

NORTH DAKOTA BEEF COMMISSION MINUTES

October 29, 2025
Virtual Conference Call

Call to Order

North Dakota Beef Commission (NDBC) Chair Joy Patten called the meeting to order at 8:01 am.

Directors present: Joy Patten, Jess Nehl, Brian Amundson, Jason Zahn, Denise Rohweder, Val Wagner, Carmel Miller, Lane Marshall and Austin Henderson. Ex-Officio director: Travis Maddock

Staff present: Nicole Wardner, Wendy Masset, Jessi Hummel, Jenna Paul

Guests present: Joan Zimmerman – ND Stockmen’s Association, Medora Kologi – IBAND, Kari Goldade – IBAND, Carrie Roth- IBAND, Carol Peterson – ND CattleWomen. Julie Ellingson - ND Stockmen’s Association Exec VP.

Patten called for any conflicts of interest to be declared. Patten declared a conflict pertaining to the ND CattleWomen request on the agenda. The gavel was passed to Vice Chair Amundson to preside over this portion of the meeting. **Zahn moved to allow Patten to participate in the discussion and retain the right to vote on the matter. Second by Rohweder. Motion approved.** Following the vote, the gavel was returned to the Chair.

A motion to amend the agenda was made by Amundson. BQA update was added under other business. Second by Marshall. Motion approved.

Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September board meeting by Rohweder, second by Miller. Motion approved.

Financial Report

Secretary/Treasurer Nehl reported on the September 2025 financials. **Nehl moved to receive and file the financial report, seconded by Miller. Motion approved.**

Audit

Wardner reported that the FY 24-25 audit was complete and published on October 28, 2025. It is available to the public on the North Dakota Auditor’s website and will be submitted to the Cattlemen’s Beef Board. Audit Committee members will be contacted to schedule a meeting with the state auditor’s office.

State Hearing

Wardner represented NDBC at the Board’s Review Taskforce Hearing October 28, 2025. It is an interim committee tasked with reviewing all of the boards and commissions the governor makes appointments on. The committee’s recommendation was “no change” for the Beef Commission.

Military Appreciation Day

Joan Zimmerman, ND Stockmen’s Association Brand Recorder presented the final report for Military Appreciation Day. This years event hosted the most ever attendees with 2000. The approved funding request was \$33,000. The request for reimbursement is \$29,548.86.

ND CattleWomen Funding Request

Carol Peterson, President of the ND CattleWomen, presented proposals to their approved funding request for the current fiscal year. No action was taken by the board on the proposals.

Events/Issues/Updates:

Wardner reported the Beef Commission received an additional seat on the Federation of State Beef Councils. More information will be shared at a future meeting. Staff members Paul, Hummel and Wardner gave reports on the national meetings they attended, including Federation Orientation, and Partnership In Action. Hummel reported on a Trunk or Treat event in Bismarck hosted by the Bismarck Larks. NDBC had a booth at the event, 1330 attendees were given beef sticks for treats and beef positive messaging, including “Beef in the Early Years”. NDBC also sponsored the North Dakota WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) “Lunch and Learn” speaker. Katie Ferrero presented a beef positive message for families learning how to transition babies to solid food.

Other Business

Patten announced the directors were given information on beef imports and exports. The information was sourced from the US Meat Export Federation. Office space was discussed and potential options for long term storage of large outdoor display items.

Wardner was directed to bring options to the next board meeting for the board to consider.

Amundson asked if there were any updates to BQA programming or events. Wardner will reach out and share information on an upcoming schedule.

Calendar Items:

NDSU Harvest Bowl Banquet is November 14. Directors interested in attending should contact Wardner for more information. Patten will represent the Beef Commission at the

Three things to share with stakeholders:

1. Staff shared valuable updates and insights from recent annual meetings.
2. Military Appreciation Day, hosted by the ND Stockmen’s Association, achieved record attendance with strong engagement from military families.
3. NDBC’s Trunk or Treat participation with the Bismarck Larks provided meaningful consumer outreach and positive beef messaging for families.

Next meetings:

Nov. 26, 2025 – Virtual meeting 8 am

Dec. 17, 2025 – In-person meeting 10 am - NDBC Conference Room

A motion was made to adjourn by Wagner, second by Miller. Motion Approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 am.