the next in-person meeting.

2.0 Supply Shortages & Egg Production

2.1 BC Barn Capacity

There has been communication from Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC) requesting information from all provinces regarding bird capacity and empty barn statuses. Staff provided the Board an overview of the producers with empty barns and those that could possibly have extended lays. An overview of the current status of layer barns in BC was reviewed by the Board.

The Board discussed what alternative options may look like within BC. Extending current flocks, utilizing empty barns, and looking at the role of the Temporary Allotment Program (TAP) are some topics that were explored.

The Board and staff will await further direction from EFC on the plans moving forward.

Action: Staff was directed to provide pullet barn capacity information to the Board for the following week.

3.0 Industry Updates

3.1 PFGC Update

The BC Egg Processors Council (BCEPC) have asked that a review of the Post Farm Gate Cost (PFGC) program be conducted. BC Egg has agreed to undertake a comprehensive review of the program in collaboration with graders. BCEPC has hired JRG Consulting Group to undertake preliminary research which includes interviews with key stakeholders on how costs are managed in other provinces and the implications of other programs such as buy-back etc. The interview guides that were previously reviewed by the Board have been sent to the list of interviewees. All western and central provincial board managers have indicated their willingness to participate in the process.

The Board reviewed concerns or questions raised by research participants. The Chair and Executive Director will work together on the responses.

3.2 Producer Pricing

A summary of the EFC conference call with the provinces regarding a nationally coordinated approach and review of producer pricing was provided to the Board. Producer prices will be reviewed again nationally at the end of May. Once more information is made available a report will be made to the Board.

3.3 COMB Funding

The BC Council of Marketing Boards (COMB) has sent a letter to the commodity boards requesting a 43% increase in membership fees to bring the membership fees in line with their operating expenses and to create a six-month reserve.

The Board reviewed the proposal and does not support the proposed 43% increase but rather would be supportive of a 10-15% increase this year and with the membership fee to be reviewed on an annual basis.

Action: Staff was directed to draft a response letter to COMB for Board review. Once reviewed, a copy will be shared with the other commodity boards for reference.

3.4 Interior Fowl Removal Update

A brief update on the Interior fowl removal was provided to the Board with a more detailed update to follow at the March 31, 2020 Board meeting. The contractor has asked that the Board review the gassing machine contract and provided new information.

The Board of Directors of BC Egg Marketing Board

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The Board requested that staff have a conference call with the Interior producers to obtain their feedback on the current status of the fowl removal in their area.

4.0 COVID-19 Update

4.1 Industry Concerns

The Board discussed ongoing and potential industry concerns amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. The discussion revolved around bedding and feed supplies for producers as well as the plans that the grading stations have in place at this time.

5.0 Upcoming Meetings

Weekly Board meetings will continue Fridays at 10am to discuss immediate and arising issues.

ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED by Jeff Regier and SECONDED that the meeting be adjourned at 11:22am.



Board Chair



Certified Correct, Secretary