

**MEETING of the NEBRASKA BRAND COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday December 18, 2018  
0900 a.m. CST**

Mid Plains Community College  
1101 Halligan Dr.  
Room WW 202  
North Platte, NE

*All agenda items are for discussion and action will be taken as deemed appropriate. The Committee reserves the right to go into closed session in accordance with Neb.Rev.Stat. §84-1410.*

**Call to Order** Meeting called to order at 9:08 am

*All agenda items are for discussion and action will be taken as deemed appropriate, The Committee reserves the right to go into closed session in accordance with Neb.Rev.Stat. §84-1410.*

In compliance with the provision of the Open Meetings Act, Public notice of this December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting was posted in the headquarters office- in Alliance, NE on November 28, 2018 at 5:40p.m. MT Certification of Public Notice will be provided as part of the record of this meeting,

Notice of this December 18, 2018 meeting was published in the Alliance Times- Herald, North Platte Telegraph, McCook Daily Gazette, and posted on the Nebraska Brand Committee's website, Affidavit of Publication will be provided as part of the record of this meeting.

In compliance with the Open Meetings Act, an agenda and other related material were made available for public inspection in the headquarters office prior to the meeting. Agenda and related items are available for public use and review. An agenda was made available on November 28, 2018 at 11 am. MT. The meeting agenda was emailed to the Committee members on November 18, 2018.

A copy of the Open Meetings Act is available to the public at the entrance of this meeting room.

This meeting is being recorded.

- Pursuant to Neb.Rev.Stat. §84-1412(8) a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public.
- Roll Call

John Widdowson (P) Chris Gentry (P) Adam Sawyer (P) Jay Martindale (P) Terry Cone (P)

Introductions

Monty Sever: Area 4 District Supervisor  
Kortnie Shafer: Area 3 District Supervisor

Melody Benjamin: Nebraska Cattleman  
Doug Straight: Nebraska Beef Council  
Josh Dethlefsen: Attorney General's Office  
Becki Vineyard: HQ HR  
Tom Hughson Area 2 Investigator  
Cody Waite: Area 2 District Supervisor  
Adam Sawyer: Committee Member  
Terry Cone: Committee Vice Chair  
Jay Martindale: Committee Member  
Cheyanne Volz: Accounts Payable/Admin  
CJ Fell: Area 3 Investigator  
Brent Deibler: Area 4 Investigator  
Dean Anderson: Registered Feedlot Inspector  
Dave Horton: Interim Executive Director  
John Widdowson: Committee Chair  
Chris Gentry: Committee Member

- **Adoption of Agenda**

Dave Horton stated that he received an email from Ann Marie. Doug will report changes in our Beef Council Contract, as they relate to USDA mandates.

No other amendments to the agenda

Terry Cone moved to accept the agenda as presented with the addition of Doug presentation for Beef Council.

Adam Sawyer was the second.

No further discussion, votes are as follows:

John Widdowson (Y) Chris Gentry (Y) Adam Sawyer (Y) Jay Martindale (Y) Terry Cone (Y)

- **Current Business**

1. Introduction of District Supervisor's and other Guests.

Dave Horton introduced the new District Supervisors that started on December 1, 2018. Currently, District Supervisors are working as their old position as well as new duties until the committee can fill the old positions.

Cody Waite is in Area 2, Henry, NE

Kortnie Shafer is in Area 3, Cozad, NE

Monty Sever is in Area 4, Kearney, NE

Supervisors received training yesterday December 17, 2018.

2. Approval of minutes of the November 14, 2018 Committee Meeting.

John Widdowson presented the minutes for approval. There was no discussion.

Adam moved to accept the minutes as presented.

Jay Martindale seconded

There was no discussion, votes are as follows.

John Widdowson (Y) Chris Gentry (Y) Adam Sawyer (Y) Jay Martindale (Y) Terry Cone (Y)

**3. Consideration and acceptance of financial statements.**

Dave Horton, Becki Vineyard and Cheyanne Volz discussed the current budget status, issues, resolutions and plan moving forward.

John Widdowson spoke to committee members about being aware of decisions as they relate to the budget moving forward.

Jay Martindale moved to accept the financial statements as presented.

Terry Cone seconded

No discussion

Votes are as follows:

John Widdowson (Y) Chris Gentry (Y) Adam Sawyer (Y) Jay Martindale (Y) Terry Cone (Y)

**4. Executive Director Search updates-Moved to Executive Session**

**4. 2019-2021 Budget Review and Budget Deficit Request Meeting Report.**

John Widdowson and Dave Horton gave a recap of the budget meeting with Governor Ricketts and his staff.

Dave provided a handout with the numbers that were presented and discussed.

The committee will be working to obtain Ag exemption for the purpose of cutting down on comp time.

John stated that he felt the meeting went well and we are in a good place moving forward.

**Executive Session began at 10:16**

**7. Executive Session: discussion of litigation review, legislative and statutory changes if needed, Personnel matters, and Investigation updates**

Jay Martindale moved to reopen Open Session

Adam Sawyer seconded

No discussion

Votes are as follows

John Widdowson (P) Chris Gentry (P) Adam Sawyer (P) Jay Martindale (P) Terry Cone (P)

### **Open Session resumed at 12:25 pm**

#### **6. Legislative review, discussion and consideration of any changes and subsequent recommendations to present to appropriate member(s) of Nebraska Legislature.**

##### **a. Executive Director Law Enforcement Certification.**

Terry Cone moved that the committee work to remove the Law Enforcement Certification from the Executive Director position.

Jay Martindale was the second

No discussion

John Widdowson (Y) Chris Gentry (Y) Adam Sawyer (Y) Jay Martindale (Y) Terry Cone (Y)

##### **b. Electronic Identification Evidence of Ownership discussion.**

There was discussion regarding the EID tag as they relate to RFL, Dairy Heifer Development and other inspections not only as a form of ID but for inspection purposes and what the process would be.

Dave Horton provided state statute that stated the committee already has permission to move forward with

Adam Sawyer struck his motion

John Widdowson moved that we research potential legislative statues pertaining to issues using EID as a form of proof of ownership.

Jay Martindale Seconded

No further discussion

John appointed that Adam Sawyer lead a working group with Chris Gentry looking into the statutes There was discussion regarding what the working group would accomplish.

Adam Sawyer requested that staff bring forth information to the next committee meeting regarding legislative changes for next year. Potential for a draft bill ready next fall.

Mileage was discussed as another potential statutory change.

## **8. Technology Report / Special Projects Manager update**

Discussion about the metrics of financials and head counts regarding electronic inspections.  
Bassett Livestock went live.

Discussion regarding defining and identifying needs as they relate to EID software programing.

John requested that the committee come together for a work day regarding EIDs. The date was decided as Thursday January 24, 2019 in North Platte at 10 am CST.

### **a. Electronic Time Keeping.**

Danna reported that there are internal options with the OCIO.

Ticketing software is available for workflow transparency.

Discussion regarding having a full time IT person come April 1.

## **9. Area-District Supervisor update.**

Kortnie-See attached

Monty-Recap of the last 3 weeks

Cody-Recap of the last 3 weeks

## **10. Ratification of personnel changes**

Terry moved to accept personel changes

Chris seconded

No discussion

Votes are as follows:

John Widdowson (Y) Chris Gentry (Y) Adam Sawyer (Y) Jay Martindale (Y) Terry Cone (Y)

### **a. Policy changes and updates.**

Discussion regarding sick leave, post audit issues and retirement recognition policies.

Jay Martindale moved to accept policy changes

Adam seconded

Discussion regarding new handbooks being sent out after changes.

Votes are as follows

John Widdowson (Y) Chris Gentry (Y) Adam Sawyer (Y) Jay Martindale (NP) Terry Cone (Y)

## **11. Mobius Security System update and bid.**

Discussion regarding bid for security system for the Alliance headquarters.

Jay Martindale moved to accept option 2 security system

Motion dies for lack of second

John moved that Dave and Becki revisit and receive a new bid.

Terry seconded

No Discussion  
Votes are as follows

John Widdowson (Y) Chris Gentry (Y) Adam Sawyer (Y) Jay Martindale (Y) Terry Cone (Y)

**12. Investigator's Reports.**

- A. Area II Inv. Tom Hughson- See attached
- B. Area III Inv. Christian Fell -See attached
- C. Area IV Inv. Brent Deibler-See attached

Discussion of take aways from Nebraska Cattlemen Convention

**13. Registered Feedlot Inspector Report-See attached**

**14. Executive Session, if needed. Review of Special Projects.**

Not needed

**15. Public Comment**

Doug Straight presented additions to contract with the Beef Council.

Melody Benjamin thank the committee for being at the convention.

**16. Adjournment**

Terry Cone moved to adjourn

Jay Martindale seconded

No discussion

Votes are as follows

John Widdowson (Y) Chris Gentry (Y) Adam Sawyer (Y) Jay Martindale (Y) Terry Cone (Y)

**Meeting was adjourned at 2:32 PM**