

NORTH DAKOTA BEEF COMMISSION MINUTES

August 19, 2026
Virtual Conference Call

Call to Order

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

Directors present: Amundson, Joy Patten, Jess Nehl, Val Wagner, Carmel Miller, Lane Marshall and Shaye Wanner. Absent – Denise Rohweder, Austin Henderson, and Ex-Officio director: Travis Maddock.

Staff present: Nicole Wardner, Wendy Masset, Jessi Hummel.

Guests present: Kathy Tokach and Jeremiah Heupel – Cattlemen's Beef Board representatives, Carol Peterson and Kathryn Slavick – ND CattleWomen.

Amundson, called for any conflicts of interest, none were declared.

A motion to amend the agenda was made by Patten. Second by Marshall. Motion carried.

Amundson welcomed Shaye Wanner to the board. Her term started July 2026.

Minutes

A motion was made to correct the date at the top of the minutes by Nehl, second by Wagner. Motion to amend the minutes carried. Nehl moved to approve amended minutes, second by Patten. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Secretary/Treasurer Nehl reported on the June end of year financial statements. **Nehl moved to receive and file the financial report, seconded by Miller. Motion carried.** Nehl shared the budget for the 26-27 fiscal year was missing a line item. **Nehl moved to amend the fiscal year budget to include \$35,000 for expenditures to states of origin. Second by Miller. Motion carried.**

CattleWomen request

Carol Peterson, President of the North Dakota CattleWomen addressed the board regarding program funding reporting. Directors shared the need for contractors to report impact of Checkoff investments. No action was needed by the board.

National reports:

Patten, Miller, Marshall, Amundson gave updates to the board from Summer Business meeting. Each attended a committee and shared what came out of that committee. Amundson called on Tokach and Heupel to share their committee experiences.

Maddock and Amundson will attend Beef Promotion Operating Committee the first week of September.

Events/Programming

Amundson asked Marshall and Patten to give reports on Military Appreciation Day. Over 1500 active military service members and their families were served. Wardner gave an update to tailgating dates and shared Jenna will reach out to the dates planned asking for board volunteers to help. The www.ndbeef.org website has been updated and refreshed to be collaborative with the national www.beefitswhatsfordinner.com website. With more search engines using AI technology, an update was necessary to ensure AI tools could easily search the websites for information. Collections and Compliance specialist, Jessi Hummel and Wardner have been on a tour of collection points, reconnecting with them, sharing thanks and answering questions they have about the Checkoff and their roles in collecting the Checkoff.

Other Business

Amundson announced the committee assignments for directors. Personnel committee: Amundson, Miller, Henderson, Wanner. Budget: Nelh, Miller, Rohweder, Wagner. Marketing: Amundson, Patten, Marshall, Wanner. Audit: Nehl, Miller, Marshall, Henderson. Policy: Wagner, Patten, Rohweder, Maddock.

Wardner shared some of the committees will need to meet to address topics that have come up. Correspondence was shared between the District 7 Cattlewomen's group and the Executive Committee. Amundson asked directors if there were any questions regarding the questions asked and the information provided. There were no questions or comments from directors.

Calendar Items:

BPOC is September 2 – 3 in Denver. Any director interested in watching virtually needs to request a link to participate. Let Wardner know if you're interested. The NDSA convention is Sept 24-25 in Bismarck. NDBC will have a booth in the trade show to connect with producers and answer questions they may have on the Checkoff. The IBAND Convention is October 23-24 in Bismarck, Wardner has been asked to sit on a panel. New Director orientation is scheduled for November 4-5 in Denver. The USMEF fall conference is scheduled November 11-12 in Palm Springs, California. Cattle Convention is scheduled for February 2-4 in Nashville, TN.

Next meetings:

September 16, 2026 – In Person – at the NDBC building - 8 am

Amundson adjourned the meeting at 9:07 am.