

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: May 15, 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

CALL TO ORDER

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

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 with an addition.

3.3 Packaging Discussion

1.0 Updates from BOD Meeting

1.1 EFC Update

Walter Siemens provided an EFC update to the Board. EFC staffing and committee changes were presented as information. Items of interest regarding the IP Pool and Q1 financials were also presented as information to the Board. The Board discussed the EFC Early Fowl Removal program.

1.1a Market Update

The EFC Market Update was presented to the Board.

1.2 Eggs For Processing Update

An update on the EFP alternate market process was provided to the Board. The Board reviewed the reductions in EFP numbers and the effects on the provincial utilization rate. The Food Bank donations sent from the grading stations are reflective of the generosity of the egg sector. The Board has received positive feedback from producers regarding this program. Some producers are also donating eggs to other charities.

1.3 PFGC Update

The Board discussed the final report of the post farm gate cost (PFGC) analysis that was conducted by JRG Group. On May 13th BC Egg met with the Egg Farmers of Alberta to review the report. JRG Group will update the report with the suggested corrections and provide the Boards with a PowerPoint presentation providing highlights from the report.

Action: Staff was directed to contact the EFA regarding their authority to obtain inter-provincial movement information and bring that information forward for review.

1.4 Small Lot Permit Program

The Board reviewed the changes to the Consolidated Order and to the small lot permit application form. The Board discussed the marketing expectations regarding the small lot producers. The final revised application forms will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

R20-071 It was MOVED by Matt Vane and SECONDED

THAT the Board of Directors approve the second reading of Amending Order #015 to the Consolidated Order of November 1, 2017.

CARRIED.

1.5 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 implement uniform national practices. BC Egg representatives will attend upcoming UPLT meetings on May 21st and 26th. At the May 21 meeting, BC Egg will be presenting their responses to the Levy Survey.

2.0 COVID-19 Update

2.1 Fowl Removal

The Board discussed the changes to the fowl removal process and the effects of the temporary closures of two processing plants in BC. The stunning unit will be used in the Lower Mainland at least until May 23, 2020. One of the plants has reopened and is able to take one of the smaller flocks set for removal in the upcoming week.

Staff provided an update to the Board and has been working with [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] on developing a protocol for on farm destruction using CO2. The Board discussed the challenges and benefits of having a trial run using the gassing method in BC and what this would look like moving forward. The Board would like to see if EOC funding would be available to help offset the cost.

Action: Staff was directed to contact EOC with a funding proposal including the recommendation of two CO2 destructions per year to stay up to date on training and methods.

Action: If no additional funding is available, staff was directed to be prepared to continue using stunning for all the fowl removals until the processing plants can take more of BC

Egg's rendering.

An update from the Interior Producer meeting was provided to the Board. Four producers from the Interior will be representing the region on a working group looking specifically at the fowl removal within the Interior region of BC. They will provide an update to BC Egg once more work has been done.

2.2 EFC Early Fowl Removal Program

An update was provided to the Board on the status of EFC's EFR program. The goal is to match supply with demand as closely as possible for both the table and processor markets.

2.3 Serecon Study

The Poultry Boards have requested that Serecon put a proposal together for an Economic Impact Assessment for COVID. After a recent call with the Poultry Boards confirming their agreement in pursuing the Serecon study, some of the processors and graders have raised their confidentiality concerns regarding their participation in the study. Response from the graders and processors to confirm their participation or not should be received within the next week. An update will be provided at the May 25th BOD meeting regarding the status of the process.

3.0 Other Business

3.1 Board Meetings in Phase 2

The Board discussed having the May Board meeting in person while maintaining all social distancing measures. The Board agreed to holding an in-person meeting.

The Board also discussed the plans for re-opening the BC Egg office for staff. At this time, no dates have been set for the re-opening of the office. The re-opening plan will greatly depend on when children return to school and assuring there is not a significant increase in COVID case numbers from the relaxation of the rules on May 19. Staff have considered a gradual return to in-office work for staff. Once more information is available, an update will be provided to the Board.

3.2 Packaging Discussion

A grader request came into the Board to discuss the ongoing concern regarding the North American shortage of cartons and packaging supplies for eggs. The concern and goal were to make BC more self sustainable in this regard should another emergency event happen in the future. The Board's support for this initiative is being sought. The Board discussed the issue. The Serecon project will likely identify these gaps in the industry, including the packaging shortages, and will highlight areas meriting increased government focus in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED by Matt Vane and SECONDED that the meeting be adjourned at 11:16am.



Board Chair



Certified Correct, Secretary