

## Meeting of the Board of Directors

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

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**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.

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### MINUTES of Board of Directors Meeting

**Date:** May 1, 2020

**Location:** Video Conference

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

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#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Gunta Vitins, called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was MOVED by Jon Krahn and SECONDED that the agenda be adopted as presented.

### 1.0 Updates from BOD Meeting

#### 1.1 EFC Update

Walter Siemens provided an EFC update to the Board. EFC egg storage has decreased to zero, but preliminary reports show that storage will be needed next week. An update regarding EFP product was provided.

#### 1.1a Market Update

The EFC Market Update was presented to the Board.

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### 1.2 EFP Update

An update on the EFP alternate market process was provided to the Board. The Board reviewed options for reducing the current EFP numbers of 50,000 birds and supported the gradual decline using flock mortality. Data will be provided to EFC on a weekly basis reflecting the reduction in EFP numbers.

**R20-069**

It was MOVED by Walter Siemens and SECONDED

THAT the Board motion to reduce the EFP bird numbers to 37500.

CARRIED.

The Board will conduct a review in 6-weeks to determine if any further reductions are needed.

**Action:** Staff was directed to move forward with the EFP reduction and contact BCFIRB to communicate the direction.

### 1.2a Charity and Food Banks

An update was provided to the Board on the Food Bank donations that started the week of April 27<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that the Kelowna Food Bank hub will be receiving their first donations the following week. There has been interest from producers who would like to donate their eggs to other community-based charity programs. The Board supports these efforts and will include these donations in their social media posts.

### 1.3 ULPT Meeting Update

EFC has implemented a Uniform Levy Project Team (ULPT) to examine and identify levy collection and remittance practices across the country, in order to develop and apply uniform national practices. The first meeting was held on April 23, 2020. The notes from the meeting were not available at the time but will be sent to the Board once received. Walter Siemens and Katie Lowe represent BC Egg at these meetings and will continue to assure that issues are relayed from the Board to the ULPT meetings and vice versa.

The next ULPT meetings will take place on May 21 and 26 where the answers to the levy questionnaire will be presented.

### 1.4 BCFIRB Allocation Decision

The Board reviewed the BCFIRB decision regarding the 2020 growth allocation received from EFC. Staff will provide a full analysis of options for TAP Pool B at the full Board meeting at the end of May.

### 1.5 BCCMB COMB Response

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 COMB response letter from the chicken commodity board. It is in line with the response that BC Egg previously sent to COMB.

### 1.6 PFGC Update

An update was provided to the Board on the status of the post farm gate cost (PFGC) analysis that was conducted by JRG Group. The Board has received a draft report and will participate in a video conference on May 4, 2020 with JRG Group and Egg Farmers of Alberta to review each section of the report.

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### 1.7 Producer 1

A producer has been in communication with BC Egg staff regarding their grading concerns. Staff reiterated that BC Egg does not generally interfere with producer and grader relations unless the producer or the grader are in contravention of the Consolidated Orders. Staff ensures that verbal conversations with the producer are followed up in writing. The information is shared and reviewed by the Board.

### 1.8 Small Lot Permit Program

BC Egg staff noticed that the application for a small lot permit had been changed without Board approval or direction in 2017. An additional requirement on the application form was erringly omitted.

The Board reviewed the original intent of the small lot permit program, and the requirements for similar programs with the other commodity boards for reference. The Board also reviewed staff's recommendations to clarify the Consolidated Orders and revise the small lot permit application. The Board provided recommendations to staff for incorporation into the Consolidated Orders and permit application.

**Action:** Staff was directed to apply the proposed changes to the Consolidated Orders and permit application. Staff will provide the Amending Order for first reading at the May 8<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

## 2.0 COVID-19 Update

### 2.1 Fowl Removal

The Board discussed the changes to the fowl removal process experienced by producers in the Lower Mainland and on Vancouver Island as a result of the temporary closures of two processing plants in BC. Concerns were raised regarding the current capacity to remove fowl and alternate plans were discussed.

The Board reviewed the financial impact of the process change for producers on Vancouver Island.

**R20-070**

It was MOVED by Matt Vane and SECONDED

THAT during the COVID 19 pandemic registered producers located on Vancouver Island who are required to provide their own labour for fowl removal be reimbursed up to 13 cents per bird based on receipts for those flocks who are euthanized using the stunner rather than being processed.

CARRIED.

### 2.2 EFC EFR Program

EFC has requested that the provinces provide them with information on flocks that could be removed early to reduce the burden on the IP program. Staff will continue to keep EFC informed of any flocks that would be eligible for the early fowl removal program.

### 2.3 COVID Update

BC Egg will assess the financial impact of Covid-19 on the egg sector. The Board recognizes that the donation program will be a direct cost to BC Egg Producers. Staff will communicate additional costs regarding the donation program and fowl removal to EFC.

The Board discussed the impacts on the feed sector. There have been two price increases recently and the hope is that the increases will cease as there should be enough meat meal to keep the price steady.

**3.0 Other Business**

3.1 Industry Roundtable with Minister Popham

Minister Popham met with the dairy-poultry-pork sectors on April 29, 2020 and again with the poultry sector on May 1 to discuss issues surrounding Covid-19. An update from the meetings was provided to the Board. [REDACTED] participated on the Roundtable calls and raised the issue of having Fraser Health inspect their facility and review their protocols asap to ensure that [REDACTED] could continue to operate even if employee(s) are diagnosed with COVID-19. A complete facility shutdown is not a feasible option since [REDACTED] grades [REDACTED] of the eggs in BC. [REDACTED] is being proactive and asking for BCMA to help encourage Fraser Health to conduct an inspection of the facility and their protocols to determine if any additional measures need to be taken. Other areas of discussion from the Roundtable meetings were feed pricing, employee absenteeism, proper PPE for workers, and fowl removal.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED by Walter Siemens and SECONDED that the meeting be adjourned at 2:43pm.



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Board Chair



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Certified Correct, Secretary