

Minutes– QUARTERLY MEETING of the NEBRASKA BRAND COMMITTEE

Monday September 12, 2022  
10:00 a.m. Central Time  
Location of Meeting  
Upper Loup NRD - Meeting Room  
39252 Hwy 2  
Thedford, NE 69166

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sawyer at 10:04

Tanya Storer informed the public that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted in the meeting room and identified the location.

• **Roll Call**

Adam Sawyer Present  
Chris Gentry Present  
Tanya Storer Present  
Duane Gangwish Not Present

• **Adoption of Agenda**

Chris Gentry moved to approve the agenda as presented  
Tanya Storer seconded the motion  
No Discussion

Adam Sawyer Yes  
Chris Gentry Yes  
Tanya Storer Yes  
Motion Passed

• **Current Business**

1. Introduction of Attendees

Adam Sawyer Chairman  
Chris Gentry Committee Member  
Tanya Storer Committee Member  
John Widdowson Executive Director  
Thomas Hughson Chief Investigator  
Becki Vineyard HR Head/ office Manager  
Dean Anderson Chief Inspector  
Melody Benjamin Nebraska Cattlemen  
Marie Farr Nebraska Cattlemen  
Brenda Masek Nebraska Cattlemen  
Steve Erdman State Senator

Remote attendees

Danna Schwenk	IT Coordinator
Jacob Lever	State Budget
Rick Leonard	Ag Committee
Shawn Hanks	East Supervisor
C.J. Fell	Area 3 Investigator
Spike Jordan	Media

2. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman per NE Statute 54-191  
Adam Sawyer moved to table the election of new officers until the December 2022 meeting.  
Chris Gentry seconded the motion  
No discussion  
  
Adam Sawyer      Yes  
Chris Gentry      Yes  
Tanya Storer      Yes  
Motion Passed
  
3. Approval of June 27, 2022, Meeting Minutes  
Adam Sawyer moved to approve the minutes as presented.  
Chris Gentry seconded the motion.  
No discussion  
  
Adam Sawyer      Yes  
Chris Gentry      Yes  
Tanya Storer      Yes  
Motion Passed
  
4. Consideration and Acceptance of Financial Statements
  - Budget Review and Approval  
John Widdowson started the discussion of the 2024/25 budget. Becki Vineyard presented the details of the over all budget and the agency issues. Tanya Storer recommended revisions to the narrative.  
Adam Sawyer moved to approve the budget with the suggested changes to the narrative.  
Chris Gentry seconded the motion  
No discussion  
  
Adam Sawyer      Yes

Chris Gentry      Yes  
Tanya Storer      Yes  
Motion Passed

- Financial Reports  
Becki Vineyard presented the financial reports  
Tanya Storer moved to accept the financial reports as presented  
Adam Sawyer seconded the motion  
No discussion

Adam Sawyer      Yes  
Chris Gentry      Yes  
Tanya Storer      Yes  
Motion Passed

5. Nebraska Brand Committee Policy, Rules and Regulations Review and Updates

- a. Uniform policy  
Dean Anderson presented the suggested changes to the uniform policy.  
Tanya Storer moved to approve the changes to the uniform policy.  
Adam Sawyer seconded the motion  
No discussion

Adam Sawyer      Yes  
Chris Gentry      Yes  
Tanya Storer      Yes  
Motion Passed

6. Legislative Update

E-Inspection  
John Widdowson discussed the Working group meeting and requested direction from the committee on moving forward. Tanya Storer stated the need to refine the working document before taking action. Danna explained the need to keep moving forward. Dates will be explored to have a working group meeting before the December meeting so action can be taken at that time.  
No action taken.

7. Staff Updates

- a. Ratification of Personnel changes  
Becki Vineyard presented the changes to personnel.  
Chris Gentry moved to ratify the personnel changes  
Adam Sawyer seconded the motion.  
No discussion

Adam Sawyer      Yes  
Chris Gentry      Yes  
Tanya Storer      Yes  
Motion Passed

8.      **Estray Reports**  
Dean Anderson stated that there were no estray cases to be school funded at this point.  
No action taken
  
9.      **Strategic Plan Review**  
Adam Sawyer gave an update on the strategic plan.  
John Widdowson asked if the committee had any changes that needed to be made.  
No action taken
  
10.     **Fee Schedule Review and Discussion**  
Adam Sawyer discussed the current fee schedule. A discussion of the late notice charge was had on how it has helped the inspectors in there planning.  
No action taken
  
11.     **Technology Report**  
Danna Schwenk presented her report
  
12.     **Chief Investigator's Report**  
Thomas Hughson presented his report.
  
13.     **Chief Inspectors Report**  
Dean Anderson presented his report
  
14.     **Executive Directors Report**  
John Widdowson thanked Adam Sawyer for his 4 years of service and wished him well. He also thanked Becki Vineyard for all her hard work on the budget. Widdowson then solicited input on anything the committee needed from him.
  
15.     **Public Comment**  
Senator Erdman stated he was glad he came. The committee thanked him for coming. John Widdowson asked the best way to educate new senators on what we do. Senator Erdman said to educate and keep telling our story.

Brenda Masek stated that educating urban senators is important and a goal of the Nebraska Cattlemen. Melody Benjamin asked the committee to have Danna Schwenk and C.J. Fell at the convention to discuss the portal and grazing permits.

16. **Adjournment**

Adam Sawyer moved to adjourn the meeting.

Chris Gentry seconded the motion.

No discussion

Adam Sawyer      Yes

Chris Gentry      Yes

Tanya Storer      Yes

Motion Passed

Meeting adjourned at 1:49pm