

Alberta Sheep & Wool Commission

Zone 3 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, October 22nd, 2008

Chair: Kathy Parker, Director Zone 3

The meeting was opened at 3.40pm

Introductions: ASWC director, staff & Marketing Council representatives, Frieda Molenkamp-Oudman, Bruce Beattie.

1. **Motion: To accept the agenda as presented.** Tim Hamm, 2nd Jean Hamm. Carried.

2. Alberta Livestock & Meat Strategy

Dr. Sandy Honour, Alberta Livestock & Meat Agency (ALMA) team gave a presentation on the Alberta Livestock & Meat Strategy (ALMS). She answered many questions and concerns about implementation of the strategy, especially with regard to the reasons for its introduction and the costs involved. She acknowledged that it principally addresses the needs of the beef and hog industries and that the Alberta government communications could have been better. The strategy is not optional; all livestock will eventually be included and the sheep industry is seen to be a progressive leader at this time.

Premise ID will be required by January 2009 to facilitate the creation of a provincial plan to deal with a foreign animal disease outbreak. ALMA understands there is a need for infrastructure and funding to facilitate implementation of On Farm Food Safety (OFFS) and this will be a topic for discussion at the next industry engagement meeting on October 30th.

Dr. Honour said there will be no exceptions to the requirement for OFFS, including 4-H.

Verification may well be required by packers, veterinarians etc.; it will be a necessity for doing business. The target date is June 2011 and by then the industry must be able to demonstrate majority compliance, with the remaining stakeholders working towards compliance.

3. **Motion: to approve the 2007 zone meeting minutes as presented.** Tim Hamm 2nd Doug Brown. Carried.

4. Zone director's report

Kathy reported on ASWC activities during the year with particular reference to her work as chair of the flock management committee. She also commented on the new Calgary vet school. Producers were invited to contact her at any time for information and/or to provide input. As the important discussion on ALMS took a considerable time, the rest of the meeting would be concise.

5. Name Change from Alberta Sheep & Wool Commission to Alberta Lamb Producers

There was a lot of support for this change with comments such as "Great", "About time", "Good decision, lamb is the most important thing". No opposition was voiced.

6. Financial reports

Motion: that the 2006/7 financial statements of the ASWC be approved as presented.

Nigel Scott 2nd Sue Scott. Carried.

Producers were invited to address questions or request more information on budget and financial statements to the director or staff. It was emphasised that check off enables external funding to be accessed and informed that during the past year each \$1 check off has accessed \$1.82 in funding.

7. Sondra Corff proposed adjournment at 5.21pm